

EAST KAUA'I SWCD MONTHLY MEETING

East Kauai
Soil & Water Conservation District



DATE: Monday, June 10, 2019
TIME: 2:00 PM
LOCATION: State Department of Health Conference, 3040 Umi St., Lihu'e

AGENDA

- I. **ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER**
- II. **REVIEW OF AGENDA** (Additions/Deletions/Changes)
- III. **REVIEW/ACCEPT MINUTES:** 5/13/19
- IV. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** 6/10/19 – Leonard
- V. **CORRESPONDENCE**
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. NRCS Report – Jenna Dunn, District Conservationist
 - B. Conservation Specialist Report– Jenni Scotti & John Nelson
- VII. **REVIEW NEW COOPERATOR AGREEMENTS & CONSERVATION PLANS**
- VIII. **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS:**
 - A. Garden Island RC&D (in correspondence file)
 - B. Grading Ordinance – Paul
- 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: Monday, July 8, 2019 2:00 PM at Dept. of Health Conference Room

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 +3 SO THAT ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE.



The meeting was opened at 2:00 pm at the State DOH Conference Room in Lihue.

- I. **PRESENT: Directors:** Ed Kawamura, Jr., (Presiding); Leonard Vierra; Michael Fernandes, Eric Hansen
Associate Directors: Darren Tamekazu, Jerry Ornellas
Others: Paul Togioka, COK; Jenna Dunn, NRCS District Conservationist; Jenni Scotti, Conservation Specialist; John Nelson, Conservation Specialist; Rebekah Magers, District Assistant; Brad Seymour
- II. **REVIEW OF AGENDA: (ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/CHANGES):** Rebekah wanted to add to X. Other Business: A. Ted Kornecki, USDA.
- III. **MINUTES:** Eric motioned/Michael seconded to approve the May minutes; the motion passed unanimously.
- IV. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Report was filed with correspondence.
- V. **CORRESPONDENCE:** Ed distributed the correspondence folder.
- VI. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. **NRCS Report:** Jenna gave her report for May/June:
 - **General**
 - a) Maui DC- Wendy rash will be Acting DC from 5/26-9/28
 - b) American Samoa DC- To be announced. Brandon Todd has assumed the role of Acting DC.
 - c) Cultural Resource Specialist- Brian Wallace has been selected, his start date was 5/26/2019
 - d) State Agronomist- No word on who will be acting next or when position will be filled.
 - e) Assistant Director for Programs- Chad Cherefko will fill the position, his start date was 5/28/2019
 - f) Assistant Director for Partnerships- this is a new position for PIA. Susan Kubo will fill this position
 - g) PMC Agronomist- Richard Ogoshi has been selected, he started on 6/9/19
 - h) Pathways Intern- Travis Usinger will be stationed in Lihue this summer. His first day is today 6/10/19
 - **Farm Bill Programs**
 - a) EQIP FY19
 - a. 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
 - b. PIA requested more funding and received approximately \$6.1 mil.
 - b) CSP FY19
 - a. 4 applications submitted- 3 on cropland and one grazing
 - B. **Conservation Specialist Reports:**

1. Jenni Scotti – 6/10/19

- 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
 - 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 – 6/10/1019

- 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.

VII. REVIEW & APPROVAL OF CONSERVATION PLANS & COOPERATOR AGREEMENTS: none

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Garden Island RC&D Report: Carolyn Lum emailed the report for June:
Report for East and West Kauai Soil & Water Conservation Districts

June, 2019

4253 C Rice St., Lihue HI 96766 808-246-0004

Email: gircdnew@gmail.com

For 12/6/18-9/30/20: President Owen S. Moe, Vice President Gilbert P. Kea
Treasurer Ed Kawamura, Secretary Gary Ueunten

Meetings for 2019: Monday 3:30 – 5:30 pm at KIUC Conference Room

Feb 4, Apr 1, Jun 3, Aug 5, Oct 7, Annual: Dec 2 (Kalapaki Villas)

NRCS/SWCD: The Vetiver Project awaits further developments.

Kauai Invasive Species Committee (KISC): Tiffini Keanini received 2 grants from the County. The rosy parakeet report is nearly ready.

Kauai Landscape Industry Council (KLIC) Arbor Day will get grant for \$7750 (2019). They will offer a Horticulture and Irrigation class this year.

Kauai Forest Bird Recovery Program (KFBRP) Cali Crampton is promoting Mosquito Eradication & got \$10,000 with Indiegogo promo. GIA grant for 2020 did not happen.

Kokee Resource Conservation Program (KRCP): KRCP got an HTA grant award for \$35,000. Check out: www.krcp.org. Katie Cassel who is semiretired to focus on funding referrals or donations or partnerships.

Makawahi Cave GIA grant (partner Grove Farm) was passed. See: www.cavereserve.org
Malama Hikana`akala Heiau is led by Henry Kula Schumacher who with many volunteers & friendships accomplished clearing and redesigning this sacred area in Wailua.

Malama Ia Namanu is funded with \$11,000 working with seabirds presentations
Garden Island RC&D is unsure of how to apply for a grant to assist with conservation plans training.

Website www.gircd.org

Mahalo for continued sponsorship support!

A. **Grading Ordinance**: None

IX. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

A. **Slow Money Hawaii**: Eric will pilot the program to support a small project he has. He will learn the process and share the experience. He has followed up with Mary and will keep the SWCD updated with the progress. He has one student who is receiving an acre of land with Go Farm and shared the SMH program with her as well. Rebekah brought up the usefulness of SMH and how it would support farmers with initial capital for NRCS programs.

B. **Piggeries on Kauai**: Michael asked about how the Districts are involved with piggeries. John explained how the Districts are encouraging farms to move away from a wash down system and move towards deep and dry litter systems. He explained these systems can improve water quality and the health of pigs. He mentioned there are low to no regulations on piggeries besides set back regulatios from the Dept. of Water. He is trying to reach existing piggeries and improve the infrastructure for farms.

X. **OTHER BUSINESS:**

A. Brad Seymour was introduced by Ed. Brad gave a little background on himself and the methods of water management he learned on the Mainland last year.

B. **Ted Kornecki, USDA**: Rebekah talked about what the costs will be to bring Kornecki to Kauai and how he was brought to Hawaii a few years ago by HARC. She thought that it would be best to partner with the Farm Bureau and/or Farmers Union and have Kornecki come for 2 days to do a workshop on Kauai. From his email, he explained what his expertise is and what he would bring to Kauai: "First, while working for the USDA-ARS, Soil and

Water Research Unit in Baton Rouge, Louisiana from 1997 to 2003, I was in charge on establishing a brand-new research site with instrumentation to study soil quality and field trafficability with surface and subsurface drainage systems. My research also involved benefits of leaving postharvest sugarcane residue in the field (instead of burning) and to reduce ditch erosion by applying polyacrylamide to stabilize surface ditches. I could provide information regarding benefits of soil protection and environmental implications. Since March of 2003, I have been working as a category one scientist (Agricultural Engineer) at the National Soil Dynamics Laboratory in Auburn, AL. My area of research is to develop equipment to manage cover crops for no-till conservation systems (mono cultures and mixtures) across different farm sizes, that includes small, low income no-till farms and garden operations with cover crops. I am an inventor of seven U.S. patents of unique equipment to terminate, manage cover crops, and transplanting seedlings into desiccated cover crop residue. I was a principal investigator responsible for on-farm vegetable research at Randle Vegetable Farm near Auburn where I designed replicated experiment, developed a 2-stage roller crimper, and re-designed a no-till transplanter by adding a shank to alleviate soil compaction. This research was funded by NRCS through a Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG), and for 3 growing seasons (from 2009 to 2011) I conducted a field experiment with different cover crops. In my scientific accomplishments, I have published over 100 publications, have made 12 invited presentations for international conferences and numerous other talks at national meetings and workshops. My research has been cited in many agricultural research and equipment magazines. This year, I have been involved in preparing demonstrations of my no-till equipment at the 2019 Southern Cover Crop Conference July-16-17 in Auburn AL (this council includes 13 U.S. southeastern states). Also, since 2005, I have been presenting my research and displaying prototypes of no-till equipment for small organic producers at the Southern Sustainable Agriculture Working Group in Alabama, Arkansas Kentucky, Louisiana, and Tennessee. I will share with you and your farming community my specific designs on roller/crimpers (i.e. engineering shop drawings for 2-wheel walk-behind and 4-wheel light tractors equipment) that can be fabricated at your local shops. I have many videos of the equipment, so you will have a clear picture of these developments. Bringing equipment from the mainland to Hawaii is very expensive and a complicated process, but we can discuss this if necessary.” Eric went to see Kornecki on Big Island and thought the information and equipment was very applicable for small farmers that are not using more than 10 acres of land at a time. He explained how HARC on Oahu has some of Kornecki’s patented equipment available for rent. He said Kornecki has a vision to have a rental service like HARC has on Oahu, available on other islands. Eric emphasized the importance of having the equipment and a hands-on demonstration available at the workshop for maximum benefits. Rebekah will email the directors with more information and the Youtube videos of Kornecki’s designs. After a discussion, Eric and Ed brought up the idea of targeting farmers with small acreage that have not moved on to large tractors yet; the 1-3-year farmer. Ed brought up the idea of talking to the President of the Farm Bureau and seeing what their interests are for partnering. He also explained how the past rental service was difficult with only one person managing the equipment and the costs for larger equipment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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- B. HACD Annual meeting – June 19-21, 2019 on Molokai

- C. Kauai County Farm Bureau Farm Fair – August 15-18, 2019
- D. Annual Picnic – September 14, 2019 at Niumalu park at 3PM
- E. Mahalo Beck’s Hybrids – we received our new rainfall simulator on May 28!
- F. Make a Splash and Project WET – September 20, 2019

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There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm, written by Rebekah Magers, District Assistant.

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