

WEST MAUI SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2021

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order 11:10 a.m. at Mala Ocean Tavern, Lahaina.

Present

Directors: Jay Nobriga, Pomaika'i Kaniaupio-Crozier, Ian Swezey, Kimo Falconer, and Kainoa Casco

Associate Directors: Wes Nohara, and Daniel Ornellas

USDA-NRCS: Gerald Gregory, District Conservationist

SWCD Staff: Maggie Kramp, Jessica Talbot, Kelly Butler, and James Ino



II. Minutes of October 7, 2020 – distributed via email

Pomaika'i Kaniaupio-Crozier moved to accept the minutes of October 7, 2020, seconded by Kimo Falconer, motion carried.

III. Treasurer's Report

Pomaika'i Kaniaupio-Crozier moved to accept the treasurer's report that was emailed to WMSWCD directors, seconded by Ian Swezey, motion carried.

IV. Lahaina Watershed

A. Temporary Flood Control Project

Annual inspection of the Lahaina temporary flood control system needs to be scheduled with Kainoa/Wes, and new district planners, Jess and Kelly, and possibly NRCS District Conservationist Gerald Gregory.

B. Lahaina Watershed Project – report from Susan Kubo

NRCS requested and received additional funds needed for the development of the Lahaina Watershed project environment document (ED). Agreement request documents have been prepared and should be submitted this week (I am waiting on one last document). Grants and agreements will finalize the agreement paperwork – an agreement between NRCS and the County for contracting the ED. If that can be done soon enough, the County will present a resolution for County Council action at their March meeting to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement. If we are not able to get the agreement to the County Council in time for action by the Council meeting in March, the next opportunity will be in May. Either way, we have built the timeline for the agreement to begin by June, and to complete the ED development before September 2024.

The board would like to take a proactive approach with the Kapu Ohana by touching base with them about the Lahaina Watershed Project. Kainoa Casco will contact Kaipo Kapu.

C. Lahainaluna Diversion

Wes Nohara recommended a site visit to Lahainaluna be on the same day as the Lahaina Temporary Flood Control Project inspection.

V. County Grading/Grubbing Plans

A. Comments Submitted to County DSA

1. Kahana Production Well, TMK: 4-4-004: 009 & 011
2. Qian Residence, TMK: 4-4-019: +01
3. Honokowai Subdivision Phases 11-B,C,D; TMK: 4-4-002: 002
4. Kaiaulu O Kukuia, TMK: 4-5-021: 041
5. Kaiaulu O Kupuohi, TMK: 4-5-010: 047
6. Mahinahina Well Development, TMK: 4-4-002: 014, 015, 018; 4-4-004: 009, 011, 019
7. Puukolii Village Mauka, TMK: 4-4-15: 32-74
8. Ritz Carlton, Kapalua Renovations, TMK: 4-2-004: 021, 047, 052

B. Pending Plans

1. Wailele Ridge Recreation Center, TMK: 4-3-001, 033, 089, 090

Kristi Ono, DPW also reviewed the Waialele Ridge plans in December 2020 and had concerns with one area of the site proposing an increase in runoff after development. She discussed her concerns with the applicant, Sean Ogata from Fukumoto Engineering. In the most recent submittal last month, Kristi said the plans and drainage report were revised to address this.

VI. Report from SWCD Planners

Kelly Butler has two pending plans in the West Maui district. Both plans are tied to Olowalu Elua Association, which she inherited from Jason Hew. As a side note, Daniel Ornellas mentioned that DLNR is okay with Olowalu Elua Association.

Jessica Talbot is working on a new plan for Makani Olu Ranch. There are concerns regarding over grazing.

The SWCD employees will be participating with Maui County Farm Ag in the Classroom – Field Trip Alternative for 2021. A Zoom meeting has been scheduled for March 4th, 3:00 p.m.

VII. NRCS – Report from Gerald Gregory, DC

1. Farm Bill

The Kahului field office received approximately 30 Farm Bill EQIP applications. They are working on getting baseline data regarding the resource concerns present and will be obligating our highest ranked contracts by July.

They are also are trying to encourage more participation in the Conservation Stewardship Program. Landowners and Agricultural Producers who are already implementing conservation management practices are encouraged to sign up. The contract is 5 years; throughout which, the participant agrees to implement a small number of enhancements that capitalize on the conservation principles that are already in place. Participants earn cost-share in the form of an annual payment meant to reward for existing conservation efforts and to help offset the implementation costs of new enhancements. Annual payments start at \$1,500.00 and increase based on acreage and enhancements chosen. The board was asked to reach out to interested parties and let them know the application deadline is March 19th.

AGI was also discussed.

2. Long-Range Plan for Maui

NRCS has a successful meeting with stakeholders regarding the Long-Range Plan for Maui and will continue to work with Ridge to Reefs to complete the document.

VIII. Wailele Ridge Site Visit with Sean Ogata, Fukumoto Engineering

Discussion at site visit included offsite and onsite drainage concerns.



Wes Nohara addressed his recommendation to include pre-storm inspections in the operations and maintenance plan.



Maintenance of the Keonenui Basin, offsite of the Wailele Ridge project, is a concern. The basin belongs to ML&P. Runoff from Wailele Ridge and Maui Prep Academy feeds into this basin. Ideally, the West Maui SWCD board would like to see a collaborate effort between Wailele Ridge HOA, Maui Prep Academy, and ML&P to maintain the Keonenui basin and drainageway.

IX. Adjournment

The WMSWCD meeting and field trip adjourned at 2:30 p.m. Pomaika'i Kaniaupio-Crozier proposed to hold the next month's board meeting at the Haelaau Cabin.

Submitted by
/s/ Ian Swezey
Secretary

Meeting Recorder: Maggie Kramp