

WEST MAUI SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING
FRIDAY, MAY 21, 2021

I. Meeting call to order

The meeting was called to order at 2:06 p.m., via Zoom.

Present

Directors: Jay Nobriga, Kimo Falconer, and Kainoa Casco
Associate Directors: Wes Nohara, Kristi Ono, and Mike Kehano
USDA NRCS: Gerald Gregory, and Susan Kubo
SWCD Staff: Jessica Talbot, Kelly Butler, and Maggie Kramp

II. Minutes of April 7, 2021

Kimo Falconer moved to accept the minutes of April 7, 2021, seconded by Kainoa Casco, motion carried.

III. Treasurer's Report

The treasurer's report was emailed to WMSWCD directors.

Kainoa Casco moved to accept the treasurer's report, seconded by Kimo Falconer, motion carried.

IV. Correspondence - none

V. Lahaina Watershed

1. Thanks to Kainoa and Wes for working with the County Department of Public Works team on the presentation to the County Council Infrastructure and Transportation Committee meeting that was held on May 17th.

Per Christy Chung, County DPW Engineer ... First reading of the bill for the intergovernmental agreement for the NRCS grant is scheduled for June 4th. If it passes first reading, then second and final reading will take place on June 18th. If all goes well, the Mayor should be able to execute the agreement by the end of June.

Kainoa Casco sent information on the Lahaina Watershed Flood Control Project to Ke'eaumoku Kapu, as well as West Maui Land Company, and asked if he should also

send it to Kamehameha Schools. The board agreed that major landowners/stakeholders should be informed about the project.

2. Lahainaluna

Wes Nohara sent the maintenance work proposal to Bruce Moore as approved by the board via email. For the record Kimo Falconer moved to approve the maintenance work proposal, seconded by Kainoa Casco, motion carried.

Bruce Moore forwarded the proposal to the principals of Lahainaluna and Lahaina Intermediate. Response is pending.

3. Lahaina Temporary Flood Control

Wes Nohara reported on the maintenance work done by Dave Minami, West Maui Land Company. Payment for work done is okay.

Kamehameha questioned about the work that was being done on the Lahaina Temporary Flood Control System. West Maui SWCD signed and submitted the Right of Entry which expires June 2023, but KSBE did not return the fully executed copy.

Wes Nohara is also scheduled to do a walk thru with County Public Works engineers Christy Chung, Ty Takeno, and Jordan Molina.

VI. Honolua Watershed

1. Dam Assessments

Susan Kubo informed the board that NRCS has funds for dam assessments, which includes Kahana Nui Dam, Honokowai Dam, Kaopala, Napili 2-3, and Napili 4-5. Susan will no longer be acting as the NRCS state engineer and will let Eric Phillips, new acting state engineer know to include West Maui SWCD on the dam assessments through Gerald Gregory.

2. ML&P Basins

Wes Nohara contacted Dennis Iwasaka, ML&P Land Manager on Keonenui Basin, and plan on conducting a walk thru to discuss how the basin works.

Wes Nohara is also concerned about ML&P's 40 other basins, and does not think it was inspected nor maintained for about 20 years, since he left ML&P. Wes suggest setting up a task force with ML&P's permission to assess the condition of the basins.

VII. District Director Positions

Kainoa Casco and Ian Swezey's term as WMSWCD director expires June 30, 2021. Kimo Falconer moved to process forms to re-elect Kainoa Casco and Ian Swezey to continue serving on the WMSWCD board until June 30, 2024, seconded by Jay Nobriga, motion carried.

It would also be good idea to have an engineer on board. Mandy Saito, Kaanapali Land Management was recommended a while ago.

VIII. Update District Resolution

The WMSWCD resolution is dated February 22, 2017 and needs to be updated. Kimo Falconer moved to update the resolution from 2017 to 2021, seconded by Kainoa Casco, motion carried.

IX. County Grading/Grubbing Plans – Comments Submitted to DSA

1. Rock Pile at Makila Ranches 4A and 5A; TMK: 4-7-013: 004 & 005
Plan appears to be adequate

X. Cooperative Agreement/Conservation Plans

Unfortunately, due to telephone tag with Avery Chumbley and heavy workload on Farm Bill program contracting, the plan has been pushed back. Avery's plan will be placed on top of this list, and hope to get plan signed soon.

XI. National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI) Project

A meeting was held with the NWQI team and Dennis Iwasaka, ML&P

XII. USDA NRCS

1. The field office staff has been busy with Farm Bill contracts.
2. Memorandum of Agreement

Wes Nohara questioned if WMSWCD's annual work plan is okay for the new NRCS Memorandum of Agreement. For clarification, Susan mentioned that the MOA is like a national template, which includes SWCDs to do a long-range plan and business plan.

The long-range plan and business plan are tools for the SWCDs, and information for NRCS to see the district's direction. It is not subject to NRCS approval.

The MOA also mentions hold community meetings on an annual basis. The Maui Local Working Group is being facilitated by Phal Mantha, Ridge to Reef, Inc. NRCS is basically asking for participation. Maui had virtual roundtable discussions, and surveys were mailed.

XIII. Other Business

Wes Nohara mentioned that the Honolua Watershed Project took 35 years to completed, and 40 years for the Lahaina Watershed Project that is incomplete. Is there any other project that WMSWCD may want to consider starting, like Puamana? Puamana is tied to the Lahaina Watershed Project, but it's officially not part of it.

As discussed during previous meetings regarding the history of Puamana and the flood control project, the board does not want to include Puamana for it could jeopardize the Lahaina Watershed Flood Control Project from moving forward.

Susan Kubo mentioned that Puamana could be included in the Lahaina Flood Control Project Environment Document when public meetings are held.

XIV. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

Meeting Recorder: Maggie Kramp