

Minutes of the Board of Agriculture

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Board of Agriculture was called to order on April 26, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. by Board of Agriculture Chairperson Scott Enright, at the Hawaii Department of Agriculture Plant Quarantine Conference Room, 1849 Auiki Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96819.

Members Present:

Scott Enright, Chairperson, Board of Agriculture (Board)
Mary Alice Evans, Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT), Ex Officio Member Designated Representative
Suzanne Case, Chairperson, Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR)
Michelle Galimba, Member-At-Large
Glenn Hong, Member-At-Large
Clark Hashimoto, Member-At-Large
Richard Ha, Hawaii Member
Jerry Ornellas, Kauai Member
Simon Russell, Maui Member

Members Absent:

Dr. Maria Gallo, Dean of the College of Tropical Agriculture & Human Resources
University of Hawaii (CTAHR-UH), Ex Officio Member

Staff Present:

Randy Teruya, Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA)/ Agricultural Resource Management (ARM)
Linda Murai, HDOA/ARM
Joyce Wong, HDOA/ARM
Roy Hasegawa, HDOA/ARM
Kevin Yokoyama, HDOA/Agricultural Loan Division
Isaac Maeda, HDOA, Animal Industry Division
Micah MuneKata, HDOA/Chair's Office

Others Present:

Bryan Yee, Attorney General's Office
Andrew Goff, Deputy Attorney General
Erwin Kawata, Board of Water Supply
Joseph Tracy, Board of Water Supply

1 II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 3/29/16 MEETING

2
3 Chairperson Enright called for a motion to approve the minutes of the Board's
4 March 29, 2016 meeting: Galimba/Hashimoto. Hearing no comments,
5 Chairperson Enright called for a vote on the question.
6

7 Vote: Approved, 7/0.
8

9 III. COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS (ORAL OR
10 WRITTEN)

11
12 Chairperson Enright stated that the Board will take public comments on the agenda
13 items as they come up during the meeting.
14

15 IV. INTRODUCTION AND COMMENTS

16
17 Chairperson Enright moved on to the agenda item on Communications from Divisions.
18

19 V. COMMUNICATIONS FROM DIVISIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

20
21 A. AGRICULTURAL LOAN DIVISION

- 22
23 1. Request for Approval of One (1) Direct Farm Ownership Loan to Owen K.
24 Kaneshiro Farms LLC, Owen K. Kaneshiro and Ann K. Kaneshiro, co-
25 borrowers.
26

27 Presentation by Kevin Yokoyama, HDOA/AGL, as submitted. The farm has operated
28 since 1980 in Waianae. Production is managed by rotating crops and utilization of
29 cover crops. The Class A loan of \$495,000 is for 11 acres, a fee simple parcel which
30 includes 10 acres of production land, labor houses, and farming equipment for a period
31 of 25 years. Staff recommends approval.
32

33 Board members Hong and Ha joined.

34
35 Chairperson Enright called for a motion to entertain this request: Russell/Hashimoto.
36

37 Hearing no questions or comments, Chairperson Enright called for a vote on the question.
38

39 Vote: Approved, 9/0.
40

41 B. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

- 42
43 1. Request for Approval to Sublease between the Hamakua
44 Agricultural Cooperative and Michael Manor; General Lease
45 No. S-5553; TMK (3) 4-3-003:004 (por); Lots 11, 12, and 22, Opihilala &
46 Hauola, Hamakua, Island of Hawaii

1
2 Presentation by Joyce Wong, HDOA/ARM, as submitted. She described the location,
3 sublessors, and sublease terms. The farm has organic vegetables and looks to expand
4 business with additional lots. Staff recommends approval.

5
6 Chairperson Enright called for a motion to entertain this request: Hashimoto/Galimba.

7
8 Hearing no questions or comments, Chairperson Enright called for a vote on the question.

9
10 Vote: Approved, 9/0.

- 11
12 2. Request for Approval to Sublease between the Hamakua
13 Agricultural Cooperative and Jianguo Wang; General Lease
14 No. S-5553, TMK: 3rd Div/4-3-005:014 (por); Lot 16, Opihilala & Hauola,
15 and Kaunamanu Homesteads, Hamakua, Island of Hawaii
16

17 Presentation by Joyce Wong, HDOA/ARM, as submitted. Mr. Wang holds a long-term
18 sublease for lot 16 with sweet potatoes and bananas. He has since established a
19 market for zucchini and eggplant. The additional parcels will accommodate expansion.
20 Mr. Wang qualifies as bone fide farmer. Staff recommends approval.

21
22 Chairperson Enright called for a motion to entertain this request: Galimba/Ha.

23
24 Hearing no questions or comments, Chairperson Enright called for a vote on the
25 question.

26
27 Vote: Approved, 9/0.

- 28
29 3. Request for Approval of Extension of Sublease between the Hamakua
30 Agricultural Cooperative and Maritez Libed; General
31 Lease No. S-5553; TMK: 3rd Div/4-6-003:003 (por), Lot 28,
32 Opihilala & Hauola, Hamakua, Island of Hawaii
33

34 Presentation by Joyce Wong, HDOA/ARM, as submitted. Maritez Libed has held a
35 sublease with the Hamakua Agricultural Cooperative from May1, 2013 – May 1, 2016.
36 Her farm is comprised of mixed vegetables, eggplant, okra, other seasonable
37 vegetables, banana, and coffee. She is a bona fide farmer. Staff recommends
38 approval.

39
40 Chairperson Enright called for a motion to entertain this request: Russell/Hashimoto.

41
42 Hearing no questions or comments, Chairperson Enright called for a vote on the
43 question.

44
45 Vote: Approved, 9/0.

1
2 C. ANIMAL INDUSTRY DIVISION
3

- 4 1. Request for Approval of a Right-of-Entry (ROE) in favor of the Board of
5 Water Supply to Install a Monitor Well on the Animal Quarantine Station
6 Property
7

8 Presentation by Isaac Maeda, HDOA/Animal Industry Division, as submitted. The
9 Board of Water Supply is asking to construct a monitoring well, to take samples of
10 ground water, and an ROE to do so. ROE is proposed for 20 years. The actual
11 installation of the well is anticipated that it will not create a noise hazard to the animals
12 in the area. The Board of Water Supply will create noise abatement. Staff recommends
13 approval.
14

15 Chairperson Enright called for a motion to entertain this request: Evans/Galimba.
16

17 Chair called the Board of Water Supply representatives forward.
18

19 Erwin Kawata, Program Administrator for the Water Quality Division from BWS, and
20 Joseph Tracy, Principle Geologist from Intera Incorporated.
21

22 In answer to questions from Board member Case, Mr. Kawata said that the monitoring
23 well is in the Pearl Harbor aquifer, Waimalu sub-aquifer. The well will penetrate the
24 subsurface to study the underlying geology, test underground water, and examine the
25 movement of subsurface water in the area. This monitoring well is designed to provide
26 information about the pollutants from the Navy.
27

28 In answer to questions from Board member Evans, Mr. Kawata said that they want to
29 understand ground water flow direction. This well will help them understand the water
30 movement across the valley as well as down the valley and subsurface features. Mr.
31 Kawata also said that the nearest supply well to this monitoring well was the Halawa
32 Shaft, northwest of the facility about a mile away. It serves the metropolitan Honolulu
33 water system, one of the largest systems servicing about 8000 gallons a day.
34

35 In answer to further questions from Board member Case, Mr. Tracy said that the depth
36 of the well would be 135 feet, but was unsure as to whether the water table had gone
37 down in past years.
38

39 Board member Hong asked if they were going to be sampling across the vertical water
40 column. Mr. Kawata said that they will study subsurface geology and take water
41 samples along the top of the water table.
42

43 Hearing no further questions or comments, Chairperson Enright called for a vote on the
44 question.
45

1 Vote: Approved, 9/0.

2
3 VI. OLD BUSINESS

4
5
6 None.

7
8 VII. NEW BUSINESS

9
10 None.

11
12 VIII. Final Announcements

13
14 Chairperson Enright reported that the Board will have the Joint Fact Finding in May.
15 Board member Ornellas asked the staff to email the report to the Board for review prior
16 to the meeting.

17
18 Chairperson Enright said that Board member Case has asked for Biosecurity to be
19 placed on the agenda and that issue would be taken up in the upcoming meetings. He
20 also said that housing will be brought up as well.

21
22 Board member Hong said that he had reached out to HDOA for ROD training and that
23 Trenton Yasui will be training the port personnel at Hilo. He thanked the staff for
24 accommodating them for that. Chairperson Enright said that Young Brothers has been
25 a great partner.

26
27 Board member Russell said that he had heard a report from the Merry Monarch that a
28 person had muddy boots in their bag while travelling home to another island. He hoped
29 that the airports provided for sterilization of boots. He also said that the owner from
30 Austria of a lot in Hana issued a letter permitting access to the source of fire ants in that
31 area. The Maui Invasive Species Council is now addressing that matter.

32
33
34 IX. ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING


35
36 Having no further business before the Board, Chairperson Enright called for a motion to
37 adjourn the meeting: Ornellas/Case.

38
39 Vote: Approved, 9-0.

40
41 Meeting adjourned at 9:24 a.m.

42
43
44
45

1 Respectfully submitted,

2 
3
4

5 Micah K. Munekata

6 Board Secretary