



# Mauna Kea Soil & Water Conservation District

67-1185 Mamalahoa Hwy. Suite H-148, Kamuela, HI 96743

Phone: (808) 885-6602 ext. 102 | Fax: 855-878-2456

## Agenda for the meeting of Mauna Kea Soil and Water Conservation District

Date: Wednesday, August 10, 2022

Time: 3:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Location: USDA-NRCS Waimea Field Office

67-1185 Mamalahoa Hwy Suite H-148, Kamuela, HI 96743

Start 3:10pm

- I. Approval of Agenda
  - a. Add Rachel Lansdale as new cooperator
  
- II. Approval/Review Minutes- 7/13/2022
  - a. Approved
  
- III. Treasurer's report Lau
  - a. UWA- savings, no change. Checking, no change.
  - b. County- savings, no change. Checking, payroll.
  - c. Wishard and federal- no change
  - d. Debit card will see purchase of \$17.69 for seed packets
  - e. Approved
  
- IV. Chairman's Report von Holt
  - a. Ethics education through DLNR mandatory for board members.
  - b. LRP has been signed, district will be doing the admin side of the grant
  
- V. Committee Report
  - a. None
  
- VI. Farm Dwelling Review
  - a. None
  
- VII. Sub-division Review
  - a. None
  
- VIII. Agreements/Contract Approval
  - a. Cooperative Agreement
    - i. Joseph Pacheco III



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1. Above Puu Kapu
2. FY2023 Farm Bill Program
3. Grazing operation
4. Approved

b. Rachel Lansdale

- i. Ahualoa
- ii. Forestry and crop operation
- iii. There is a stream mauka side of property but not doing any work near or in stream
- iv. Thick eucalyptus, that would like to be removed for agroforestry. Mix will include native and fruit producing trees/shrubs
- v. High tunnel for crops, not doing well due to environment
- vi. Possibly pollinator habitat
- vii. Interested in FY2023 Farm Bill, application signed
- viii. Approved

c. Plan Approval

- i. None

d. Plan Revision

- i. None

e. Plan Update

- i. None

f. Plan Cancellation

- i. None

IX. Reports, Correspondence and Announcements

a. NRCS

Cook

i. Program update

1. \$600,000.00 original Farm Bill assistance total Waimea office received, was able to increase to \$1,000,000.00 for Waimea office.
2. Water Smart funding in Kohala Watershed proposal
  - a. Bureau of Reclamation
  - b. For FY2023
  - c. Submitted for funding
  - d. Overlap with NWQI
  - e. Main practices would be associated with planting native trees/shrubs and removing invasive plants



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- f. EQIP fund pool
- g. Outreach to producers needs to be done

- b. Conservation Specialist/Administrative Assistant Fernandez
  - i. Nutrient management training, mid July
  - ii. CR tool training- help identify CR a head of time using ArcGIS online.  
Shows known CR that has been identified.
  - iii. LRP signed by Pono, waiting for final from NCRS
  - iv. DLNR report due
  - v. Vacation 9/1- 9/10
  
- X. Old Business
  - a. Board of directors
    - i. Pono and Willie term has been approved and ends 6/30/2025
  
  - b. Outreach material
  
- XI. New Business
  - a. Outreach material
    - i. Received the CTAHR seeds
  
    - ii. Ordered seed packets
      - 1. Received
  
    - iii. 4imprint shipments have been shipped
      - 1. Received bags, and table cloth
  
  - b. Open discussion
    - i. Service for conservation plan for landowners- discussion includes MKSWCD board, Irene Sprecher, and Nick Koch
      - 1. CTA plans for forestry projects to receive G&G, with no financial assistance, and how producers can assist to get plan in a timely matter
      - 2. District and NRCS goals are to assist producers
      - 3. We can look at policies to facilitate forestry projects to help streamline process to help manage and install forest?
      - 4. How can producers and District can work together go get conservation plan moving forward and addressing limitations and hurdles to get a conservation plan?
      - 5. What people in forestry see as district role is to preserve water quality



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6. Forestry producers to understand the process of getting a conservation plan through the SWCD's.
7. SWCD history was for the sugar producers to receive G&G while providing conservation of the land. In the past if able to comply with certain practices able to get up to \$3,000.00. As regulatory process got more involved county wanted an organization to take care of that. Currently, sugar is no longer a business in Hawaii, and more smaller producers evolved after sugar.
  - a. Concern is that smaller producers get priority over larger producers.
    - i. It was made clear that districts role is to focus on technical assistance, so producers that are creating a CTA plan will get assistance while the district staff also help NRCS with producers looking for financial assistance. Producers looking for just a CTA plan does not come secondary to NRCS funded plans, the district staff handles CTA plans.
8. Kona SWCD CTA process was brought up
  - a. FSI and producers create their own plan and the Kona SWCD district board approves those plans
  - b. Suggested that a TSP to write a plan and get approved by district
  - c. Question was asked how to be able to do something like what is being done in Kona SWCD with Mauna Kea SWCD?
    - i. This needs further discussion since MKSWCD has similar planning process as NRCS
    - ii. NRCS response
      1. NRCS reviews plans and approve if written by a TSP. TSP's are registered by NRCS and they need to be certified as a TSP.
        - a. Need to get concurrence from James Eller
        - b. Work with the NRCS State office and working down to the field office
9. Brought up that the SWCD's need different pathways to approve CTA plans.
  - a. Need to discuss further.



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End 4:25pm

### **To provide Written Testimony by Mail or E-mail:**

Written testimony to be submitted in advance of each meeting that will be distributed to board members prior to the meeting. Submit written testimony to [mkswcd@gmail.com](mailto:mkswcd@gmail.com) or via postal mail to Mauna Kea Soil and Water Conservation District at 67-1185 Mamalahoa Hwy Suite H-148, Kamuela, HI 96743. Written testimony that is received later than 24 hours prior to the meeting will be retained as part of the record and distributed to board members as soon as practicable, but we cannot ensure that board members will receive it within sufficient time for review prior to decision-making.

### **To provide Video Testimony by Microsoft Teams:**

Send your request via email to [mkswcd@gmail.com](mailto:mkswcd@gmail.com) and clearly identify the agenda item that you would like to testify. Once your request has been received, you will receive an email with the Microsoft Teams link. Requests may be made during the meeting and will be processed as soon as practicable.

### **To provide Oral Testimony by Telephone:**

Dial: +1 202-650-0123

Phone Conference ID: 399 196 505#

Individuals requiring special assistance or auxiliary aids or service (e.g. sign language interpreter), please contact staff at least 7 days prior to the meeting at (808) 885-6602 ext. 102 so arrangements can be made.