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4
5 **Minutes of the Board of Agriculture**
6

7 CALL TO ORDER – The meeting of the Board of Agriculture was called to order on
8 March 14, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. by Board of Agriculture Chairperson Scott Enright, at the
9 Mayor Hannibal Tavares Community Center, 91 Pukalani Street, Makawao, Maui,
10 Hawaii, 96796.

11
12 **Members Present:**

13 Scott Enright, Chairperson, Board of Agriculture
14 Mary Alice Evans, Deputy, Department of Business Economic Development, Ex
15 Officio Member
16 Dr. Rachel Novotny, Interim Dean of the College of Tropical Agriculture & Human
17 Resources University of Hawaii, Ex Officio Member
18 Michelle Galimba, Member-At-Large
19 Clark Hashimoto, Member-At-Large
20 Jerry Ornellas, Kauai Member
21 Glenn Hong, Member-At-Large
22 Simon Russell, Maui Member
23

24 **Members Absent:**

25 Suzanne Case, Chairperson, Board of Land and Natural Resources
26 Richard Ha, Hawaii Member
27

28 **Others Present:**

29 Randy Teruya, HDOA/ Agricultural Resource Management (ARM)
30 Kimo Falconer, Maui Grown Coffee Inc.
31 Sydney Smith, Maui Coffee Association
32 Dave Deleon, Harken Hill Realtor's Association
33 Robert Ikeno, HDOA/State Agricultural Loan Division (SALD)
34 Kevin Yokoyama, HDOA/SALD
35 Darren Strand, Maui Gold Pineapple Co.
36 Sarah Townsend, International Certification Services, Inc.
37 Annette Niles, Maui's Ono
38 Yarrow Flower, Monsanto
39 Kai Pelayo, Monsanto
40 Jonathan Bezruczyk, Private Citizen
41 Kenneth Yamamura, County of Maui Office of Economic Development
42 Mach Fukāoa, HDOA/Plant Pest Control Branch
43 Chris Kishimoto, HDOA/Plant Quarantine Branch (PQB)
44 Lance Sakaino, HDOA/PQB
45 Jonathan Ho, HDOA/PQB

1 Micah Munekata, HDOA/ Office of the Chair
2 Sean O'Keefe, Alexander and Baldwin
3 Jeri Kahana, HDOA/Quality Assurance Division Administrator
4 Robert Coffey, HDOA/QAD
5 Adam Radford, MISC
6 Janet Ashman, Hawaii Farm Bureau
7 Yuki Lei Sugimura, Maui County Council
8 David Clements, Hawaii Biotech Inc.

9

10 II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 12/13/16 MEETING

11

12 Chairperson Enright requested a motion to approve the December 13, 2016 meeting
13 minutes.

14

15 Motion for approval: Hashimoto/Ornellas

16

17 Vote: Approved, 8/0.

18

19 III. COMMENTS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC ON AGENDA ITEMS (ORAL OR
20 WRITTEN)

21

22 Chairperson Enright said that the Board will be taking public comments on agenda
23 items as they come up during the meeting.

24

25 IV. INTRODUCTIONS

26

27 There were no introductions or comments.

28

29 V. COMMUNICATIONS FROM DIVISIONS AND ADMINISTRATION

30

31 A. AGRICULTURAL LOAN DIVISION

32

33 1. Request for Approval of One (1) Direct Operating Loan to 'Ano'ano
34 Farms, LLC and Max Bowman, co-borrowers.

35

36 Presentation by Kevin Yokoyama, HDOA/SALD, as submitted. Staff recommends
37 approval.

38

39 Motion to accept: Galimba/Hashimoto.

40

41 Board member Galimba asked if the \$300,000 is for the future business. Mr. Yokoyama
42 said that it was for equipment purchases and that Max had negotiated his own leases.

43

44 Chairperson Enright said that this was Chris Rob's Farm that was being pursued and
45 that this allows Max markets, equipment and the lease initially in Lalamilo. Chairperson

1 Enright said that this directly shows how a new generation can come in with others
2 aging out.

3
4 Vote: Approved, 8/0.

5
6 2. Request for Approval of One (1) Direct Operating Loan to Justin A.
7 P. Manuel.

8
9 Presentation by Kevin Yokoyama, HDOA/SALD, as submitted. Staff recommends
10 approval.

11
12 Motion to accept: Hashimoto/Galimba.

13
14 Board member Evans asked if there was an LFA endemic in the Pahoiki field. Mr.
15 Yokoyama stated that he was unsure. Chairperson Enright stated that there was an
16 LFA problem. Board member Evans stated that this was a risk factor in the
17 assessment.

18
19 Vote: Approved, 8/0.

20
21 3. Request for Approval of One (1) Direct Farm Ownership loan to
22 Kula Country Farms, LLC, Chauncy H. Monden and Teena M.
23 Monden, co-borrowers.

24
25 Presentation by Robert Ikeno, HDOA/SALD, as submitted. Staff recommends approval.

26
27 Motion to accept: Russell/Hong.

28
29 Vote: Approved, 8/0.

30
31 B. AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT DIVISION

32
33 1. Request to Approve Rental Offset, General Lease No. S-3108;
34 Waikele Farms, Inc.; TMK: (1) 9-4-012:002, Lot 35, Upper Pouhala,
35 Waikele, Ewa, Island of Oahu, Hawaii

36
37 Presentation by Randy Teruya, HDOA/ARM, as submitted. Staff recommends
38 approval.

39
40 Motion to accept: Ornellas/Evans.

41
42 Board member Hong asked if there was an EA being done now. Mr. Teruya said yes.
43 Board member Hong asked what if the permit to drill and establish reservoirs is not
44 accepted in the EA process. Mr. Teruya stated that the lessee has already expended
45 over a million dollars and that he has already exceeded two years of rental period.

1 Board member Hong asked if it was anticipated that improvements were needed. Mr.
2 Teruya said that at the time they were looking at Waiahole ditch and the R-1 water from
3 Wheeler. Board member Hong asked if that came to fruition. Chairperson Enright
4 states that it did and that water is flowing into Kunia. Board member Hong asked if that
5 water is going into the ditch. Chairperson Enright said that it was going into the pipeline
6 in Kunia. Board member Hong asked if all of this was anticipated at the time of the bid
7 and if there were any investments made into the property. Mr. Teruya said yes.
8 Chairperson Enright said that there were two bids and both understood that
9 improvements were needed. He said that there was a well west of Kunia Road where
10 the Water Commission just allocated water to 480 acres. Board member Hong asked if
11 the lease started in 2015 and if there was rent being paid on this. Mr. Teruya said yes.

12
13 Board member Evans stated that he recalls the Board approval of this lease and that
14 there was a presentation that they would have to drill for water and rent offset was
15 discussed then. She said that this was not an unanticipated event.

16
17 Board member Ornellas asked that in addition to expenses of well drilling if that power
18 would be coming in for the pumps. Mr. Teruya said that they are planning to use
19 generator sets on site at this time.

20
21 Board member Galimba asked if they would be getting any other funding for this project.
22 Mr. Teruya stated that HDOA ARM would not be funding this. Chairperson Enright said
23 that he was unsure of federal funds. He said that there was a program put in place by
24 representative Yamane for a water loan program. Larry Jefts has applied for that loan
25 to help offset the current loan.

26
27 Vote: Approved, 8/0.

28
29 2. Request for Consent to Assignment of General Lease No. S-3768;
30 Stanley S. Kawabata, Assignor to Kevin and Susan Mulkern,
31 Assignee; TMK: 1st Div/4-1-027:027. Lot 28; Waimanalo Farm Lots,
32 Koolaupoko, Waimanalo, Island of Oahu, Hawaii

33
34 Presentation by Randy Teruya, HDOA/ARM, as submitted. Staff recommends
35 approval.

36
37 Motion to accept: Evans/Galimba.

38
39 Vote: Approved, 8/0.

40
41 3. Request for Approval of Corporate Stock Transfer for Hawaiian
42 Sunshine Nursery, Inc.; General Lease No. S-3121, TMK: (1st
43 Div/4-1-024:062 and 063, Lot 31; Koolaupoko, Waimanalo, Island
44 of Oahu; and General Lease No. S-4773; TMK: 3rd Div/2-2-

1 056:052, Lot No. 26, Panaewa Agricultural Park, Waiakea, South
2 Hilo, Island of Hawaii

3
4 Presentation by Randy Teruya, HDOA/ARM, as submitted. Staff recommends
5 approval.

6
7 Motion to accept: Hashimoto/Galimba.

8
9 Board member Russell asked if they would be importing plants from Florida. Mr. Teruya
10 said that this nursery is unlikely.

11
12 Vote: Approved, 8/0.

13
14 4. Request for Consent to Assignment of General Lease No. S-4750,
15 Richard M.C. Kim, Inc. Assignor, James R. Kim, Assignee; TMK: 3rd
16 Div/2-2-056:029, Lot No. 03, Panaewa Agricultural Park, Waiakea,
17 South Hilo, Island of Hawaii.

18
19 Presentation by Randy Teruya, HDOA/ARM, as submitted. Staff recommends
20 approval.

21
22 Motion to accept: Ornellas/Russell.

23
24 Board member Galimba asked if the son has been actively farming. Mr. Teruya said
25 that he has been farming since 1991.

26
27 Vote: Approved, 8/0.

28
29 5. Request for Approval of Extension of General Lease No. S-4790,
30 Fred Soriano; TMK: 3rd Div/8-80004:010, Lot No. 10, Papa Homesteads,
31 Papa 1st, South Kona, Island of Hawaii

32 Presentation by Randy Teruya, HDOA/ARM, as submitted. Staff recommends
33 approval.

34
35 Motion to accept: Evans/Hong.

36
37 Board member Galimba said that the coffee branches to decompose is a Coffee Berry
38 Borer heaven. Mr. Teruya said that they inspect the properties and make sure the
39 tenant does not contribute to that issue.

40
41 Vote: Approved, 8/0.

42
43 6. Request for Approval to Sublease between the Hamakua Agricultural
44 Cooperative and Jianguo Wang; General Lease No. 5553, TMK: 3rd Div/4-
45 3-003:004 (por); Lot 04, and General Lease No. S-7013; TMK: 3rd Div/4-3-

1 005:020 (por); Lot No. 02, Pihihala & Hauola, and Kaumanu Homesteads,
2 Hamakua, Island of Hawaii

3
4 Presentation by Randy Teruya, HDOA/ARM, as submitted. Staff recommends
5 approval.

6
7 Motion to accept: Galimba/Hong.

8
9 Vote: Approved, 8/0.

10
11 7. Request for Approval to: 1) Mutually Cancel Existing General Lease No.
12 S-3003, Kona Producers Cooperative; and 2) Issue a new General Lease
13 to The Food Basket, Inc.; Kona Produce Marshalling Facility: TMK: 3rd
14 Div/7-9-016:018, Honalo, North Kona, Island of Hawaii

15
16 Presentation by Randy Teruya, HDOA/ARM, as submitted. Staff recommends
17 approval.

18
19 Motion to accept: Evans/Hashimoto.

20
21 Vote: Approved, 8/0.

22
23 8. RESUBMITTAL: Request Approval for the Transfer of Public Lands by
24 Tax Map Keys from the Department of Land and Natural Resources to the
25 Department of Agriculture Pursuant to Act 90, SLH 2003, Codified as
26 Chapter 166E, HRS

27
28 Presentation by Randy Teruya, HDOA/ARM, as submitted. Staff recommends
29 approval.

30
31 Motion to accept: Evans/Galimba.

32
33 Board member Russel asked if there was a map. Mr. Teruya stated that could be
34 provided but that would be over one hundred pages.

35
36 Board member Galimba asked what LHD stood for. Mr. Teruya said "Lower Hamakua
37 Ditch."

38
39 Board member Ornellas said that one item was a Kauai parcel owned by Calvary
40 Chapel. Mr. Teruya said that that was not a parcel for transfer. He said that it sits on
41 Kapaa bypass road and it is owned by Calvary Chapel and not for transfer.

42
43 Board member Russell asked if this was the subtotal of all Maui lands. Mr. Teruya said
44 that this was just one and not all the list. Board member Russell asked if it was ten
45 thousand acres for Maui island. Mr. Teruya said that thus far DLNR has transferred

1 statewide 10,227 acres in total to the Department. Board member Russell asked how
2 many of these lands are supposed to transfer. Mr. Teruya said that he was not sure
3 and that it fluctuates.

4
5 Board member Ornellas asked if someone can make a request to transfer to the
6 Department. Mr. Teruya said yes and that the Department reviews requests and puts
7 together a list to discuss with the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

8
9 Vote: Approved, 8/0.

10
11 C. PLANT INDUSTRY DIVISION
12 Pesticides Branch

- 13
14 1. Request for: (1) Preliminary Approval of Proposed Amendments to
15 Chapter 4-66, *Hawai'i Administrative Rules*, entitled "Pesticides"
16 and (2) Authorization for the Chairperson to Schedule Public
17 Hearing(s) and Appoint a Hearings Officer in Connection with the
18 Proposed Amendments to Chapter 4-66, *Hawai'i Administrative*
19 *Rules*. Reference: A request for approval of proposed partial
20 amendments to Chapter 4-66, *Hawai'i Administrative Rules* and to
21 schedule public hearing(s) received board approval on November
22 24, 2015. (See attached summary of proposed rule amendments.)

23
24 Victoria Matsumura, HDOA/Pesticides Branch, and Steve Russo, HDOA/Pesticides
25 Branch, presented testimony as submitted. Staff recommends approval.

26
27 Motion to accept: Evans/Galimba.

28
29 Board member Hashimoto asked if the pest advisory committee met and reviewed the
30 amendments. Ms. Matsumura said that the AG mentioned staff could go on with the
31 process without them as that committee has not met in a while. Board member
32 Hashimoto asked what the purpose of that committee is. John McHugh, Administrator
33 of Plant Industry Division, came forward and said that the advisory committee meets in
34 an advisory capacity. This committee has had great difficulty meeting. Mr. McHugh
35 said that this why they are presenting the proposed rules to the board. Chairperson
36 Enright stated that the committee lost people when legislation made it necessary to
37 disclose financials. He said that there is a request to expand this advisory board and
38 that this was a request from the Joint Fact Finding group. Mr. McHugh said that they
39 are trying to address the input with expansion and time involved makes it difficult as in
40 the past. They can put it before the advisory board committee if the board wishes but
41 that may take some time.

42
43 Board member Evans said that she thinks that the public would want the opportunity to
44 review these amendments. If the Department experts believe that these are a step
45 forward, she said that she would be comfortable in adopting proposed rules and

1 authorizing the Chair to schedule public hearings to give the public an opportunity to
2 review as soon as possible.

3

4 Board member Ornellas stated that he had read the proposed rules but has not had the
5 time to digest them. There are some substantive changes and he found some areas of
6 concern. Chairperson Enright said that he understands the concern and wants to defer
7 action on this request to allow the Board to ask questions in a future meeting.

8

9 Board member Evans asked specifically about proposed change 4.C regarding
10 removing state RUPs from the list. She asked if that gives HDOA more flexibility to add
11 pesticides as they are created by chemists that work on them.

12 Ms. Matsumura said yes. Mr. Russo said that it is still accessible to public, but the
13 request from manufacturers for licensing of products will take time. The proposed rule
14 makes the process faster.

15

16 Board member Novotny had a question on number 19 regarding non-English speakers.
17 Ms. Matsumura said that this was a federal requirement and that there is more to
18 comply with for federal law. Board member Novotny asked if this is an opportunity for
19 non-English speaking certification. Ms. Matsumura said that this would fall under this
20 section. Mr. Russo said that no one is certified who is non-English speaking. Board
21 member Novotny asked if there is a need. Mr. Russo said that there are not many
22 requests for that and that he doesn't see it as a need in most cases as it can be
23 supervised.

24

25 Board member Hong said that he was trying to get a sense of what the Department is
26 trying to accomplish. He asked how the changes affect the way the pesticide branch
27 functions.

28 Mr. Russo said that most changes are to align with federal rules. Most changes are for
29 licensure to align with those rules. Board member Hong asked if this defines the
30 process and makes it more efficient. Mr. Russo said yes.

31

32 Board member Evans asked what a "Non-chemical pest control device" is. Mr. Russo
33 said that this refers to a product that does not require a license to use it, but to sell the
34 product in the state. He provided an example as rodent devices for control.

35

36 Board member Ornellas said that looking at these policies is a good idea and he
37 commended the staff with this work.

38

39 Chairperson Enright opened the floor to public testimony.

40

41 Sean Okeefe, A&B environmental affairs director, presented testimony as submitted.
42 He said the last rule change was done in 2006 and that it is time for another revision.
43 The rule amendments are not just to comply with federal requirements but also involve
44 hot issues. There is a need for revision. He had some concerns with a couple of these
45 revisions but want to state that this needs to be done. He believes that the pest

1 advisory committee can still provide valuable input and may be able to iron out some
2 wrinkles before it goes out to the public. The Certified applicator rule, although the rule
3 came out in final form as of March 6, got postponed and is under review under the
4 current administration. This may change and the final form may be different than
5 current draft of rule changes.

6
7 Janet Ashman, Hawaii Farm Bureau, agreed with Mr. Okeefe's comments as this is a
8 complex task and requires additional review and revisions.

9
10 Darren Strand, Maui County Farm Bureau, provided testimony. He said that he had
11 once served on Pesticide Advisory Committee before. Advisory committee is probably
12 a good place to start and that the issues of the advisory committee need to be fixed.

13
14 Chairperson Enright said that he will be deferring this issue to a future meeting.

15
16 Brandon Balthasar, Maui Cattleman, agreed with Mr. Strand and that there needs to be
17 more time to look at this and he commended the Board.

18
19 Chairperson Enright called for a recess at 11:20am.

20
21 Chairperson Enright called the meeting back to order at 11:30am.

22
23 Chairperson Enright commended the Pesticides Branch staff for all their hard work.

24
25 D. QUALITY ASSURANCE DIVISION

- 26
27 1. Request for (1) acceptance of the minutes of the public hearings, and (2)
28 adoption of amendments to sections 4-143-6, 4-143-11, and 4-143-12, Hawaii
29 Administrative Rules, to extend the sunset date for the defect tolerance for
30 coffee from June 30, 2017 to June 30, 2020.

31
32 Jeri Kahana, HDOA/Quality Assurance Division Administrator, presented testimony as
33 submitted. Staff recommends approval.

34
35 Motion to accept: Hashimoto/ Hong.

36
37 Board member Galimba asked if the rule amendments include grade standards
38 upgrades. Ms. Kahana said that that issue would be taken up later, following the 3-year
39 extension.

40
41 Vote: 8-0, Approved.

42
43 E. PLANT INDUSTRY DIVISION
44 Plant Quarantine Branch

45

- 1 1. Request to Designate the Island of Maui as an Expanded Coffee Berry
2 Borer Infested Area Subject to Quarantine Measures to Prevent the
3 Movement of the Coffee Berry Borer, Coffee Plants and Parts Thereof
4 Including Unroasted Seeds (Green Coffee Beans), Used Coffee Bags,
5 and Coffee Harvesting Equipment Including Baskets, Sacks or
6 Containers, Except by Permit Requiring Mitigative Measures.
7

8 Chris Kishimoto, HDOA/PQB, presented testimony as submitted. Staff recommends
9 approval.

10
11 Motion to accept: Ornellas/Galimba.

12
13 Board member Russell asked about the costs for farmers who quarantine their product.
14 Mr. Kishimoto said that there hasn't been an assessment of that yet. He mentioned that
15 freezing would be cheaper than fumigation.

16
17 Board member Hong asked what the situation was for Oahu, whether it was island wide
18 all at once in Oahu. Mr. Kishimoto said that Hawaii Island and Oahu had quarantines for
19 particular areas. It was found that this type of quarantine did not work and is why the
20 Department now quarantines the whole island. He said that efforts are concentrated at
21 ports of entry.

22
23 Board member Russell asked if there were adequate facilities in Maui to decontaminate
24 the pest. Mr. Kishimoto said that he was not sure. He said that facilities may need to be
25 constructed and that freezers may be available.

26
27 Chairperson Enright opened testimony from the public.

28
29 Kimo Falconer, Mauigrown Coffee LLC, provided supporting testimony. Issue is with
30 the date affecting the current commerce. Extend the date so that they can adjust.

31
32 Board member Ornellas said that mechanical harvesting makes it even tougher to
33 address CBB. Even with restrictions he said that there would still be incidents.

34
35 Sydney Smith, Maui Coffee Association, said that she does not think a quarantine of the
36 entire island is necessary at this time. She asked for a 60-day time frame from now to
37 deal with these protocols. She also mentioned a need for a facility.

38
39 Yuki Lei Sugimura, Maui County Council, said that this decision has a big impact on
40 Maui businesses and mentioned that she would like the Department to reach out to the
41 County for any assistance.

42
43 Board member Hashimoto asked if the enforcement could be extended. Chairperson
44 Enright stated that he would like to change the effective date to May 1, 2017.

1
2 Vote: 8-0, approved, with an effective date of May 1, 2017.

3
4 2. Request to: (1) Allow the Importation of Unlisted Microorganism, Zika
5 Virus, Determined to be High Risk, by Special Permit, for Laboratory
6 Research by Hawaii Biotech, Inc.; and (2) Establish Permit Conditions for
7 the Importation of Unlisted Zika Virus, by Special Permit, for Laboratory
8 Research by Hawaii Biotech, Inc.

9 Jonathan Ho, HDOA/Acting PQB Branch Manager, presented testimony as submitted.
10 Staff recommends approval.

11
12 Motion to accept: Hashimoto/Evans.

13
14 Board member Novotny asked if this was a one-time request. Mr. Ho said that
15 administratively they would need another permit for a different use. It would require
16 Board approval of conditions.

17
18 Board member Russell asked if you can do this research on the mainland. David
19 Clements, Hawaii Biotech Inc., said yes but that it makes it difficult. He said that there
20 have been problems with mainland collaborators due to delays. Board member Russell
21 asked what the greatest benefit is to the State of Hawaii for this import. Mr. Clements
22 stated that we are susceptible being in Hawaii. Having a vaccine would be amazing just
23 like how dengue research was vital for contributions to a vaccine.

24
25 Board member Galimba asked how long 5 vials last. Mr. Clements stated that that
26 would be enough to last for the research. Board member Galimba asked if they will be
27 propagating this. Mr. Clements said that they will. They will culture no more than 50mL
28 at a time and everything is done in a safety cabinet under seal.

29
30 Vote: 8-0, Approved.

31
32 VI. OLD BUSINESS

33
34 None.

35
36 VII. NEW BUSINESS

37
38 1. Discussion on how to allow county government officials and their
39 representatives to enter private property to control or eradicate pests.

40
41 Board member Russell said that the county of Maui is asking for a rule change for a
42 designee for each island county to deliver warrants to address invasive species. He
43 called Dave Deleon, Harken Hill Realtor's Association, forward.

44

1 Mr. DeLeon stated that he would like to provide counties with the ability to obtain state
2 warrants and that there is a need for all hands-on deck.

3

4 Chairperson Enright said that there are currently some legislative bills alive. It is
5 important to establish the Hawaii Invasive Species Authority. If counties are entering
6 private property, they are accepting the liability. Somebody will be sued and someone
7 will be liable. He said that he will look at the possibility of rule changes on this should
8 the legislative bill not move.

9

10 2. Request for an update on the transfer of land on Maui from the Department of
11 Land and Natural Resources to the Department of Agriculture.

12

13 Randy Teruya, HDOA/ARM, said that there was only one parcel in Waialua. Everything
14 else is under one acre. DOFAW is looking at expanding forestry reserves and in turn
15 doesn't want to move them. Economically, certain parcels do not meet Act 90
16 requirements. The Department is accepting requests from those that are leasing State
17 lands currently. The Department still considers it and makes a request through the
18 Department of Agriculture. This goes for all counties.

19

20 Board member Russel asked if there was a map. Mr. Teruya said that the Office of
21 Planning has some maps and they have a list of State owned lands. All agricultural
22 zoned lands are on those maps but not the list of lands proposed to be transferred from
23 DLNR to HDOA. DLNR also has a public trust land. Board member Russell said that he
24 believes it was mentioned in a previous meeting that there were 10,000 acres of land in
25 Maui that would be transferred. Mr. Teruya said that number would have been inclusive
26 for all state lands.

27

28 Chairperson Enright said that there have been struggles between the Departments'
29 Land divisions. He stated that he has been working with Chair Case on this and has
30 taken it up to the Governor's office. The process is getting traction but due diligence is
31 still needed to address disagreements.

32

33 Board member Ornellas said that farmers and ranchers are much happier under HDOA
34 leases than they were with DLNR. Chairperson Enright said that DLNR is mandated to
35 get highest return on land resources. That is one of the reasons they are sending those
36 parcels to the Department because HDOA does not have to do that. He stated that the
37 process is still moving forward.

38

39 3. Request from the organic farming community on Hawaii Island to declare a
40 state of emergency for Little Fire Ant infestations on organic farms there, so
41 the organic producers can treat specific areas without losing their organic
42 certification for the entire farm.

43

44 Sarah Townsend, International Certification Services, Inc., said that there is a
45 Declaration of Emergency for organic farmer to use chemical controls to address little

1 fire ant. If there is a federal or state emergency pest treatment program declared, an
2 organic farmer may use chemical means to control the pest. Those that lose organic
3 certification are based on direct contact crops or livestock. It does not set them back a
4 whole 3 years. The common-sense part of this is regulation. This does not need to be
5 the Governor and may be the Department of Agriculture as California has done this.
6 This will mitigate the impact on the organic farmer. There is a need to put that in writing
7 from the State. Chairperson Enright said to send him some correspondence and that
8 the Department will investigate the authority. If it lies in the Chair's office, the
9 Department can report back to the Board at the next meeting on action

10

11 VIII. ADJOURNMENT OF REGULAR MEETING

12

13 Motion to adjourn meeting: Ornellas/Hong.

14

15 Vote: 8-0, Approved.

16

17 Meeting adjourned at 12:45 PM.

18

19 Respectfully submitted,

20

21



22

Micah Munekata

23

Board Secretary