

Central Maui Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting

Thursday, April 13, 2023, 1:00 PM

Meeting was held via Zoom

- **Meeting Call to Order**
 - The meeting was called to order at 1:05 PM by Mike Silva, Board Chair
 - **Roll Call of Those Present at the Meeting:**
 - Directors
 - Mike Silva, Chair (*attending location: alone in his Kahului office*)
 - Darren Strand, Vice Chair (*attending location: alone in his office at Maui Gold*)
 - Mae Nakahata, Secretary (*attending location: SWCD Kahului Office conference room*)
 - Mike Murakami, Treasurer (*attending location: alone in his office*)
 - Edgar Cordero, Director (*attending location: alone in his office at Bayer*)
 - Associate Director(s)
 - Richard Sylva, Associate Director (*attending location: alone in his car*)
 - Maui Environmental Consulting, LLC., Keokea Gulch Riparian Rehabilitation Project Consultant
 - Katy Woodbury (*attending location: alone in her office at Maui Environmental Consulting*)
 - USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services (NRCS)
 - Gerald Gregory, District Conservationist (*attending location: SWCD Kahului Office conference room*)
 - Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts
 - Michelle Watkins, HACD Executive Director (*attending location: SWCD Kahului Office conference room*)
 - Maui Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Staff
 - Kelly Butler, Maui SWCD Conservation Specialist (*attending location: SWCD Kahului Office conference room*)
 - Micaela Hogger, Conservation Specialist (*attending location: SWCD Kahului Office conference room*)
 - Millie Wagner, Administrator (*attending location: SWCD Kahului Office conference room*)
 - Leilehua Low, Administrative Assistant (*attending location: SWCD Kahului Office conference room*)
 - Members of the Public
 - None
 - Board Members Not Present at the Meeting
 - None
 - **Determination of Whether a Quorum has been Established**
 - It was determined that a quorum had been Established
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- **Public Notice of Meeting**
 - Electronically posted to the state calendar (calendar.ehawaii.gov/calendar) on April 6, 2023
 - Physically posted at the Soil and Water Conservation District Office located at 77 Ho'okele St., Kahului, HI on April 6, 2023
 - Filed with Lt. Governor's Office on April 6, 2023
 - Mailed or emailed to persons requesting notifications of meetings, postmarked April 6, 2023 (*Please note that at this time there is no one requesting notification of meetings*)

- **Approval of the Minutes from October 27, 2022**
 - Chair Mike Silva noted that the minutes of the 10/27/22 meeting had been received and asked for any objections to the minutes being accepted.
 - No objections were received, and Mr. Silva administratively approved and accepted the minutes to be placed on file

- **Central Maui Soil and Water Conservation District Treasurer's Report**
 - The receipt of the treasurer's report was acknowledged, and it will be placed on file
 - The board requested for the treasurer's report to include itemized expense reporting by district, summary reporting, and P&L spreadsheet going forward

- **Positions to the Central Maui Soil and Water District Board of Directors Expiring in June 2023**
 - Position of Director (appointed) currently held by Edgar Cordero will expire in June 2023
 - Edgar Cordero accepted the offer to renew his Director position for a 3 year term

- **Election of Officers for Central Maui SWCD**
 - Chairperson – Mae Nakahata, Secretary accepted nomination for Chairperson (to begin July 1, 2023)
 - A motion to approve nomination was made by Edgar Cordero, Director
 - The motion was seconded by Darren Strand, Vice Chair
 - The motion was then voted on and passed unanimously
 - Vice Chairperson – Darren Strand accepted to continue as Vice Chairperson
 - Treasurer – Mike Murakami accepted to continue as Treasurer
 - Secretary – Mike Silva, Chairperson accepted nomination for Secretary (to begin July 1, 2023)
 - A motion to approve nomination was made by Edgar Cordero, Director
 - The motion was seconded by Darren Strand, Vice Chair
 - The motion was then voted on and passed unanimously

- **Follow-up regarding discussions with the State Ethics Board**
 - The receipt of the State Ethics Code was acknowledged
 - Discussion regarding Associate Directors

- **Increasing Delivery Capacity**
 - Discussion of purpose of Increasing Delivery Capacity questions
 - Mae Nakahata explained that the Increasing Delivery Capacity questions are designed to identify and justify the need for future NRCS and USDA funding
 - Board members will follow up with Millie Wagner, Administrator regarding responses to Increasing Delivery Capacity questions via email

- **Keokea Gulch Riparian Rehabilitation Project Update by Katy Woodbury, Maui Environmental Consulting, LLC**

- Phase I completed in 2021 – 5.8 acres 2,000 native plantings, including wiliwili, alahahele, ilima, aalii, and aweoweo
- Phase II - involved planting approximately 1,000 native plants along the riparian corridor of Keokea Gulch.
 - Each plant is irrigated with one gallon of R-1 wastewater daily, approximately 21,000 gallons of R-1 water in use
 - Project completed with the help of volunteers and guest involvement
- **Utilization of R-1 Reclaimed Water to Mitigate Axis Deer Damage Update by Katy Woodbury, Maui Environmental Consulting, LLC**
 - 11.25 acres have been fenced off and irrigated using R-1 water
 - Monitoring vegetation data points in the area for reporting
 - Goal is to revegetate landscape and introduce cattle grazing
- **Pohakea Watershed Planning Effort Update by Katy Woodbury, Maui Environmental Consulting, LLC**
 - This is a 5,268-acre planning area that drains into Maalaea Bay, and provides strategies for addressing and managing those issues
 - The final version of the plan has been submitted to the State
- **HACD 2023 Annual Conference**
 - Dates: June 21-23 2023
 - Location: Kilauea Military Camp (KMC) in Volcano, HI
 - Deadline for conference registration is May 19, 2023
 - Mike Murakami will partner with Soil and Water Conservation Districts corporate credit card for booking KMC lodging
 - Millie Wagner will provide list of attendees to Mike Murakami for lodging reservations
- **New Soil and Water Conservation District Administrative Assistant**
 - Ms. Low introduced herself to the board
 - Discussion and vote about the need for the Administrative Assistant to have access to the bank account to perform bookkeeping duties
 - Mike Murakami made the motion to grant access to banking information for bookkeeping duties
 - The motion was seconded by Mae Nakahata
 - The motion was then voted on and passed unanimously
- **New Soil and Water Conservation District Conservation Specialist (Planner)**
 - Ms. Hogger introduced herself to the Board
- **Maui Soil and Water Conservation District Conservation Specialist Updates by Kelly Butler**
 - Discussed upcoming outreach event - Ag in the Classroom
 - Event to be held April 24, 2023 at Haleakala Ranch
 - Ms. Butler and Ms. Hogger will collaborate on presentation for outreach

- Ms. Butler and Ms. Hogger are anticipating at least 1,000 students to attend the event
 - Land Judging
 - Ms. Butler stated that she would like to reinstate land judging this year in collaboration with: CTAHR, NRCS
 - AG Fest
 - Event to be held June 6, 2023
 - Mae Nakahata suggested that Ms. Butler, Ms. Hogger, and Ms. Woodbury of Maui Environmental Consulting collaborate in creating a photo display featuring the work done at Keokea Gulch Riparian Rehabilitation Project, and the Pohakea Watershed to be presented at AG Fest
 - Mae Nakahata discussed possible SWCD logo redesign to be completed by Kelly Butler
 - Ms. Butler previously drafted a new logo that could be customized for each district, discussed working on a final draft

- **NRCS Updates by Gerald Gregory, District Conservationist**
 - Plans to host 3 local work group meetings in June or July: West Maui, Hana, Olinda-Kula combined with the Central Maui district to provide better availability to members of the community that wish to attend
 - Maui College is the proposed venue for the Olinda-Kula and Central Maui meeting, more information to come
 - CMSWCD CTA plans are currently pending review from the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD)
 - NRCS and SWCD are working with a newly hired County archaeologist to help streamline this process and to help in moving projects forward
 - Erosion Prediction Tools
 - Wind tools are not providing an accurate depiction of what is actually occurring on land
 - This discrepancy has the potential to change conservation plan
 - Mike Silva stated that it is not in the best interest of CMSWCD to continue with this model if it is not accurate
 - Mr. Gregory is currently working with NRCS Conservation Specialist Jason Hew on erosion tools and will update the board in the future

- **Public Comment and Written Testimony (NOTE: Public comment and/or written testimony is limited to 3 minutes)**
 - No public comment or written testimony was submitted

- **Proposed dates and times for next meeting**

- The board agreed to meet in-person within the next 3 months as needed.
 - A hybrid option for those who would be unable to attend was discussed
 - No specific dates were discussed for the next board meeting
- **Adjournment of the Meeting**
 - The meeting was adjourned at 2:48 PM by Mike Silva, Board Chair

Submitted by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Nakahata', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mae Nakahata
Secretary

Meeting Recorder Leilehua Low, Soil and Water Conservation District Administrative Assistant
