

# WEST KAUA'I SWCD MONTHLY MEETING

**West Kauai**  
Soil & Water Conservation District



DATE: Tuesday, March 19, 2019  
TIME: 3:00 PM  
LOCATION: National Tropical Botanical Garden's Education Room  
Lawa'i, Kaua'i

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## AGENDA

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- I. **CALL TO ORDER** - Howard
- II. **REVIEW OF AGENDA:** (Additions/Deletions/Changes)
- III. **REVIEW/ACCEPT MINUTES:** 2/19/19
- IV. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** no report
- V. **CORRESPONDENCE**
- VI. **REVIEW NEW COOPERATOR AGREEMENTS & CONSERVATION PLANS**
- 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. New Community Involvement Projects
    - 1. Vetiver Project with Go Farm
    - 2. Partnering with RC&D
    - 3. Slow Money Hawaii
    - 4. Cooperator Surveys
  - B. Liability Insurance
  - C. Cooperator of the Year 2018
- X. **OTHER BUSINESS**
- XI. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
  - A. HACD Annual meeting – June 19-21, 2019 on Molokai
  - B. Annual Report Committee – Any articles, photos, or info you would like to add to our 2019 Report?
  - C. Garden Fair on April 6, 2019 – Please sign up if you can help

**NEXT MEETING DATE: Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at 3 pm**

## 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.

**PRESENT:**

**Directors:** Howard Greene (Presiding); Adam Killermann; Blaise Boyle

**Associate Directors:** Bailey Clay

**Others:** Jenna Dunn, NRCS District Conservationist; Jenni Scotti, Conservation Specialist; John W. Nelson, HACD Conservation Specialist; Rebekah Magers, District Assistant

**REVIEW OF AGENDA:** no changes

**REVIEW NEW COOPERATOR AGREEMENTS & CONSERVATION PLANS:** none

**MINUTES:** Blaise motioned to approve the minutes for 2/19/19/Adam seconded; the motion was unanimously accepted.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** no report

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Howard passed around the Correspondence folder.

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**A. Garden Island RC&D Report:** no report

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**A. NRCS Report:** Jenna gave her report for February/March:

• **General**

- Maui DC- To be announced. Morri-Ann Nagata has assumed the role of Acting DC.
- Waimea DC- Scott Cook is set to report on 3/18/2019
- American Samoa DC- To be announced. Brandon Todd has assumed the role of Acting DC.
- Cultural Resource Specialist- Brian Wallace has been selected, his start date is 5/26/2019
- State Agronomist- Kara Nelson is Acting, no word on when position will be filled.
- Assistant Director for Programs- is now vacant. Susan Kubo will be Acting ADP until 5/24//2019. Position has not been advertised yet.
- PMC Agronomist- Has been advertised, selection pending
- Full Time Employees (FTE)- PIA cap for FTEs has dropped to 58

• **Farm Bill Programs**

- EQIP FY19-
  - Kauai currently has approximately 32 applications. 18 are above the ranking threshold. They total approximately \$862,030.00
  - PIA has about \$17 mill in applications, but only about \$6 mill available. Therefore, PIA will be requesting an extra \$5mill or so.

• **Summer outreach series**

- June- High Tunnel
- July- Agroforest
- August- Piggeries
- September- NRCS programs

**B. Conservation Specialist Reports:**

1. Jenni Scotti's report for 3/19/19:
  - **Trainings / Meetings / Learning**
    - Carolyn (Pasture/range specialist) training and site visits
  - **Plans / field visits**
    - Planning
      - Site visits with 16 clients, 1 new client
      - Planning and follow-up with 13 clients
    - Carl (Engineer) site visits
  - **Outreach**
    - POSTER CONTEST
      - Most school visits are set up
    - National Contest 3<sup>rd</sup> place!
    - Starting to prep for 2019 outreach materials
    - Garden Fair April 6<sup>th</sup>
    - Ag Awareness Day April 25<sup>th</sup>
  - **Misc/News/upcoming events/future projects/goals**
    - Focus on planning for applications
    - Will be working on Annual report articles and outreach materials
    - Summer – High Tunnel & Agroforestry
2. John Nelson's report for 3/19/19:
  - I have been on multiple site visits and follow up with clients about potential practices.
  - I am getting the first round of plans completed and submitted by the deadline. (Maps).
  - Travelled to Kilauea to meet and present the elementary school students with the poster contest.
  - Getting ready for the Garden Fair and setting up (April 6th) -Outreach-
  - Preparing for any upcoming tasks that will need to be completed for the client and helping my co-workers with any needed assistance in order to learn more about the extensive planning process.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:****A. New Community Involvement Projects:**

1. **Vetiver project with Go Farm:** Howard reported that there was no longer the strip of vetiver grass available for material. He was awaiting a report on a second strip of vetiver material. Jenni and Howard plan to take a day to go out and find the other strip of vetiver. The office planned to just take slips but Adam offered a machine if help was needed to dig up the whole vetiver plants. Jenna gave an update on where the project is at and some important dates. On April 9, the office will get GPS points at the Go Farm site and June 1 is a tentative date for a

workday on the site. We are still in the planning phase and creating a needs list. We are looking for a storage or nursery site for potted up slips in the future. The Districts could apply for the OED grant in June 2019 to support the vetiver project. The idea of a Vetiver Subcommittee was presented. Ed (EKSWCD), Eric (EKSWCD), Adam, and Howard are interested in being on the Subcommittee.

2. **Partnering with RC&D:** Rebekah will attend the April 1 Garden Island RC&D meeting to present a proposal for the vetiver project and see if they are interested in a partnership to help with collecting and maintaining funds. She will also ask GIRC&D about adding a 'Donate' button to the website, where funds could go to a District subaccount. The Districts can also work with GIRC&D for future grant requests because of their non-profit status. Bailey mentioned there are excess materials such as bird netting available from the seed companies that could be donated to Cooperators or other farmers. Rebekah will add a 'Free Farm Materials' section on the website for these materials.
3. **Slow Money Hawaii:** Jenna explained why the Slow Money program would benefit our community of small farmers. The Directors agreed that a joint meeting would be best for the Districts to Skype with Mary about the program. Rebekah will see if the Directors and Mary are available on April 16, 17, or 18. The Districts will eventually present the program to the Farm Bureau and Farmers Union to help as vetters.
4. **Cooperators Surveys:** Rebekah reported that 13 surveys had been completed so far. She presented a few results and the final results will be in the Annual Report.

**B. Liability Insurance:** "There are two components to Directors & Officers Liability – The first is the Directors & Officers portion – this provides coverage for the governance of the organization, by the board. This would be decision making. If a third party finds fault, or is not happy about how the organization is run, they could file a lawsuit against a board member, or the entire board. The second component is called Employment Practices Liability, and with this coverage you get specific perils, such as discrimination, sexual harassment and wrongful termination. These can be alleged by employees, or by anyone who is a part of the nonprofit. The Employment Practices Liability is where approximately 90% of all Nonprofit D&O claims are made." The East Kauai SWCD chose to defer the topic until the HACD Conference in June. Rebekah emailed Michelle Watkins about adding the topic to the agenda.

Blaise made a motion to defer the topic until the HACD Conference in June/Howard seconded; the motion was unanimously accepted.

**C. Cooperator of the Year 2018:** No Cooperator was picked for 2018.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- A. **HACD Annual meeting:** Need silent auction items. Please email or call Rebekah if you would like to donate or have any donations for the Silent Auction. Voting for delegates will happen at the April meeting.

- B. Annual Report Committee:** Deadline for articles and Director bios is May 15.
- C. Garden Fair on April 6, 2019:** Rebekah will email volunteer sign up sheets.
- D. Annual Picnic** – September 14, 2019 at Niumalu Park at 3PM

The Mayor was invited to the the May EKSWCD meeting for a meet and greet. The Directors were intersted in haveing a combined meeting for May.

**NEXT MEETING DATE:**

**WHEN: 2:00 pm, May 13, 2019**

**WHERE: Department of Health Conference Room**

There being no further business the meeting ended at 4:23 pm. Written by Rebekah Magers, District Assistant.