

The meeting was opened at 2:07 pm online using Zoom Meeting

- I. **PRESENT: Directors:** Ed Kawamura, Jr. (Presiding); Leonard Vierra; Arryl Kaneshiro; Brad Seymour
Associate Directors: Darren Tamekazu; Jerry Ornellas
Others: Jenni Scotti, Conservation Specialist; John Nelson, HACD Conservation Specialist; Paul Togioka, County of Kauai
- II. **REVIEW OF AGENDA (ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES):** No additions or changes.
- III. **MINUTES: Motion:** Arryl made a motion to accept the minutes, Leonard second. Motion was accepted unanimously
- IV. **TREASURER’S REPORT:** Leonard offered the Treasurer’s report and it was e-mailed to the directors. Arryl made a motion to accept the treasurer’s report, Brad second. Motion was accepted unanimously
- V. **CORRESPONDENCE:** Information and flyers were e-mailed
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - A. **NRCS REPORT:** Jenna Dunn, NRCS Conservation Specialist gave a report for 8/10/2020:
 1. **General**
 - a. American Samoa DC- To be announced. Jocelyn Bamba, DC in Guam is acting
 - b. Kona DC- Laura Nelson has been selected.
 - c. Maui DC- Gerald Gregory has been selected. David Komorowski is acting until he starts
 - d. Molokai DC- Kanaha Stone will be acting
 - e. State Programs- Jill Ficke-Beaton and Morri-Ann Nagata have joined that division
 - f. State Engineer- Susan Kubo is Acting.
 2. **Farm Bill Programs**
 - a. EQIP FY20-
 - i. 10 applications have been pre-approved totaling \$626,197.13
 - b. CSP FY20- 3 obligated contracts
 3. **CAMP**
 - a. NRCS is looking for farmers to volunteer as mentors for new employees (Steven)
 4. **Conservation Practices Topics**
 - a. Next meeting, we will cover IWM
 - B. **CONSERVATION SPECILAISTS’ REPORTS:**
 1. **Jenni Scotti** gave her report for 8/10/2020:
 - a. **Trainings / Meetings / Learning**
 - i. NRCS Engineer Irrigation Training
 - b. **Plans / field visits**
 - i. Planning
 1. Planning and follow-up with 8 clients
 2. 3 site visits
 3. completed 2 plans
 - c. **Outreach**
 - i. POSTER CONTEST

1. Working on letters to Schools
 - ii. CAP CONTEST
 1. Letters to teachers to see if interested in contest this year
 - d. **Misc/News/upcoming events/future projects/goals**
 - i. CTA Planning
 - ii. Annual Report
2. **John Nelson:** gave his report for 8/10/2020:
- a. **Trainings / Meetings / Learning**
 - i. NRCS CART/Conservation DeskTop.
 - ii. Continue working on 2020 Conservation Plan
 - iii. Engineer in office and field training
 - b. **Plans / field visits**
 - i. Planning
 1. Site visit check-out
 2. Site visits with 4 clients, 2 new
 3. Planning and follow-up with 6 clients
 4. Working w/ Army Corps of Engineers; Wetland
 - c. **Outreach**
 - i. All outreach postponed due to pandemic
 - d. **Misc/News/upcoming events/future projects/goals**
 - i. New EQIP plans 2020/2021
 - ii. FEDS FEED FAMILIES-August.

VII. REVIEW & APPROVAL OF CONSERVATION PLANS & COOPERATOR AGREEMENTS:

New Kauai Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Cooperators: None

Conservation Plans: None

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Garden Island RC&D: Report to be e-mailed.

B. Grading Ordinance: No Updates

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

A. Discussion for Online Meetings in the Future

Discussion: Jenni Shared correspondence for the August 7th OIP that is drafting a bill to have interactive online meetings as a permanent option.

B. Employee Cell Phone

Discussion: Jenni Shared that the cost for a basic phone and plan ranges between \$40-53 / mo (for 2 phones) and cell phones are around \$200. Smartphone data plans range between \$50-91 /mo (for 2 phones) and the smartphone cost is around \$250-1500. She also looked into wifi options for online meetings in the future for which a smartphone with a data plan would be useful. Leonard asked if this would be just for COVID or permanent. Jenni shared that it would be permanent and reminded of the challenges of the Conservation Specialist position in being in the field that having a work number is important so that personal numbers aren't

being used. Ed asked if a budget was set and then offered that it would be around 700 - 1100 for phone per person with a purchase of a phone per year. Leonard suggested that a smartphone would be more useful. Leonard made a motion to purchase 2 smartphones and data plans. Arryl seconded. Discussion offered that the budget be up to \$2200 for one year. After one year, the plan will be reviewed. Motion was accepted unanimously

X. OTHER BUSINESS:

A. Water Conservationist of the Year

Discussion: Ed asked about options. Jenni noted that the office has not offered a list. She reminded that a conservationist does not have to be a cooperator. No options were offered. Jenni reminded that this will need to be voted upon next meeting. This will be deferred to next month's meeting

B. Local Working Group Subcommittee update

Discussion: Jenni will send the summary out to those that offered to be on the subcommittee. She shared that there was discussion regarding parameters for this year and challenges from last year. Survey is going to be used to narrow down the topics that are important to Kauai.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS / EVENTS:

A. 2020 Annual Picnic is canceled

Other: Discussion for the Annual meeting should start. Jenni will confirm if East Kauai is the host.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday September 14, 2020 location TBD. Information will be posted on the online state calendar. <http://calendar.ehawaii.gov/calendar/html/event>

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:33 pm, written by Jenni Scotti, Conservation Specialist