

KONA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 21, 2022

MEETING HELD: Office and ZOOM

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Jeff Knowles, Greg Hendrickson, Barbara Anderson (via Zoom), Keli'ikanoe Mahi, Steve Foelber, Mark Peterson,

KSWCD STAFF: Mary Robblee, Robin Hill

NRCS STAFF: Laura Nelson, Lele Kimball (via Zoom)

GUESTS: Kayla Kalauli (via Zoom)

I. WELCOME: The KSWCD Board Meeting called to order 8:02 am by Chairman Knowles.

- i. Welcome guest Kayla Kalauli of Waimea Soil Water Conservation District
- ii. Agenda items to add: County Green Waste to New Business

II. MINUTES: Thursday, March 17, 2022, KSWCD Board Meeting Minutes.

✓ *Motion made to approve Meeting Minutes from March 2022. Approved.*

III. REPORTS:

A. FINANCIAL REPORTS (KSWCD): Robin and Barbara - Reports sent via e-mail to all directors prior to Meeting for Board review.

- i. **Accounts Payable:** \$243.26 (BRC&D + office supplies) + \$135.07 (web hosting) + \$8,836.92 (payroll)
- ii. **Statement of Financial Position:** General Checking: \$6,198.27 / County Funds: \$33.47/ Savings: \$50,880.55 (Total: \$57,112.29)
- iii. **Statement of Financial Income and Expense:** \$9,215.25 Total Expenses. \$2.40 Total Income

✓ *Motion made to approve Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Financial Income and Expense from March 2022. Approved.*

B. CONSERVATION ASSISTANT REPORTS: Robin

- i. **NRSCS / USDA Reports (SF-425, SF-270, etc.):** CTA Financial Reports up to date. Technical reports in process and reimbursements request once completed.
- ii. **National and Hawaii Associations of Conservation Districts (NACD & HACD):** Reports are current. HACD Quarterly Executive Board Meeting April 26th.
- iii. **County of Hawaii Report:** Financial reporting caught up (4th Quarter FY 2020-2021/1st Quarter 2021-2022/2nd Quarter FY 2021-2022) technical reporting during those periods almost complete.
- iv. **Big Island Resource Conservation & Development Council (BIRCD):** Per Brandi "BIRCD typically meets every quarter, on the last Friday of that month from 10a-2pm. Our normal schedule usually falls on the last Friday of January, April, July, and October, unless there are special circumstances, or an intermittent issue comes up. Zoom options are definitely available, except for our annual meeting in January. In-person attendance is required for at least the annual meeting, if Covid does not become an issue again. Normally (Pre-Covid) our meeting locations rotate to make it more convenient for everyone around the island to attend. We hope to get back to that soon." When asked about my attending the April 29th meeting, response was "Typically the SWCD Director and At-Large rep for BIRCD (Barbara and Janet for Kona) are the ones who attend our meeting and report back. If you are interested in joining as a guest for this meeting, I can ask our President Larry if that would be okay."

C. DISTRICT PLANNER REPORTS (KSWCD): Mary

- i. Conservation Plan for TMK (3)7-2-006:009,003:003: Gomes Ranch LLC would like to control and treat invasive Christmas Berry and provide adequate water for livestock – cleared both CR and Biology.

✓ *Motion made to approve Conservation Plan for Gomes Ranch LLC. Approved.*

- ii. Conservation Plan for TMK (3)8-8-003:001 (88-1575 Hawaii Belt Rd.) Cancino Family Farms – NO response. No need to continue to reach out.
- iii. Cooperative Agreement for TMK (3)8-4-004:040 / (3)8-4-004:012 (84-5234 Mamalahoa Hwy.) Cisneros Magana water/flooding. Need to schedule a future site visit.

✓ *Motion made to approve Cooperative Agreement for Magana Cisneros. Approved.*

- iv. Annual Flood Control Structure Tour – usually a half day tour with County is currently schedule for Wednesday, May 4th @ 8:00am. (PIG: Jeff, Mark, Steve and Keli'ikanoe).

D. NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS) / KONA SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT (KSWCD): Laura and Greg.

- i. **General NRCS:** Acting Director is JB Martin, Deputy State Conservationist from Texas. Chad just left last week. Advertising for acting Assistant of Programs position.
- ii. **2022 Farm Bill: General EQIP** several deadlines in the next couple weeks! 21 EQIP; 10 CSP; maybe 3 EQIP-CIC and maybe 3 RCPP. 5 CSP Renewals. 2018 RCPP Reserve \$ - 3 Mountain Alliance eligible for additional funding. 21 funded out of TCP (a few dropped out – wildlife and organic)
- iii. **Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP):** Kona RCPP. (2) Supplemental Agreements have been submitted for NRCS signing (support admin & project manager)

IV. OLD OR OTHER BUSINESS:

- i. **LEO'S CLUB:** Jeff reports continued plantings - Middle School 4/2 planted 20-25 trees thanks to donations from KMR/Hiki Ola. Elementary School 4/16 planted 100 la'i (ti plants) – over 500 plants now planted).
- ii. **PIA Newsletter** article was featured about the Leo Club.
- iii. **HALE KI'I MARKET** – paper shredding partnership with Leo Club, CirclePack Hawai'i and Ma'ona Community Garden.
- iv. **PUBIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS (PSA): West Hawaii Today (WHT)** ad to run 5 weeks starting 3/22. **KAPA (Pacific Media Group 4/20/22-5/3/22)** and **WAVE (Resonate Hawai'i LLC 4/18/22-4/30/22)**. **NA LEO TV Public TV** filming at Higashihara Park on Saturday, April 23rd.
- v. **HIKI OLA:** received fully-executed documents. Meeting today. 1) survey work in Native Hawaiian community regarding Farm Bill programs 2) understand obstacles 3) use statistical data 4) form outreach program based on obstacles. **OUTREACH:** Workshop series are planned as well as will be based on obstacles. Field days Hiki Ola connects with the community and engaging with their needs. TCP/Soil Health/RCPP focus on Agroforestry and Hiki Ola / Kealakekua Mountain Reserve (KMR) as demo for Native Practices Native Canoe Species. KMR / Hiki Ola Tour was an incredible tour with many Native species and doing very well! Amazing demonstration tour and example of reforestation, as well as an example of planner commitment! 1,100 acres now planted. Native Nursery year begins August and anticipates on producing 215,000-230,000. KMR will use about 110,000 and the rest are sold. Nursery sells larger quantity otherwise individuals can be bought as fundraiser at Hale Ki'i Market. Kealakekuaforestnursery.com. Will schedule an NRCS/District Tour after deadlines.
- vi. **OUTREACH COMMITTEE:** (Jeff, Keli'ikanoe, Lele and Robin) will draft a plan following the NRCS outreach plans with Laura's help. Meanwhile working with Leo Club for PSA (WHT, radio spots and public TV). Kealakehe High School Hawaiian History Outreach visit to scheduled Tuesday, May 3rd where Jeff will present his PowerPoint and we will do a water model demo. While webmaster recouping, gathering photos for content. Keli'ikanoe has Native Hawaiian plant photos. November is Makahiki and we should think of doing some Native plant giveaways. February is Hawaiian language month. King Kamehameha article with sustainability for June.

vii. **COOPERATOR OF THE YEAR 2021:** Each Planner will present a 10-minute presentation of their Nominee (total of 5 plans – 10 minute each) part of the next Board Meeting and will be part of the agenda (1-hour). We will decide how to proceed at the next Board Meeting.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

- i. **Grant Opportunities:** May Deadline. June Deadline. Have talked about Hiki Ola submitting for June. Possible something Hiki Ola and District can do with second group. Climate Smart. Greg will take a look to see if this something Hiki Ola and District can partner on. What we do have on our plate is currently testing our bandwidth.
- ii. **Country Green Waste/Mulch:** Jeff met with Mayor Roth, Brenda Iokepa-Moses, Ramzi Monsour, Bobby Command and Collin Onaka regarding County Green Waste. County Green Waste Effective April 1st will no longer serve commercial trucks (except Waikoloa). Is there a grant opportunity for a new chipper? In the meantime people working on a petition. It has been suggested we send an email template to our Producer/Cooperator’s list. Jeff mentioned he would be cautious with that. Greg questions if this is push or pull ? “We probably run the risk of raising someone’s hackles or pushing you should do this... but if someone is saying how can I? That we have some really good information on how they can: here are their e-mail addresses; here is something you can say. I would feel comfortable being an information source on how to engage your public officials as opposed to taking a direct advocacy position on one side.” Need to explore other options and grant opportunities.

iii. **NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, June 16, 2022 @ 8:00am (May Meeting cancelled.)

VI. **ADJOURN:** KSWCD Board Meeting adjourned at 9:41 am by Chairman Knowles.

BOARD MEETING ACTION ITEMS:

TASK	RESPONSIBLE	DUE DATE
HACD	Robin	4/26/2022
BIRC&D Meeting	Barbara	4/29/2022
Targeted Conservation Plan (TCP)	Jeff, Steve, Lele	More to come...
Kealakehe High School	Jeff & Robin	May 3, 2022
Annual Flood Control Structure Tour (1/2 day)	Jeff, Mark, Steve, Kel’ikanoe & Robin	May 4, 2022
Outreach plan based on Field Office model.	Laura to provide to Jeff, Robin, Lele & Keli’ikanoe	
District Annual Work Plan: - need to coordinate meeting to work on integrating District and RCPP plans	Project Manager (Jeff Knowles, Barbara Anderson, Keli’ikanoe Mahi and Robin Hill.)	
2021 Cooperator of the Year Nominees	5 Presentations (1 by each Planner – 10 minutes each)	July Board Meeting Presentation. Will decide how to proceed with votes.
Website Photos of native plants	Keli’ikanoe	