

WEST KAUA'I SWCD MONTHLY MEETING

West Kauai
Soil & Water Conservation District



DATE: Tuesday, June 11, 2019
TIME: 3:00 PM
LOCATION: National Tropical Botanical Garden's Education Center
Lawa'i, Kaua'i

AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER - Peter**
- II. REVIEW OF AGENDA:** (Additions/Deletions/Changes)
- III. REVIEW/ACCEPT MINUTES:** 5/13/19
- IV. TREASURER'S REPORT:** 6/11/19
- V. CORRESPONDENCE**
- VI. REVIEW NEW COOPERATOR AGREEMENTS & CONSERVATION PLANS**
 - A. One new Conservation Plan
- VII. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
 - A. Garden Island RC&D - Gary
- VIII. NEW BUSINESS:**
 - A. NRCS Report – Jenna Dunn, District Conservationist
 - B. Conservation Specialist Reports – John Nelson & Jenni Scotti
- IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - A. Slow Money Hawaii
 - B. Piggerys on Kauai – John
- X. OTHER BUSINESS**
- XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - A. Summer Series Part 1 High Tunnels – June 13, 2019, 3–5:30 PM
 - B. HACD Annual meeting – June 19-21, 2019 on Molokai
 - C. Annual Picnic – September 14, 2019 at Niumalu park at 3PM
 - D. Mahalo Beck's Hybrids – we received our new rainfall simulator on May 28!
 - E. Make a Splash and Project WET – September 20, 2019

NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday, July 16, 2019 3:00 PM at NTBG Education Center

XII. ADJOURNMENT

INDIVIDUALS REQUESTING SPECIAL ASSISTANCE OR AUXILIARY AIDS OR SERVICES (e.g., sign language interpreter, wheel chair accessibility, or parking designated for the disabled) AT THE DISTRICT SWCD MEETING, PLEASE CONTACT STAFF AT LEAST 72-HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING AT (808) 245-9014 SO THAT ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE.



The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. at the National Tropical Botanical Garden with a quorum.

- I. **PRESENT: Directors:** Peter Tausend (Presiding); David Smith; Adam Killermann; Blaise Boyle
Associate Directors: Greg Williams; Bailey Clay; Umi Martin; Richard Loero
Others: Paul Togioka, COK Dept of Public Works; Jenna Dunn, NRCS District Conservationist; Jenni Scotti, Conservation Specialist; John W. Nelson, HACD Conservation Specialist; Rebekah Magers, District Assistant; Travis Usinger, NRCS Pathways Intern; Haylee C., Kauai Coffee Intern; Sean Mooney, Audie Bernardino, Paul Russell, Hartung Bros.
- II. **REVIEW OF AGENDA:** VI. Review New Cooperator Agreements & Conservation Plans was moved up on the agenda. Peter wanted to add under X. Other Business, A. WK SWCD Chair. Rebekah wanted to add under X. Other Business, B. Ted Kornecki, USDA
- III. **REVIEW NEW COOPERATOR AGREEMENTS & CONSERVATION PLANS:** Three representatives from Hartung Bros. were present to present the plan. Hartung Bros. took over Syngenta's operations two years ago. Their conservation plan is for their Waimea fields. Adam motioned to approve the plan/Blaise seconded; the motion was unanimously accepted. The Conservation Plan was signed by Peter.
- IV. **MINUTES:** Peter wanted to add an edit to XIII. Announcements, D. "Arryl explained the fall of the bill barred A&B from getting..." to Arryl explained the fail of the bill barred A&B from getting..." Blaise motioned to accept the minutes with the change for 5/13/19/Adam seconded; the motion was unanimously accepted.
- V. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** There was no on time bank statement received for the month. No report at the time of meeting.
- VI. **CORRESPONDENCE:** Peter passed around the Correspondence folder.
- VII. **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
 - A. **Garden Island RC&D Report:** Carolyn Lum emailed the report for May/June:
- VIII. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - A. **NRCS Report:** Jenna gave her report for May/June:
 - a. General
 - i. Maui DC- Wendy rash will be Acting DC from 5/26-9/28
 - ii. American Samoa DC- To be announced. Brandon Todd has assumed the role of Acting DC.
 - iii. Cultural Resource Specialist- Brian Wallace has been selected, his start date was 5/26/2019
 - iv. State Agronomist- No word on who will be acting next or when position will be filled.
 - v. Assistant Director for Programs- Chad Cherefko will fill the position, his start date was 5/28/2019
 - vi. Assistant Director for Partnerships- this is a new position for PIA. Susan Kubo will fill this position
 - vii. PMC Agronomist- Richard Ogoshi has been selected, he started on 6/9/19
 - viii. Pathways Intern- Travis Usinger will be stationed in Lihue this summer. His first day is today 6/10/19

b. Farm Bill Programs

i. EQIP FY19-

1. Kauai currently has approximately 27 applications that passed eligibility. 18 are above the ranking threshold. 13 have been selected for per-approval totaling approximately \$467,104.00
2. PIA requested more funding and received approximately \$6.1mill.

ii. CSP FY19

1. 4 applications submitted- 3 on cropland and one grazing

B. Conservation Specialist Reports:**1. Jenni Scotti's report for 6/11/19:**

- Trainings / Meetings / Learning
 - Soil Health Training
 - Two days with Amy (NRCS Soil Scientist) Laila (NRCS Soil Con) & Travis (NRCS Director)
 - Met with ROD outreach manager Kim Rogers
- Plans / field visits
 - Planning
 - Site visits with 4 clients, 1 new client
 - Planning and follow-up with 11 clients
 - Worked on 2 practice completion check-outs
 - Completed 1 plan and mostly finished another plan
- Outreach
 - Banana Poka festival
 - Attended with forestry committee but provided some information for forest practices and agroforestry
 - Summer Outreach Series – The office is working together to put on trainings throughout the summer:
 - High Tunnel Thursday June 13th at 3pm
 - Piggeries – July
 - Diversify agricultural production: Agroforestry – August
 - Soil Health – September
 - 3 days - Livestock, Farms & Students
- Misc/News/upcoming events/future projects/goals
 - Helping with grant application
 - Working on CTA and new clients
 - Working with CSP applicants

2. John Nelson's report for 6/11/19:

- Working with client and the deep litter piggery project ensuring a successful program fulfillment.
- Obtaining signatures for completion of high tunnel and crop projects.
- Following through with my other clients and their projects.

- Acquired my first Conservation Stewardship Program sign-up.
- Continue to work with my clients and their projects.
- Getting ready for the Molokai HACD Conference visit in June.
- Confirming bootcamp in Lincoln, Nebraska in July.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. Slow Money Hawaii (SMH):** Rebekah opened up the discussion about any feedback from the Skype session with Mary. There was no verbal feedback at the time of the meeting. Rebekah explained how Eric Hansen from the EK SWCD is looking into Slow Money Hawaii for a project he is doing with kava. He is going to learn about the process and give feedback on what he learns so he can better explain to other borrowers and the Districts. With Eric going through the process the Districts can better learn how they fit into the program and how they can support it. Umi brought up the fact that SMH would have to build up their network of lenders on Kauai. Rebekah also explained that Oahu lenders can lend to Kauai borrowers but the ideal plan is to create a network of lenders on Kauai that support Kauai borrowers. Kiva is the first step for the microloans with 0% interest through SMH. Peter asked if there was any interest in the WK District but Rebekah was unaware of anyone at the time of the meeting.
- B. Piggerys on Kauai:** After his Conservation report, John talked about how there has not been much headway made with the Dept. of Ag on learning about why the landowner concurrence letter was not signed for a particular piggery. He said it is a project by project evaluation and they did not know the benefits of deep or dry litter systems for the piggery. He explained that there needs to be a 50 feet set back from drinking water and canals but none for residences and schools. There are very loose regulations and no permitting for the piggeries. Bailey mentioned how the DOE now has contracts for serving locally sourced beef at schools. John also said that the DOA is coming out in the middle of June to meet with the piggery client.

X. OTHER BUSINESS:

- A. WK SWCD Chair:** Peter has been talking to the vice-chair, Howard Greene, to see if he will be the acting chair. Blaise made a motion to make Howard Greene the acting chair until a more permanent status is determine by the board, David seconded. The vote was unanimously accepted. Peter also suggested that chairs could be switched up or changed each year.
- B. Ted Kornecki, USDA:** Rebekah has been in contact with Ted Kornecki who is in Auburn, AL. She will send out an email with more information on Ted with his accomplishments and Youtube videos for examples of his prototypes. The Districts hope to bring Ted to Kauai to give a workshop on small machinery appropriate for small/beginner farmers with limited resources.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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NEXT MEETING DATE:

WHEN: July 16, 2019 at 3:00 PM

WHERE: NTBG Education Center, Lawai

There being no further business the meeting ended at 4:15 pm. Written by Rebekah Magers, District Assistant.