

The meeting was opened at 2:05 pm online using Zoom Meeting

- I. **PRESENT: Directors:** Ed Kawamura, Jr. (Presiding); Leonard Vierra; Arryl Kaneshiro; Eric Hansen  
**Associate Directors:** Darren Tamekazu; Jerry Ornellas  
**Others:** Jenni Scotti, Conservation Specialist; Jenna Dunn, NRCS District Conservationist; John Nelson, HACD Conservation Specialist; Paul Togioka, County of Kauai; Genoa Starrs, NRCS Soil Conservationist; Steven Heisey, NRCS Soil Conservationist; Mark Freeman, Heart & Soul Organics
- 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-mail to the directors
- V. **CORRESPONDENCE:** Information and flyers were e-mailed
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**
  - A. **NRCS REPORT:** Jenna Dunn, NRCS Conservation Specialist gave a report for 7/13/2020:
    1. **General**
      - a. American Samoa DC- To be announced. Jocelyn Bamba, DC in Guam is acting
      - b. State Engineer- Susan Kubo is Acting.
      - c. State Agronomist - Jason Hanson started 7/5/2020
      - d. State Forester - Matthew Cocking started 6/21/2020

**Discussion:** Will plan on site visits around the island when the state forester and agronomist visits Kauai.

2. **Farm Bill Programs**
  - a. EQIP FY20-
    - i. 10 applications have been pre-approved totaling \$626,197.13
  - b. CSP FY20- 4 applications
3. **LWG**
  - a. Jenni will send out an invitation
4. **Conservation Practices Topics**
  - a. Next meeting, we will cover IWM

**Discussion:** Local working group meeting invitation sent for ZOOM meeting on Wednesday, all will be invited in case additional individuals would like to attend.

**B. CONSERVATION SPECILAISTS’ REPORTS:**

1. **Jenni Scotti** gave her report for 7/13/2020:
  - a. **Trainings / Meetings / Learning**
    - i. NRCS weekly program information meetings
    - ii. HACD Quarterly Meeting (agenda in correspondence)
      1. NRCS Strategic Plan shared
      2. Discussion regarding challenged during COVID-19
      3. Online CAP contest Discussion

**Discussion:** Jenni will be on a meeting with Michelle (HACD), Maggie (Maui) and Mae (Maui) to discuss options

**b. Plans / field visits**

i. Planning

1. Planning and follow-up with 15 clients
2. 6 site visits
3. Check-out for 2 clients
4. Completed 4 plans

**c. Outreach**

i. Go Farm Kauai

1. Support Panel Online meeting

**d. Misc/News/upcoming events/future projects/goals**

- i. 2020 Applications
- ii. Annual Report
- iii. Local Working Group Meeting

**2. John Nelson: gave his report for 7/13/2020:**

**a. Trainings / Meetings / Learning**

- i. Weekly Teleconference roll-out
- ii. NRCS CART
- iii. Continue working on 2020 Conservation Plan

**b. Plans / field visits**

i. Planning

1. Site visit check-out
2. Site visits with 3 clients, 2 new
3. Planning and follow-up with 5 clients

**c. Outreach**

- i. All outreach postponed due to pandemic

**d. Misc/News/upcoming events/future projects/goals**

- i. New EQIP plans 2020/2021

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

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

**Conservation Plans:**

**HEART & SOUL ORGANICS, LLC**

**Discussion:** Mark Freeman presented the plan for Heart & Soul Organics for mitigation of potential sediment movement and erosion concerns for mulch stockpile and crop plantings in Kilauea. Eric made a motion to accept the Conservation Plan, Arryl second. Motion was accepted unanimously.

**VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- A. Garden Island RC&D:** No report
- B. Grading Ordinance:** No Report

**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None****X. OTHER BUSINESS:****A. Upcoming Monthly Meetings**

**Discussion:** Jenni noted that as the Quarantine was extended through August so it should be confirmed to continue to have ZOOM meetings. Ed noted that until the restrictions are lifted, and people feel safe to meet in person, we will continue to have ZOOM meetings and least through August.

Jenni also offered that after we commence in-person meetings, that a thought is to continue to offer ZOOM as option for others to be able to participate especially for those who cannot make it all the way to Lihue each month. She clarified that Directors are required to attend in person unless there are extenuating circumstances that prevents them from attending. Ed offered to allow for discussion at the next meeting, but feels it is a good option for cooperators.

**B. Cell Phones for Conservation Specialists**

**Discussion:** Jenni Shared that employees have had to use personal cell phones to contact clients and have had to use them more in the last few months. There are some clients that use personal cell numbers and will call at inappropriate times (aka weekends or after work hours). Jenni offered that it would be a good idea for Conservation Specialists to have a work cell phone, even once they begin to work in the office again as they still go out into the field and need to be able to contact clients as they are outside of the office. Ed also noted that it would be good to not use personal phones for work. Ed asked what kind of phone options there are. Jenni noted that a basic phone is really all that is needed. Jenna made sure to clarify that it should have a camera as that is important for working in the field. Eric made a motion that the Conservation Specialists have a solid phone with a camera available for use at work. Arryl requested a cost for a phone. Jenni offered to look into plan information. Darren asked if multiple carriers have been explored, Jenni noted that though she will look into different options, many carriers do not work well outside of Lihue or Kapaa and it would be best to ensure they can be utilized in the field island wide. Ed asked to look into information for the next meeting.

**C. MISC**

**Discussion:** Jenna has noted that she would like to highlight a different practice each month. She has asked what directors are interested in learning more about. Arryl noted that it would be interesting to learn about practices that farmers are using the most, especially as Directors can assist with sharing options available to cooperators. Jenna offered going over irrigation water management. Future meetings can look into other practices for flood mitigation.

**XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS / EVENTS:****A. Local Working Group Meeting**

**Discussion:** The meeting is for July 15<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. Jenni has sent an e-mail regarding the meeting.

**Other:** Water Conservationist of the Year needs to be discussed at the next meeting. The office may have some, but if the board have any others that they are interested in offering for 2020 water conservationist, then this should be discussed at the next meeting. Decision needs to be made by September meeting for an October presentation. This will be added to next meeting agenda.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday August 10, 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 2:45 pm, written by Jenni Scotti, Conservation Specialist

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