

MINUTES  
PUNA SWCD DIRECTOR'S BOARD MEETING  
July 19, 2023  
9:30a.m. – virtual via Microsoft office teams

The board meeting of the Puna Soil and Water Conservation District was called to order by Chairperson Oliver English at 9:39am virtually via Microsoft Office teams.

Present:

Directors: Oliver English, OE, Atto Assi (AA), Elton Mow (EM)

Others: Spencer Nagata, Acting District Conservationist; Kanoë Lee Loy, Soil Conservationist; Meghan Mulley, Soil Conservationist; Kuuleialoha Kaaukai, Student Intern; Tyler Kramer, Student Intern; Jennifer Reavis, District Secretary/Conservation Aide; Chris Corley, others.

#### MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Circulated and placed on file. Approved. AA/EM

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Deferred till next month.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

\*sent via email

#### NEW COOPERATORS/PLANS/REVISIONS/UPDATES/CANCELLATIONS

- A. New Cooperator and/or Conservation Plan Approval
  - 1. Kevin Benevides – 25 acres. Plans for grazing & pasture improvement. Accepted as a new cooperator and conservation plan approved. OE/AA
  - 2. Fellowship of Perpetual Growth – 20 acres. Plans for brush management, pasture improvement. Accepted as a new cooperator and conservation plan approved. OE/AA
  - 3. Stephanie Loui – 16 acres. Plans for forest restoration, wildlife habitat. Accepted as a new cooperator and conservation plan approved. OE/AA

#### REPORTS

- A. D.C. Report – Acting D.C. Spencer Nagata gave the monthly report for the Hilo Field Office. Updates on personnel changes, deadlines, project info, presentation, training, emergency programs, Farm Bill update, outreach, etc. was given.
- B. FSA Report - (1) All info that FSA sends via email is forwarded to SWCD directors.
- C. BIRCD Report – (1) Meeting will be held next Friday.

D. HACD Report - (1) Brenda Iokepa-Moses is the new HACD President. There is a special committee that's convening, discussing possible funding, district employee vehicle insurance. Next year's HACD Annual conference will be held on Kauai.

E. Reports - (1) District Employee Report – Meg spoke about creating a website for the 3 SWCD's. She started up doing intakes again, as well as managing her current conservation plans, going on field visits, completing AgLearn training, starting to assist with the CCAC.

F. Open Forum

G. Other New Business

1. Insurance pertaining to the board – insurance is up to date.

2. Conservation Planning was discussed.

3. East Hawaii Local Work Group Meeting – this will be held on Wednesday, July 26<sup>th</sup> @ 8:30a.m. @ the NRCS Hilo Field Office conference room.

4. County Conservation Awareness Contest – The Ka'u SWCD will be hosting the contest this year. The tentative date is Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

5. Subdivision Review

a. Kurtistown Jodo Mission – no comments sent to the County.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:10a

Respectfully submitted,

/s/LEANNE KAMI  
Secretary

Recording Secretary: Jennifer Reavis