MOLOKAI IRRIGATION SYSTEM ROAD MAP MEETING

August 18, 2007
Lanikeha Recreation Center, Hoolehua, Molokai

Agenda

8:30-9:00	Registration
9:00–9:30	Introductions, Ground Rules, Setting Context
9:30–9:50	Appreciative Interview
9:50–10:50	Discovering the Resources in Our Community and Our Positive Core
10:50–11:30	Report Out of Discovery
11:30–12:30	Lunch
12:30–1:15	Dreams and Vision of the Future
1:15–1:45	Report Out of Dreams
1:45–2:45	Application to MIS Roadmap
2:45–3:00	Evaluation

I. OPENING

A. INTRODUCTIONS OF PARTICIPANTS

B. EXPECTATIONS

- Committed to coming back next two meetings.
- Engage more of community and homesteaders to learn their issues and how we can better run the system.
- Learn what kinds of services they prefer.
- Check out the process – some of these issues arise in the classroom; may use process in classroom.
- Hope that there will be a feeling we can do this together.
- Better understanding of MIS and how to collaborate with DOA; how to make it run as best it can.
- Better understanding by both DOA and users so good decisions can be made.
- All come together and make decisions as a community: homesteaders, non-homesteaders and 3rd party to make system work well.
- Clear picture that communication is opening up with the powers that be.
- In the past, there wasn't enough communication; it has gotten better in the last 1 ½ years and want to keep the lines of communication open.
- Listen, learn, participate.
- 1st step in developing a realistic, executable plan to stabilize the system; start on what will happen next to maximize.
- Finding solutions for all of Molokai.
- Want to know what goes into our water.
- Concern – farming 30 years – 2/3 is homestead water and want to make sure it's carried out.
- Learning, coming up to speed.
- 2/3 rights to water – make sure that people understand the legal issues.
- Have input into direction; sustain lifestyle and culture – it comes together in the water; make sure it's done consensually.
- Wants to see Hoolehua green; MIS was originally built for homesteaders; competitive uses on the system; hope good productive dialog will get started.
- Observe and learn
- Concern with land and water – look at ways we can start working together.
- Want to see what we'll do about the water process.
- Better serve the homesteader and non-homesteader and open a better communication to them.

- Ensure that this process will help continue the recognition that ag is an integral part of Molokai. MIS – volume and capacity necessary to sustain all customers operations in an efficient manner – homesteader and non-homesteader.
- Observe and reporting.

II. DISCOVERING THE RESOURCES IN OUR COMMUNITY AND OUR POSITIVE CORE

A. HIGH POINTS (from stories): Summary of common themes from all groups. Number next to item indicates how many groups (out of 3) had this as a theme.
- Working together (2)
- Family values (2)
- Pride and good feeling. (2)
- Earning a livelihood/subsistence/gardening/eating what you grew. (2)
- Revitalize, rebirth, resurrect the land and resources and culture. (2)
- Ag education critical, especially for youth and caring for resources. (1)
- Community sharing of products/produce (1)

B. ROOT CAUSES FOR SUCCESS: Summary of common themes from all groups.
- Support from families, other farmers and the whole community. (2)
- Know it can be done because it was done before. (2)
- Have land, water, sunshine – elements needed to grow crops. (1)
- Preservation and restoration of the resources (eg. watershed) (1)
- Started as a problem that needed to be solved and people came together to solve it. (1)
- Ag education – FFA, 4H, after school farming. (1)
- Homesteaders need time so need to preserve the resources. (1)
- Minimizing costs so farming is sustainable (eg. energy, transportation). (1)
- Access to financing and grants. (1)
- Ag has a strong voice and is important in broader community and beyond. (1)

III. DREAMS AND VISIONS OF THE FUTURE

A. FUTURE: Summary of common themes from all groups.
- Education for youth and new farmers. (3)
- Responsible stewardship for land and water – includes MIS. (3)
- Homestead lands fully farmed. (3)
- Co-existence in ag community, everyone supporting each other. (3)
- Local production for consumption. (3)
- Activities are all sustainable. (1)

B. OPPORTUNITIES WE WORKED WITH
- Leveraging - Working with underlying desire to maintain a rural lifestyle.
- 20 ft. of topsoil in Hoolehua
- Wonderful and unique water resource here.
- Fully forested watershed from East to West.
- Diverse pool of very smart people.
- Showcase model in schools
  - Water catchment and distillment that was utilized to perpetuate and leverage resources.
- Built on strong community core values.
- Ag community worked successfully with schools to develop strong ag education components for K-12.
- Strong financial opportunities to support and sustain ag system.
- Molokai completely fossil fuel free (create own energy).
- Market our product utilizing technology.
- Producing value added products.

- Successfully cooperating with the State Department of Agriculture.
- University of Agriculture (specialized) to produce ag specialists funded by grants and private industries.
- Coexisting youth being the lead: sustainable farming at the bottom of the sea.
- Promote Molokai as a brand.
- Promote and showcase Molokai's ag roots.
- Created a process to assess our effect on resource and have a backup plan, that is, the ability to make adjustments.
- Transparent communications between and among all stakeholders.
- All of Molokai is a whole cultural center (model) – Living Hawaiian values through our community.
- Feeding locally grown produce in our schools.

C. CHALLENGES WE OVERCAME
- Lack of water.
- Increasing population
- Lack of prime ag lands.
- Trend away from ag as a career.
- Distrust
- Higher cost for everybody
- Transportation; freight to the market.
- Balancing and understanding corporate and homestead farmers' incentives
- Building collaborative relationships and trust
- Local ag workforce
- Focusing on solutions to the problems we have.
- Developing a process to deal with challenges and prioritize issues.
- Addressing the population issue by people taking personal responsibility.
- Become aware through education of technology that provides new water resources (i.e. ocean desalinization).
- How best to continue to protect interest of the Native Hawaiian Community while being focused on agriculture.
- Convincing DOE administrators of importance of ag education in our schools.
- Generating and maintaining political will to make all this happen.
- Maintain quality of life now and into the future.
- Multitude of small diversified ag farms and subsistence gardening activities.
- Lack of opportunities for homesteaders.

D. WHAT CAN WE DO RELATIVE TO THE MIS TO REALIZE THE OPPORTUNITES AND OVERCOME CHALLENGES?
- Education important component (listed below are items related to education)
  - Lack of water.
  - Become aware through education of technology that provides new water resources (i.e. ocean desalinization).
  - Convincing DOE administrators of importance of ag education in our schools.

IV. APPLICATION TO MIS ROADMAP

A. RELEVANCE OF TODAY'S MEETING TO THE MIS ROADMAP PROCESS. The items listed below were identified as important to address for us to achieve our collective vision for agriculture on Molokai. At subsequent meetings, we will address those items that relate specifically to the MIS Roadmap process.
1. Maintain and support the MIS infrastructure to ensure integrity of system.
   a. Address lack of water;
      - Why is there a lack of water? Greater water use or is it unaccountable water loss?

- Looking for additional water resources that do not impact environment and culture negatively.
  - Watershed improvement, conservation practices.

b. Keep cost of water affordable for farmers – renewable energy.
c. Making MIS a credible entity (build trust) – policies that address protection of Native Hawaiian rights.
   - Fiduciary responsibility to homesteaders for adequate water supply.

2. Need to cultivate new farmers – future customers of MIS
   a. Building relationships with companies and agencies (eg. DHHL, OHA, CTAHR) to nurture ag.
   b. Coordinated effort with landowners (eg. DHHL, DOA, DLNR) to determine how best to support ag production.
3. Develop market in parallel with cultivating new farmers.
   a. Collaborating with all of these entities.
   b. Built on strong community values.

V. EVAULATION

+ (liked)	**Δ (could have changed)**
• 4 sandwiches in lunch • Liked the process • Small group • Working in pairs • Allowed people to express difference of opinions without negativity • Share dreams • Interview process • Common themes – helps us to recognize our commonality • Excellent facilitating • Everyone's voice had the same importance • Independent unbiased facilitator • Can speak without intimidation • Looking at end result, so doesn't get stuck in the middle.	• Better tape

ATTACHMENT TO GROUP MEMORY

I. DISCOVERING THE RESOURCES IN OUR COMMUNITY AND ARTICULATING THE "POSITIVE CORE" OF AGRICULTURE ON MOLOKAI: WHEN *ARE* WE AT OUR BEST AND WHY?

A. HIGH POINTS: COMMON THEMES (of stories)

Group A

- Community, working together
- Family values
- Sense of ohana extending beyond immediate ohana (ag extension, neighbors, etc.)
- Everybody worked to achieve outcomes/success – took effort
- "Market right, good timing for everyone"
- Sense of satisfaction in putting the land into production.
- Struggles and hardships of farming
- Collaboration as a necessity
- People had vision of what they wanted to see/goals

- Revitalized/resurrect/rebirth of land, rediscovering lost potential
- Pride in end product – customers satisfied/appreciate
- Reconnection to lifestyle

Group B
- Enough rain – healthy animals, grass
- Getting 8,000 feet of irrigation line = water so crops expanded and competitive
- Outplanting native species
- Restored streamflow to taro farmers and stream life
- Participate in planning process
- Ag community working together to insure MIS has enough water
- Gardening
- Bartering and sharing

Group C
- Pride
- Good feeling
- Hope for future
- Eating what they grew
- Involved families
- Feeling of independence
- Earning a livelihood

B. ROOT CAUSES OF SUCCESS (from stories)

Group A
- Community, working together
- Collaboration as a necessity
- Diversity, co-existence in ag community.
- Water not an issue.
- Care for the water shed.
- Responsible stewardship for land and water.
- Support and maintain an optimized MIS.
- Youth/new farmers involved in ag as a career.

Group B
- Diversify crops/livestock
- Value-added food products
- Shipping good
- Farmers using Hikiola
- Education
- Sharing, communication, not taking more than put back, economically viable
- Preserve natural resources (land and water)
- Allow homesteaders time to build success
- Develop new water sources - wells, surface water
- Shipping, coop supplies
- Promote Molokai and products
- Re-educate homesteaders to garden/farm connect to the land

Group C
- It's been done before so know it's possible
- Support from families and other farmers and whole community
- Had land, water, sunshine – elements necessary to grow crop

- Mutual cooperation of all those involved in agriculture
- FFA
- 4H
- After school farming

C. VISIONS OF THE FUTURE

Group A
- Youth/new farmers involved in ag as a career.
- Water not an issue.
- Care for the water shed.
- Responsible stewardship for land and water.
- Reliable infrastructure (MIS, catchment system, transport more water)
- Diversity, co-existence in ag community.
- More farming/ag
- Minimize costs to sustain farming (input costs eg. Transportation, electricity, water)
- Renewable resources to keep costs down (eg. wind farms)
- Lands are in actual production (eg. homestead lands)
- Farmers will provide for local consumption with local production.
- Agriculture has a strong voice, has importance in our ag and broader community and beyond.
- Support and maintain an optimized MIS.

Group B
- Crops expanded and diversified
- Whole farming community self-supporting
- All MIS users "give back" to teach youth
- All users get along and system is used effectively with no negative environmental impact
- Homestead lands fully farmed
- Molokai is self-sustaining (food)
- Plan created to develop more water, respecting environment and culture so Homestead agriculture can expand
- Every homesteader is gardening and self-sufficient

Group C
- Seeing homestead lands successfully farmed
- Sustainable water resource for whole community
- Youth going into farming; training in schools again
- Marketing what is grown both in Molokai and exporting to other markets
- Molokai is the breadbasket

D. COMMON THEMES – SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION (only Group B did this)

Group B
- Educate everyone (especially public school kids) on where water comes from and importance.
- Sharing food
- Shipping needs improvement
- Expand farming on Homestead land
- Preserve resources for family (land, water, culture) on Homestead land
- Restore the watershed by planting
- Everyone helps each other
- Sustainability
- Self-sufficiency