



MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2019
2:00 PM

STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CONFERENCE ROOM, 3040 UMI ST., LIHU'E
AGENDA FOR MONTHLY EAST KAUAI SWCD MEETING

- I. CALL TO ORDER, QUORUM**
- II. REVIEW OF AGENDA**
- III. REVIEW/ACCEPT MINUTES: 9/9/19**
- IV. TREASURER'S REPORT: 10/7/19 – Leonard**
- V. CORRESPONDENCE**
 - A. Flyers for upcoming events
 - B. Sunshine Law information
 - C. Treasurer's Report
- VI. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. NRCS Report – Jenna Dunn, District Conservationist
 - General – NRCS Staffing
 - Farm Bill Programs – EQIP, CSP, AMA, RCPP
 - Other – Local Work Group, NRCS events and news
 - B. Conservation Specialist Report – Jenni Scotti & John Nelson
 - Trainings/meetings/Learning
 - Plans/Field Visits
 - Outreach
 - Misc./News/Upcoming Events/Future Projects/Goals
- VII. REVIEW NEW COOPERATOR AGREEMENTS & CONSERVATION PLANS**
 - A. New Kauai Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Cooperators
 - Benefits to becoming an SWCD Cooperator
 - Additions/changes to Cooperator form to include site visit option
 - Suggest meeting attendance
 - Expand on benefits
- VIII. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**
 - A. Garden Island RC&D (report is filed in correspondence)
 - NRCS/SWCD
 - Kauai Invasive Species Committee (KISC)
 - Kauai Landscape Industry Council (KLIC)
 - Kauai Forest Bird Recovery Program (KFBRP)
 - Kokee Resource Conservation Program (KRCP)
 - Makawahi Cave
 - Malama Hikana`akala Heiau
 - Malama Ia Namanu
 - B. Grading Ordinance – Paul
- IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - A. Local Work Group (LWG)
 - Top Resource Concerns
 - Top Priority Issues
 - Funding Allocation



Summary of Feedback

- B. Annual Work Plan – Leonard
Updates made to Work Plan for FY2020
- C. Filming Future Workshops and Budgets
Price comparison for video camera and accessories
- D. Personnel Reviews/Salary – Board anticipates convening into an Executive Session pursuant to Section 92-5(a), Hawai'i Revised Statute, to discuss personnel reviews and salary

X. OTHER BUSINESS

- A. Annual Dinner 2019
Date, Time, Location, Caterer
Invitations
- B. Sunshine Law Review for New and Current Directors
Quick Review of meeting notice requirements
Agenda guidance
Guide to Open Meetings
Who Board members can talk to and when

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS/EVENTS

- CTAHR Sweet Potato Variety Field Day – Tuesday, October 8 – 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. –Kauai Ag Research Center in Wailua
- Outreach briefings by FSA and NRCS – 10/2, 10/3, 10/10 – 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.- various locations
- CAP Contest – Friday, October 11
- Ag Conference on Oahu – 10/15-10/16
- Water Conservationist Award Ceremony at Department of Water – TBD
- Climate-Smart Agriculture Stakeholder meeting – Wednesday, October 16 – 2-3:30 p.m. Invite only meeting held on Oahu by the Healthy Soils Hawaii Team (Hawaii Agriculture Research Center and Oahu Resource Conservation & Development)

XII. ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING: Monday, November 4, 2019* 2:00PM at Dept. of Health Conference Room

*Meeting date is changed in recognition of Veteran's Day (11/11)

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 +3 SO THAT ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE.

The meeting was opened at 2:05 pm at the State DOH Conference Room in Lihue.

- I. **PRESENT: Directors:** Ed Kawamura, Jr., (Presiding); Leonard Vierra; Arryl Kaneshiro
Associate Directors: Darren Tamekazu
Others: Paul Togioka, County of Kauai – Public Works; Jenni Scotti, Conservation Specialist; John Nelson, Conservation Specialist; Genoa Starrs, NRCS Soil Conservationist; Rebekah Magers, District Assistant
- II. **REVIEW OF AGENDA (ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES):** no additions or changes.
- III. **MINUTES: Motion:** Leonard made a motion to accept the minutes, Arryl second. Motion was accepted unanimously.
- IV. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Leonard put the Treasurer's report in the Correspondence folder that was passed around. Leonard will try to contact the County of Kauai Public Works to see when County funds will be received for the new fiscal year.
- V. **CORRESPONDENCE:** Ed passed the correspondence folder around.
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. **NRCS Report:** Genoa Starrs gave Jenna Dunn's NRCS report:
To: East Kauai SWCD Board of Directors
From: Jenna Dunn, Lihue Field Office, District Conservationist
Date: October 7, 2019
RE: Lihue Field Office Monthly Report for Sept/Oct 2019
 1. **General**
 - a. Maui DC- Jill Ficke-Beaton has been selected to permanently fill the position.
 - b. American Samoa DC- To be announced.
 - c. Oahu DC- Sarah Tanuvasa, DC in WA will be acting for 120 days, starting today.
 - d. State Engineer – no word on who will be acting next or when position will be filled.
 - e. Assistant Director of Technology- Susan Kubo is acting.
 2. **Farm Bill Programs**
 - a. EQIP FY19-
 - i. The Kauai FY 19 total to around \$627,052 – updated figure next month
 - b. CSP FY19
 - i. 3 obligated
 - B. **Conservation Specialist Reports:**
 1. Jenni Scotti gave her report for 10/7/19:
 1. **Trainings / Meetings / Learning**
 - a. Local Working Group meeting
 2. **Plans / field visits**
 - a. Planning
 - i. Site visits with 2 clients
 - ii. Planning and follow-up with 10 clients
 - iii. Worked on 2 practice completion check-outs
 - iv. Completed 1 plan
 3. **Outreach**
 - a. Summer Outreach Series

- i. Soil Health – September
 - ii. Students from 4 schools attended
- b. POSTER CONTEST
 - i. Visited 6 schools – 500 students
 - ii. 311 posters from 8 schools
 - iii. Pre-judging will take place in the office from October 7th to October 9th
 - iv. Final judging will take place Tuesday October 15th at the West Kauai SWCD meeting at 2:30 PM and online from the 15th until Friday October 18th
- c. CAP CONTEST
 - i. CAP contest October 11th
 - 1. West side sites
 - ii. State Contest in Molokai
 - 1. November 14th
- 4. **Misc/News/upcoming events/future projects/goals**
 - a. Went on vacation in September
- 2. John Nelson gave his report for 10/7/19:
 - 1. **Trainings/meetings/Learning**
 - a. Bootcamp training in Nebraska
 - b. Local Working Group meeting
 - 2. **Plans/Field Visits**
 - a. Multiple site visits for FY 2020 potential clients
 - 3. **Outreach**
 - a. NTBG soils talk
 - b. CAP Contest and prep day
 - c. Poster contest

VII. **REVIEW & APPROVAL OF CONSERVATION PLANS & COOPERATOR AGREEMENTS:**

A. New Kauai Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD) Cooperators: Discussion: Ed said in the past the Board would go on field trips to farms and meet the Cooperators. Ed wanted to see if the Directors were interested in doing these field trips again. He thinks it will bring in more Cooperators to the meetings. Rebekah did not have a SWCD Cooperator's Agreement form at the time of the meeting. Ed mentioned putting a check box on the form so the Cooperators can opt in or out of field trips and more information. He also thought it would be good to add the monthly meeting dates on the form. Jenni explained that the reason for reduction in Conservation Plans being presented at the EK SWCD meeting: EK plans are turning into contracts whereas WK plans are mostly Conservation Technical Assistance (CTA) plans. Leonard thinks the low numbers for people coming through the door and coming to meetings is because clients are not aware the Districts/NRCS are there or how they can help. Arryl asked if the Districts are keeping track of who has Conservation Plans. He brought up the fact that the exemptions expire after 10 years and that the Districts could do a courtesy reminder for anyone getting close to their expiration date. Rebekah reminded the group that the purpose of the County Public Works funds are to support to the Grading and Grubbing ordinance. She said that it is promoted at outreach events like the Farm Fair with a pamphlet but more could be done. Paul let the group know that he has the spreadsheet with all the past and current ag exemptions that have gone through the County Public Works. There was discussion about possibly using a software that could help with reminder emails. Jenni suggested a reminder at eight years, nine years, and 10 years. Arryl thinks that the Districts should be more proactive in letting clients know about the Grading and Grubbing ordinance and expiration dates. Ed brought up having PSA ads about the ordinance. Arryl brought up the point that some plans might have needed

exemptions for initial tilling but even if they did not need it again, a reminder would be nice. Genoa brought up doing a Grading and Grubbing presentation for beginning farmers. Jenni said she has done presentations for Go Farm in the past.

Motion: Leonard and Ed made a motion for Rebekah to look into a proactive strategy and software for letting clients know about the grading and grubbing ordinance, Arryl second. Motion was unanimously accepted.

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Garden Island RC&D Report: report in the Correspondence folder

B. Grading Ordinance: there was no new report

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Local Work Group (LWG): Rebekah handed out a spreadsheet with the LWG resource concerns, priority issues and parking lot items from the meeting. She let the group know that the top 5 resource concerns and priority issues will be given to Susan with NRCS. She will also be emailing out all of the information to the attendees and other organizations that were in attendance. Arryl suggested that we put the organization or current projects next to the parking lot items when the list is sent out so that the recipients are aware of the progress or organizations that are helping with those issues. Genoa explained how national policy has decided funding but on a local level it was not clear if the office with more rangeland acreage would get more rangeland funding or if the funding would be spread out equally. The LWG' purpose is to get public opinion for advisement of funding. Genoa explained in the past that there were times where Kauai was competing directly with Maui for forestry funds because it was a statewide pool. Darren suggested having another meeting for ranchers, separate from the cropland farmers. For the future meeting, a suggestion is there can be separate groups (ranchers and cropland) during the single LWG meeting and then collaboration between the two for funding allocation and top priority. It is also possible that other organizations can come to the SWCD meetings and do presentations for the Directors and public.

B. Annual Work Plan: Leonard said he will have the plan at the next meeting.

C. Filming Future Workshops and Budgets: Rebekah presented the prices for some video camera equipment. There was a discussion about possibly having to purchase software and a laptop/tablet to use for video editing. The Federal laptops cannot have new programs installed on them and the Districts might not always have access to them. The office will try to use existing equipment first and see if a new laptop/tablet needs to be purchased for the future.

Motion: Arryl made a motion to approve the purchase of camera equipment for \$500, Leonard second. The motion was unanimously accepted.

D. Personnel Review/Salary: It was decided that there was not a quorum for the discussion. It will be tabled until the next meeting.

X. OTHER BUSINESS:

A. Annual Dinner 2019: There was a discussion about a farm to table caterer and having it at the neighborhood center or having the dinner at Hukilau Lanai. Ed suggested starting with a budget of \$29 per person. Leonard said the annual dinner budget has been around \$1500 in the past. **The date picked was Saturday, December 7 at 6:30 p.m.**

B. Sunshine Law Review for New and Current Directors: The item was tabled until the November meeting so new Directors can be updated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. CTAHR Sweet Potato Variety Field Day – Tuesday, October 8 – 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. –Kauai Ag Research Center in Wailua
2. Outreach briefings by FSA and NRCS – 10/2, 10/3, 10/10 – 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.- various locations
3. CAP Contest – Friday, October 11
4. Ag Conference on Oahu – 10/15-10/16

5. Water Conservationist Award Ceremony at Department of Water – TBD
6. Climate-Smart Agriculture Stakeholder meeting – Wednesday, October 16 – 2-3:30 p.m. Invite only meeting held on Oahu by the Healthy Soils Hawaii Team (Hawaii Agriculture Research Center and Oahu Resource Conservation & Development)

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, November 4, 2019* 2:00PM at State Department of Health Conference Room, 3040 Umi St., Lihue

***Meeting date is changed in because of the Veteran’s Day (11/11)**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:02 pm, written by Rebekah Magers, District Assistant.

DRAFT