

The meeting was opened at 2:10 pm online using Zoom Meeting

- I. **PRESENT: Directors:** Ed Kawamura, Jr. (Presiding); Leonard Vierra; Arryl Kaneshiro
Associate Directors: Darren Tamekazu;
Others: Jenni Scotti, Conservation Specialist; Jenna Dunn, NRCS District Conservationist; John Nelson, HACD Conservation Specialist; Paul Togioka, County of Kauai; Steven Heisey, NRCS Soil Conservationist
- 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
- V. **CORRESPONDENCE:** Information and flyers were e-mailed
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. **NRCS REPORT:** Jenna Dunn, NRCS Conservation Specialist gave a report:

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 & State Forester- Selections made, start date in June and July
- d. Kauai Soil Con- Steven Heisey, today is his first day. Will work from home during the mandatory 14 day quarantine

Discussion: Steven introduced himself as the new soil conservationist for the Lihue field office.

2. **Farm Bill Programs**

- a. EQIP FY20-
 - i. 10 applications have been pre-approved totaling \$626,197.13
 - ii. Engineer came last week, so a few assessments and rankings will be updated
 - iii. Intent to proceed letters will go out this week
- b. CSP FY20- 4 applications

3. **LWG**

- a. Survey & Zoom
- b. Director involvement?

Discussion: Jenna offered an option to do a survey and then have a Zoom meeting using the survey results. She requested that Directors be involved. The goal is to have a survey out in August as the deadline is September. Ed, Leonard, Arryl and Darren expressed an interest in being involved in the planning. An e-mail will be sent with a scheduled meeting date.

4. **PSS/DAA**

- a. Let’s advertise
- b. Interview help?

Discussion: Jenna asked for directors to interview. Now that employees can work in the office on a more regular schedule, it is an appropriate time to hire a new employee. Advertising can take place through Craigslist

and Conservation organizations. Ed asked if there is anything Altres can do to help with advertising. Jenni will look into it.

B. CONSERVATION SPECILAISTS' REPORTS:

1. **Jenni Scotti** gave her report for 5/11/2020:
 - a. **Trainings / Meetings / Learning**
 - i. NRCS weekly program information meetings
 - ii. NRCS CSP rollout
 - b. **Plans / field visits**
 - i. Planning
 1. Planning and follow-up with 21 clients
 2. Site visits with 6
 - a. 4 with NRCS Engineer
 3. Check-out for 1 clients
 4. Completed 1 plan
 - c. **Outreach**
 - i. All outreach on hold
 - d. **Misc/News/upcoming events/future projects/goals**
 - i. 2020 Applications
 - ii. Annual Report
 - iii. Still continuing to work from home

Discussion: Reminder that we are still looking for pictures from the SWCD directors and associate directors

2. **John Nelson:** gave his report for 5/11/2020:
 - a. **Trainings / Meetings / Learning**
 - i. Weekly Teleconference roll-out
 - ii. NRCS CART
 - iii. NRCS Conservation Workload Prioritization Worksheet
 - iv. Continue working on Conservation Plan
 - b. **Plans / field visits**
 - i. Planning
 1. Site visits with 3 clients, 2 new
 2. 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: None

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- X. **Annual Work Plan FY2021:** Arryl moved to accept the work plan for fiscal year 2021. Leonard second. Motion was accepted unanimously

XI. OTHER BUSINESS:

A. County of Kauai Office of Economic Development

Discussion: Jenni shared that the new Ag specialist is interested in SWCD needs and interests. She also shared that he will attend a future meeting so the district board can meet him and discuss how can work together.

B. County of Kauai Funding

Discussion: Leonard shared that it is in the County of Kauai budget and we will need to the Public Works grant paperwork in.

C. Email plans

Discussion: Jenni offered that West Kauai has preferred having the option for plans to be submitted through e-mail rather than mail. It is still possible to mail it for those who request it. Otherwise, when a plan is offered, an electronic copy with a unique password will be sent to the Directors. The plans will need to be deleted once the meeting in which it has been presented is completed as they do remain confidential.

XII. ANNOUNCEMENTS / EVENTS:

Discussion: Ed has requested that the Districts provide a donation for the food bank. It was discussed that they would send a donation to both the Kauai Independent Food Bank and the Hawaii Food Bank Kauai Branch. Arryl requested that it is asked that the donations be used specifically to purchase food from local farmers. Ed made a motion to give \$500 to the foodbanks (\$250 each). Leonard Seconded. Motion was accepted unanimously. Ed will contact Howard about West Kauai SWCD providing a portion of the donation.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday June 8, 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 2:31 pm, written by Jenni Scotti, Conservation Specialist