



West Oahu Soil and Water Conservation District Board Meeting

12 December, 2023 - 12:30 p.m.

Locations:

The meeting is accessible online and in person.

Online

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88631796282?pwd=TOVHWkZvWk9BeFhZZlVwSk11MGRkZz09>

Meeting ID: 886 3179 6282

Passcode: 196924

Please download Zoom software on your smart phone, tablet, or computer in advance of the meeting. [Online tutorials](#) are available to support download, and successful meeting interactions.

In person

Physical address: 92-1770 Kunia Road, Kunia HI 96759, Hawai'i Agricultural Research Station (HARC). The meeting will take place in the HARC conference room. Please call (808) 429-5310 when you arrive to be let into the building.

Attending virtually: Joe Para, Alan Gottlieb, Alika Napier, Larry Jefts, Mike Moefu.

Attending: Thoun Hongphao, Megan Gonsalves, Sonfronio Turalva, Phanee Chumphang, Michael Okamura, Kai Ringley, Zac Freeman, Dave Elliot

Minutes

1. Call to Order: 12:35
2. Reports:
 - ❖ Approval of October meeting minutes

AN moved to accept, AG accepted. Discussion for district to share a letter with cooperator. All in favor. Motion carried.

- ❖ Financial Update.

- AS check to see what is going on there and why grants and agreements are showing as a minus. A motion to defer financial update. AG. JP seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

3. Presentation of Cooperator Agreements and Conservation Plans

❖ MG

- i. TMK 92005022 (por.)

AN moved to approve. JP seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. AG recused.

- ii. TMK 92005022 (por.)

4. TK moved to approve. Seconded AN. All in favor. Motion carried. AG recused.

- i. TMK 92005022 (por.)

TK moved to approve. Seconded AN. All in favor. Motion carried. AG recused.

- ii. TMK 92005022 (por.)

MM: are photos standard with cooperator agreement now?

MG: have been starting to do this to give directors more info.

TK: photos are appreciated because aerial views can be dated.

AN moved to approve. JP seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. AG recused.

5. Partner updates:

- ❖ O'ahu Resource Conservation & Development Council (ORCD). MG: This Saturday a workday at Na Mea Kuponu in Waialua for our DOH project from 9-1pm. DE: we appreciate input on how best to present these plans.
- ❖ Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). ZF: In our contracting season, accepting for EQIP and other programs – accepting those until March 8th. Scheduling meetings with other districts to revisit the grubbing and grading process and what boards want to identify as a process. So coming back and putting emphasis on District signatures as being key but the plan details need to include reference to grading and grubbing plans if they exist. Can schedule more time to discuss it.
- ❖ Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD). KR: resuming the conservation awareness contest, got some training and how to run it over here. South O'ahu district has been helping with getting the ball rolling but also looking for any other district staff interested in training.

LJ: Is that the same as the soil judging activity? It was useful and education happened.

AN: will there be a template provided to conservation planners on grading and grubbing?

ZF: Those are the exact kinds of questions we could talk more about. We have guidance given to NRCS planners about engineering practices that require grading and grubbing practices. District signature gives the exemption. We can put something together showing common needs and engineering practices and how to receive them.

AN: That would be useful.

LJ: exemptions can only be granted by the City. The inconsistency, various inspectors made judgement calls. The district is not in charge of the exemptions and one of the things the City looks toward are the signatures on the plans.

ZF: there has been confusion. Activities in the plan may not have always dealt with grading and grubbing.

AG: with exemption, usually get something formal – this has been an issue for the past 40 years.

ZF: This is a conversation starter. A general conservation plan was considered sufficient when there weren't any practices to mitigate those potential issues.

LJ: never hurts to keep bringing more awareness amongst operators.

6. Next meeting:

January 23, 2024

7. Adjourned: 1:15pm

Public testimony. Members of the public wishing to submit oral or written testimony on an agenda item may do so at monthly meetings. Please submit written testimony via email to WestOahuSWCD@gmail.com or via mail to P. O. Box 172, 92-1770 Kunia Rd., Kunia, Hawai'i 96759. To aid in sharing information with Directors, kindly submit written testimony **24 hours in advance** of the monthly meeting on the 4th Tuesday of the month (e.g. by 12:30pm on Monday).

Accommodations. If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, contact Amanda Shaw at 808-429-5310 as soon as possible. We will try to obtain

the auxiliary aid/service or accommodation needed. Upon request, this notice is available in alternate formats such as large print, Braille, or electronic copy.

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