

The meeting was opened at 2:03 pm online using Zoom Meeting

- I. **PRESENT: Directors:** Ed Kawamura, Jr. (Presiding); Arryl Kaneshiro, Eric Hansen, Brad Seymour
Associate Directors: Jerry Ornellas; Will Lydgate
Others: Jenni Scotti, Conservation Specialist; John Nelson, HACD Conservation Specialist; Paul Togioka, County of Kauai; Martin Amaro, 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 for 1/11/2021, Eric second. Motion was accepted unanimously
- IV. **TREASURER’S REPORT:** Leonard offered the Treasurer’s report for 2/8/2021 by e-mail to the directors. Jenni shared that we are still waiting on funds from the County of Kauai.
- V. **CORRESPONDENCE:** Information and flyers were e-mailed
Discussion: Jenni shared that there is a virtual science fair, information is provided on the correspondence link document.
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - A. **NRCS REPORT:** No report
 - B. **CONSERVATION SPECIALISTS’ REPORTS:**
 1. **Jenni Scotti** gave her report for 2/8/2021:
 - a. **Trainings / Meetings / Learning**
 - i. Agroforestry Training – Craig Elevich & team <https://www.agroforestryx.com/>
 1. New planning and Design Tool
 - ii. NRCS ECS Technical Tools and Planner Certification Update meeting
 - iii. NRCS TCD office hours x 2
 1. Question & Answers regarding TCS and LRP
 - iv. NRCS employee quarterly meeting
 - v. Kauai Long Range Plan Meeting
 - b. **Plans / field visits**
 - i. Planning
 1. Planning and follow-up with 10 clients
 2. 10 Site visits/online meetings
 3. Worked on 2 practice check-outs
 - ii. 2021 applications
 - c. **Outreach/Education**
 - i. 2021 Topic
 1. Healthy Forests, Healthy Communities
 - d. **Misc/News/upcoming events/future projects/goals**
 - i. Annual Report
 - ii. CTA Planning
 - iii. 2021 Plans and Applications

Discussion: The agroforestry tool is public and currently available for free. Jenni offered that NRCS's goal is to ensure planners can be certified by the end of the year. Jenni shared that the Long-Range Plan is important for future projects on Kauai and she encouraged that SWCDs can be apart of the process.

2. **John Nelson** gave his report for 2/8/2021:
 - a. **Trainings / Meetings / Learning**
 - i. Multiple Trainings and Practice Updates.
 - ii. Completed 2020 Conservation Plan(s).
 - b. **Plans / field visits**
 - i. Planning
 1. (2) EQIP Checkouts.
 2. Multiple Site Visits for 2021 Potential Clients.
 3. HEL Determinations.
 - c. **Outreach**
 - i. All Outreach Postponed due to Pandemic.
 - d. **Misc/News/upcoming events/future projects/goals**
 - i. New EQIP Plans 2021 (5 Potential).

- C. **2021 Annual Report:** Jenni has requested participation and assistance from the SWCD directors and associate directors. Meeting will be end of February or early March. Also requesting committee members for assistance pulling the report together and with articles. A reminder that the theme is Healthy Forests: Healthy Communities.

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

Discussion: Ed shared that RC&D have remained virtual with any correspondence. Ed shared that there is interest in a project for a slaughterhouse.

B. Grading Ordinance: No Updates

Discussion: Ed asked about what the county will be doing about the coastal area in front of coco palms and he is concerned that if something happened then east side would be cut off. Paul noted that the shoreline is state jurisdiction. Will shared that there was a Zoom meeting about the shorelines held by Ruby Pap. Jenni shared that there was a link in the correspondence in previous meetings and recommends seeing if there is a recording for that meeting. Arryl clarified that it is the State's jurisdiction.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**A. Cooperator of the year 2020**

Discussion: Jenni shared that the office didn't have any thoughts to offer yet. Jenni clarified that the cooperator of the year needs to be a cooperator with the East Kauai SWCDs. She also offered a thought to consider if there is someone who was able to do something significant during the challenging 2020 year. Jenni shared Aina Hookupu o Kilauea as an idea due to accomplishments throughout the year. Though several discussed that there are smaller farmer operations that they would like to consider. Will thought Jerry Ornalles for his work on site, Jerry shared that he has had awards throughout the past and feels that someone else should be considered. Will asked if there is a list that can be provided, Jenni offered to e-mail it. Eric requested that we consider the list and discuss further at the next meeting. Jenni also shared that the list is as comprehensive as we could get it without having electronic records, so there may be missing cooperators. She shared that if there is a name that should be on there to let her know and we can confirm with the cooperator. Jenni also shared that a person can be doing good conservation without an active plan to be considered and that the main requirement is that they are a cooperator.

X. OTHER BUSINESS: none**XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS / EVENTS:**

A. District Assistant update: This will need to be readvertised, Ed also shared that if there is anyone to consider then to e-mail the resume. Jenni shared that it has been listed on Indeed. She shared that resumes should be sent to ewkswcd@gmail.com.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday March 8, 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 2:28 pm, written by Jenni Scotti, Conservation Specialist