

The meeting was opened at 2:09 pm online using Zoom Meeting

I. **PRESENT: Directors:** Ed Kawamura, Jr. (Presiding); Leonard Vierra; Arryl Kaneshiro, Brad Seymour; Eric Hansen

Associate Directors: None

Others: Jenni Scotti, Conservation Specialist; John Nelson, HACD Conservation Specialist; Martin Amaro, County of Kauai

II. **REVIEW OF AGENDA (ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES):** No additions or changes.

III. **MINUTES: Motion:** Leonard made a motion to accept the minutes for 11/16/2020, Eric second. Motion was accepted unanimously

IV. **TREASURER’S REPORT:** Leonard offered the Treasurer’s report and it was e-mailed to the directors. Ed made a motion to accept the minutes for 11/16/2020, Eric second. Motion was accepted unanimously

V. **CORRESPONDENCE:** Information and flyers were e-mailed

Discussion: Jenni shared that there is information for HACD and OIP. OIP is specifically looking for comments on a proposal to allow for permanent option for virtual meetings along with physical meetings in the future.

VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. **NRCS REPORT:** Jenna Dunn, NRCS Conservation Specialist provided a report for 12/14/2020 in the correspondence:

1. **General**

- a. Molokai DC- Kanaha Stone is acting through the end of December
- b. State Engineer- Susan Kubo is Acting.
- c. ACES Engineer- Sharon Sawdey
- d. Buisness Service Specialist- Matthew Polen
- e. ACES Public Affairs Specialist- Terri Dux
- f. Assistant Director for Field Operations- James Eller is Acting
- g. Assistant AD Engineer- Joseph Lang is acting (remote)
- h. Kauai Pathways intern- Andreas Khechfe

2. **Farm Bill Programs**

- a. EQIP & CSP FY21-
 - i. EQIP application cutoff deadline in December 15, 2020
 1. 16 applications in the system with 5-10 more to be added this week
 - ii. CSP application cutoff deadline will likely be January 15, 2021

3. **LWG**

- a. Survey summary sent out to Boards by Jenni Scotti on 12/14/2020
 - i. 1st priority = water resources (water use efficiency)
 - ii. 2nd priority = soil health (organic matter depletion)
 - iii. 3rd priority = soil erosion (bank erosion from streams and shorelines)

B. CONSERVATION SPECIALISTS' REPORTS:**1. Jenni Scotti** gave her report for 12/14/2020:**a. Trainings / Meetings / Learning**

- i. HACD quarterly meeting
- ii. NRCS Program roll-out meetings
- iii. ECS (practices) trainings (mostly review for me)

b. Plans / field visits

- i. Planning
 1. Planning and follow-up with 22 clients
 2. 9 Site visits
 3. Worked on 3 practice check-outs
- ii. 2021 applications

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

- i. CTA Planning & new requests
- ii. 2021 Plans and Applications
- iii. New Cell Phones – will provide updated phone list

2. John Nelson: gave his report for 11/16/2020:**a. Trainings / Meetings / Learning**

- i. Multiple trainings and Practice Updates
- ii. Completed 2020 Conservation Plans

b. Plans / field visits

- i. Planning
 1. EQIP Checkout
 2. Multiple site visits

c. Outreach

- i. All outreach postponed due to pandemic

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

- i. New EQIP plans 2021 (5 potential)
- ii. Assisted with paper surveys for Local Working Group survey

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 Updates

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

X. OTHER BUSINESS:**A. HACD Quarterly Meeting**

Discussion: Jenni asked directors to read e-mail with summary of the meeting and insurance information. Jenni Shared that there is insurance that HACD is looking into that the districts will need to opt into in order to cover SWCD employees, and example is vehicle insurance in which only our personal insurance covers. HACD is consolidating financial information and will provide further information in the coming months. Ed asked about the insurance that the Districts currently have, Jenni clarified that insurance is specifically for Directors.

B. Local Work Group Survey Results

Discussion: Jenni Sent the summary in an e-mail. The weighted first priority was water resources, second was soil health, and third was soil erosion. Genoa (NRCS Soil Conservationist) worked on the overall summary as well as clarifying written responses. Jenni offered that if there are any questions or comments to please e-mail

C. Annual Dinner Update

Discussion: Annual dinner is canceled. Jenni shared that West Kauai recommended that the articles for the conservationist of the year be submitted to the paper. And then invite them to next year's dinner.

Discussion: Marty Agriculture Specialist with County of Kauai introduced himself and will be attending meetings moving forward.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS / EVENTS:**A. Water Conservationist of the Year Presentation**

- i. Moved to January 8th at 10 am

B. District Assistant Kehau has resigned. There are several previous interviews and one new interview and then an offer will be made.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday January 11, 2021 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 2:32 pm, written by Jenni Scotti, Conservation Specialist