

The meeting was opened at 2:04pm online using Zoom Meeting

- I. **PRESENT: Directors:** Ed Kawamura, Jr. (Presiding); Leonard Vierra; Arryl Kaneshiro; Brad Seymour; Eric Hansen
Associate Directors: Will Lydgate
Others: Jenni Scotti, Conservation Specialist; Jenna Dunn, NRCS District Conservationist 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.
- V. **CORRESPONDENCE:** Information and flyers were e-mailed
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - A. **NRCS REPORT:** Jenna Dunn, NRCS Conservation Specialist gave a report for 9/14/2020:
 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.
 - g. PSS/DA- need to schedule interviews
 2. **Farm Bill Programs**
 - a. EQIP & CSP FY20-
 - i. 12 Contracts totaling \$712,807.00
 - ii. Kauai was the first FO to have all applications obligated.
 3. **CAMP**
 - a. NRCS is looking for farmers to volunteer as mentors for new employees (Steven)
 4. **Conservation Practices Topics - IWM basics & NRCS**
 - a. See handouts/attachments
 - i. Rates subject to change, but in FY2020 they were as follows, per acre:
 1. Basic- \$50.99; HU \$61.19
 2. Intermediate-\$89.77; HU \$107.72
 3. Advanced-\$246.81; HU \$296.17

Discussion: District Assistant, resumes have been reviewed and selected a subset for interview. Jenna shared that there were many great applicants. Will offered to be apart of interviews if he can. Looking for a Director

to sit on the panel from both East and West Kauai SWCD. Interview process is an online/phone call with standard questions, then a discussion between interviewers at the end to select a final employee.

CAMP discussion regarding what the program is, which is for new employees to learn from local ag operations. Will, Arryl, Brad and Eric have all offered. Jenni reminded the board that CAMP information was e-mailed and can be sent again if needed.

B. CONSERVATION SPECILAISTS' REPORTS:

1. Jenni Scotti gave her report for 9/14/2020:

a. Trainings / Meetings / Learning

i. Inventory and Check-out training with DLNR-DOFAW

1. Office provided training as they are the RCPP partners

b. Plans / field visits

i. Planning

1. Planning and follow-up with 12 clients
2. 5 Site visits
3. Worked on 2 practice check-outs

c. Outreach

i. POSTER CONTEST

1. Working on letters to Schools

ii. CAP CONTEST

1. Letters to teachers

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

- i. CTA Planning & new requests
- ii. Annual Report
- iii. LWG meeting

2. John Nelson: gave his report for 9/14/2020:

a. Trainings / Meetings / Learning

- i. NRCS CART/Conservation DeskTop.
- ii. Completed 2020 Conservation Plans

b. Plans / field visits

i. Planning

1. Site visit check-out

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:** Report to be e-mailed.
- B. **Grading Ordinance:** No Updates

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Water Conservationist of the Year

Discussion: Jenni reminded the board that the water conservationist does not have to be an existing cooperator, just needs to be someone who embodies water conservation on Kauai. Will nominated Brad Seymour for work with East Kauai Water Cooperative water systems on East Kauai. Leonard made a motion to nominate Brad Seymour as East Kauai SWCD water conservationist of the year. Arryl Second. Motion was accepted unanimously. Brad recused himself from voting.

There was discussion on how to present the water conservationist of the year with Department of Water which will take place in November. Options for times could be before a Department of Water directors meeting or another time, but it will be online. Looking for recommendations for pictures. Arryl offered that online is good, but he asked that Jenni can visit with Brad to get a picture for the report. Jenni asked if we should invite Dennis with Garden Island to write the article, which they directors are ok with. Online meeting date to be scheduled.

X. OTHER BUSINESS: none

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS / EVENTS:

- A. **Water Conservationist of the Year** meeting to be announced

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday October 12, 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 2:38 pm, written by Jenni Scotti, Conservation Specialist