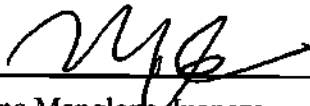



V. Next Meeting	The Joint Soil & Water Conservation Districts meeting will be in November 2024, details to be determined later.
VI. Adjournment	YMJ/MT made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:09pm. All in favor. Motion passed.

Minutes Prepared By: Rita Barcinas

Minutes Approved By:

	11/21/24		11/21/24
Yvonne Manglona Juaneza SGSWCD Secretary	Date	Michael Aguon SGSWCD Chairperson	Date
_____	_____	_____	_____
NGSWCD Secretary	Date	Joseph Santos NGSWCD Chairperson	Date

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● YMJ- noted the need to develop a strategy for the GLRP implementation, starting with the easiest things and looking to see where we can collaborate to meet the other goals. She noted the need to engage with non-farmers and others that are unintentionally engaged in harmful practices. She also expressed the need to bring conservation into the schools. ● GT - expressed the desire to continue with the district's current projects and work with the schools and community to educate the next generation on conservation. ● EP- asserted the need to focus on the active district registry, the soil health initiative, and the work with the feral swine.
B. FY 2025 Budget Proposal	JS suggested the district treasurers, and any other interested board members, meet as a committee to come up with a FY 25 budget draft.
C. Guam Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts	<p>The Guam Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts is a non profit, without the non profit tax exemption.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The application for tax exemption is \$275 and has not yet been filed. The process takes 3-6 months. ● They submitted a bill to the oversight chair to amend the law that includes an exception allowing the boards to form and run the Guam Association of Conservation Districts. ● JS noted the need to make the request for legal counsel to the Attorney General and not through the Legal Council hired by UOG. ● MR noted the need to file an 1120. <p>JS will share the draft bill with the boards.</p>
D. NACD Guam Representatives	<p>The board needs to update their Guam Representatives. The current representatives are: Director Kathrina Reyes and Director Glenn Takai as the alternate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MA suggests that GT covers as the alternate for the upcoming meeting (February), then the boards can vote on the new representatives later. ● For FY 24-25, who will be the voting representative for Guam? ● NGSWCD brought up the need to fill the final Director position before voting. ● MR agreed that GT fills in as is his role as the alternate. ● Pacific Region - Kathrina Reyes is the current vice chair. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ JS asked if we will be nominating someone for the new Pacific Region Board. MA suggested deciding on that at a later time.
IV. Miscellaneous Matters	No Report.

The boards agreed that the new resource concerns need to be incorporated into the plan.

The boards suggested revisiting the plan at the next partner meeting, in addition to the minutes from the most recent local working group.

Ep continued the presentation on the GLRP

- Goal 2: Provide input on Legislation and Policy affecting Guam's Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Food Security
- Pressure from Pests
 - Goal 1: Identify potential pests, their sources of origins, and quantify the impact of the threat and
 - Goal 2: Support stakeholders and partner agencies missions to manage pests by providing an information link between agencies and stakeholders.
- Wind & Water Erosion
 - Goal 1: Assess wind and water erosion in Guam caused by drought, natural climate disasters, fire, and other human activity
 - Goal 2: Engage in site-specific watershed restoration via conservation and best management practices
- Source Water Depletion
 - Goal 1: Promote the reduction of water depletion through site-based, water management best practices
 - Goal 2: Conduct a public awareness education campaign on best practices for protecting our pure water resources

Thoughts and Suggestions by the Board regarding projects for the upcoming year:

- JS- Suggested tree planting work.
- MR - Noted that she has a small farm that can be used for conservation work or demonstrations for the districts
- MT- expressed concerns surrounding the invasive species, especially feral swine. She noted that it has become a public safety concern. MT stressed the importance of continuing work for the farmer stress grant.
- JA - noted the desire to focus on assessments first for the farmer stress grant and the active district registry. She also brought up a Highschool Conservation Stewardship Program that the NGSWCD is trying to implement.
- MA- noted that he is very knowledgeable of the feral swine damage and expressed the need for both fencing and trapping to reduce the numbers and thus treat. He also expressed the need to control the invasive plant species and preserve the native species.

- This was developed through a grant with the USDA NRCS.
- Input for the plan was provided by the Local Working Group.
- Goal for the review of the plan: to help in the creation of the FY24, FY25 program activities plan and budget.

EP presented the GLRP Top Resource Concerns (see presentation)

- Soil Quality Limitations
 - Goal 1: Build the capacity to do monitoring and testing of soils in Guam, and identify human or natural threats to soil quality, loss, and degradation
 - Goal 2: Educate land users about the importance of soil testing to understand soil conditions, soil conservation practices, and practices of sustainably increasing soil quality along with ways to prevent soil loss and degradation
 - Goal 3: To improve soil fertility and stewardship using local resources
- Long Term Protection of Land
 - Goal 1: Update and promote Guam's agriculture and natural resource protection policies with NRCS through Local Working Groups

JS asked the boards to vote on agenda Items A, B, and D: to approve the Guam SWCD Long Range Plan, refer the Budget proposal to a committee, and vote on the NACD Representative before quorum is lost.

Director Tanaka expressed the need to leave the zoom meeting as he was off-island.

MA, MR expressed the need to discuss the agenda items and vote on them at a later time.

MR recommended voting on item D.

GD and TT left the meeting.

GD rejoined the meeting via Zoom.

GT noted the possible need to incorporate the additional concerns brought up at the most recent Local Working Group.

Ep noted that the plan they are reviewing was approved by the previous board.

JS noted that there is no record of the NGSWCD adopting the GLRP.



**Guam Soil & Water Conservation Districts
JOINT Annual Board Meeting
Wednesday, December 27, 2023
Crowne Plaza 4:00 pm**

Recording Link: <https://www.facebook.com/100072564798783/videos/1430427167853637/>

I. Call Meeting to Order	Meeting Called to order at 4:44 pm by MT at the Crowne Plaza.
II. Roll Call	<p>Southern SWCD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Michael Aguon (MA) <i>Chairman</i> - PRESENT ● Martha Tenorio (MT) <i>Vice Chairperson</i> - PRESENT ● Glenn Dulla (GD) <i>District Director</i>- PRESENT via Zoom ● Yvonne Manglona-Juaneza (YMJ) <i>District Director</i> - PRESENT ● Glenn Takai (GT) <i>District Director</i> - PRESENT via Zoom <p>Southern SWCD Staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Erica Pangelinan (EP) <i>District Administrator</i> - PRESENT ● Rita Barcinas (RB) <i>Program Support Specialist</i> - PRESENT <p>Southern Soil & Water Conservation District Board Quorum Established.</p> <p>Northern SWCD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Joseph C. Santos (JS) <i>Chairman</i> - PRESENT ● Katrina S.N. Reyes (KR) <i>District Director</i>- ABSENT ● Marlene Rivo (MR) <i>District Director</i> - PRESENT ● Thomas Tanaka, Jr. (TT) <i>District Director</i> - PRESENT via Zoom <p>Northern SWCD Staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jenelyn Abinales (JA) <i>Admin Assistant</i> - PRESENT <p>Northern Soil & Water Conservation District Board Quorum Established.</p> <p>The Boards noted that Erica Pangelinan will facilitate the meeting.</p>
III. New Business	
A. Guam SWCD Long Range Plan	<p>Presented by: Erica Pangelinan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Guam SWCD Long Range Plan is a 5 year plan developed in 2021. It maps out the goals, objectives and deliverables to address Guam top priority resource concerns.