

Olinda-Kula Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting
Thursday, September 29, 2022, at 1:30 PM

Meeting was held via Zoom

- Meeting Call to Order
 - The Olinda-Kula Soil and Water District board meeting was called to order by Clark Hashimoto, Board Chair at 1:31 PM on Thursday, September 29, 2022.

- Roll Call of Those Present at the Meeting
 - Directors present:
 - Clark Hashimoto, Chair
 - Garret Hew, Vice Chair
 - Alan Nago, Director

 - USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) present:
 - Gerald Gregory, District Conservationist

 - Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Staff
 - Kelly Butler, Maui Soil and Water Conservation Planner
 - Millie Wagner, Administrator

 - Members of the Public
 - No members of the public were present

 - Board Members Not Present at the Meeting
 - Neil Nakamura, Secretary/Treasurer

 - Guests
 - Mae Nakamura, Central Maui Soil and Water Conservation District Director

- Determination of Whether a Quorum has been Established
 - It was determined that a quorum had been established.

- Public notice of meeting
 - Electronically posted to the state calendar (calendar.ehawaii.gov/calendar) on September 23, 2022
 - Physically posted at the Soil and Water Conservation District Office located at 77 Ho'okele St., Kahului, HI September 23, 2022
 - Filed with Lt. Governor's Office on September 23, 2022
 - Mailed or emailed to persons requesting notifications of meetings, postmarked September 23, 2022

- Reading and Approval of the Minutes from June 13, 2022
 - The board members acknowledged that the minutes from the June 13, 2022 board meeting had been received
 - A motion to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2022 board meeting was made by Garret Hew
 - The motion was seconded by Alan Nago
 - The motion was voted upon and passed unanimously

- Olinda-Kula Maui Soil and Water Conservation District Treasurer's Report
 - The Olinda-Kula Soil and Water Conservation District board members acknowledged receipt of the Treasurer's report and it will be kept on file

- Discussion Regarding the Olinda-Kula Soil and Water District Saving Account Held at Maui Federal Credit Union
 - It was noted that the savings account held at Maui Federal Credit Union does not yield a high return due to the low interest rate
 - It was noted that if the board decides to consolidate the two accounts, it will mean that a board member with signature authorization on file with the bank will need to close the account, then deposit the funds in the other bank account
 - A motion was made by Clark Hashimoto to consolidate the two bank accounts to a single bank account held at First Hawaiian Bank
 - The motion was seconded by Alan Nago
 - The motion was voted on by the board and passed unanimously

- Appointment of Executive Officers and Directors to the Board
 - Open positions:
 - Position of Director, currently vacant
 - Clark Hashimoto has spoken with Ethan Romanchek, owner of Maui Native Nursery and he is willing to serve on the board
 - A motion was made Clark Hashimoto to nominate Mr. Ethan Romanchek as a Director to the Olinda-Kula Soil and Water Conservation District Board
 - The motion was seconded by Alan Nago
 - The motion was voted on by the board and carried unanimously
 - Mr. Romanchek's term will end on June 30, 2025

- Olinda-Kula 75th Anniversary Celebration
 - The Olinda-Kula Soil and Water Conservation District was formed on May 2, 1948 and celebrates its 75th Anniversary in May 2023.
 - Date to hold celebration? (The actual anniversary date falls on a Tuesday)
 - Suggestions:
 - Saturday prior to the anniversary date is 4/26/2023
 - Saturday after the anniversary date is 5/6/2023
 - Type of celebration to hold?
 - Suggestions:
 - Potluck (Invitations to all Soil and Water Conservation District Board Members)
 - Puu-Puus (Invitations to Maui County and State dignitaries, and other Soil and Water Conservation District Board Members)
 - Full Day Celebration (Invitations to all Maui Soil and Water Conservation District board members, Maui County dignitaries and members of the public) – Similar to AgFest?
 - Location of Celebration?
 - Suggestions
 - Kula Community Center
 - Hannibal Tavares Community Center
 - Budget for Celebration
 - Suggestions:

- Unencumbered Funds
 - Donations
 - Proposed amount to budget
- Mae Nakahata of the Central Maui Soil and Water Conservation District proposed that the celebration of the 75th Anniversary be a year-long, state-wide celebration to celebrate both the beginning of the Kula Soil and Water Conservation District and the beginning of the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts
 - Ms. Nakahata stated that she would need to get approval from the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts before proceeding with this plan so the costs could be shared and more manageable for the Olinda Kula Soil and Water Conservation District
 - Ms. Nakahata stated that her view of the celebration was that a celebration could be held on each Island with a traveling story board featuring old photos showing the early days of the Olinda-Kula board
 - Ms. Nakahata stated that some type of event could be held each month
 - Her suggestion included having a large booth at the 2023 AgFest with photos from the early days of the District and a video to run throughout the day
 - Ms. Nakahata stated that AgFest was being planned now and this would be an excellent time to coordinate with them for the booth in preparation of the celebration

- She also suggested inviting and/or working with the Governor, Senators, State Representatives, as well as the Mayor and County Council
 - Ms. Nakahata stated that the Maui SWCD website could be updated so that the page for the Olinda-Kula Soil and Water Conservation District featured the old photos and information about the celebration
- Alan Nago and Garret Hew, Olinda-Kula Soil and Water Conservation District board members stated that they were not comfortable with holding a state-wide celebration and that they preferred a smaller, local celebration
- No motion was made at this time with regards to the type of celebration to hold; however, it was agreed that this be revisited in the next board meeting to discuss once Ms. Nakahata was able to speak with the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) District Conservationist Report by Gerald Gregory
 - Fiscal Year 2022 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) Conservation Plans for approval to be presented by Gerald Gregory, District Conservationist
 - Seven (7) Farm Bills for Approval
 - Files were emailed for Board review on September 21, 2022
 - Due to privacy laws, many aspects of the conservation plans may not be fully discussed in a public forum and the Olinda-Kula board members agreed to proceed with the meeting, then move into executive session pursuant to section 92-5(a)(3), to further discuss and approve the plans

- Public Comment and Written Testimony (NOTE: Public comment and/or written testimony is to be limited to 3 minutes)
 - No public comment was submitted or given
- Proposed dates and times for next meeting
 - The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 4, 2022
- Adjournment of the Meeting
 - A motion to adjourn the meeting and move to executive session was made by Garret Hew
 - The motion was seconded by Alan Nago
 - The motion was voted on and passed unanimously
 - The Olinda-Kula Soil and Water Conservation District board meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM and followed by an executive session of the board members

Submitted by

Neil Nakamura

Neil Nakamura

Secretary/Treasurer

Meeting Recorder: Millie Wagner, Soil and Water Conservation District
Administrator