

IX. Next Meeting

- The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 25, 2024 for the Board. Partners meeting will be coordinated during the NRCS and NACD Leadership meeting.

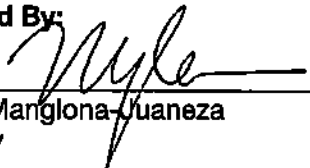
X. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Minutes Prepared By:

Madeline Flores

Approved By:



Yvonne Manglona-Juaneza
Secretary

10/16/24

Date



Michael E.D. Aguon
Chairperson

10/16/24

Date

Action Items:

- Draft letters for NRCS and Dr. Dulla
- Coordinate a meeting to finalize fencing specs.
- Continue work on Pig Brig trapping demonstration.
- Finalize details for upcoming events and ensure support for farmers through networking and resources.
- Plan for the upcoming training sessions and encourage broader participation.
- Explore additional funding opportunities for future events and initiatives.
- Confirm mayor's attendance at upcoming events.
- Develop a plan for monthly farmer networking events.

- The next event, "Conservation Coffee," will be held this Saturday from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Inalahan Community Center, featuring a breakfast and networking opportunities. The mayor and local farmers are expected to attend.
- The recent wellness retreat was well-received, with positive feedback on activities that focused on stress management for farmers.
- Attendees appreciated the food and overall organization of the event, noting its positive impact on their well-being.
- A suggestion was made to plan another wellness retreat due to its success.
- Discussion around potential internships for high school students at an agricultural high school was held, aiming to engage younger generations in farming.
- The idea of introducing trade skills training for youth was proposed to cultivate interest in agriculture and related fields.

Upcoming Training:

SWCD training scheduled for the 23rd (half day) and 24th (full day) was discussed. Attendance was encouraged. Directors are to ensure participation from all members.

D. NACD Summer Meeting - August 10-13, 2024

- Motion made by Martha Tenorio to accept and submit the summer meeting trip report from early August in Boston, including transportation reimbursement for directors. Motion was approved without objection.

E. NACD Pacific Region Meeting - September 11-13, 2024

- Approval was sought for an executive board member's attendance at an upcoming leadership meeting with reimbursement confirmed.

F. NRCS & NACD Leadership Visit to Guam

- The Chief Associate and his delegation will visit Guam on September 19-20. The itinerary includes showcasing conservation sites and activities.
- Invitations extended to representatives from various islands, including Hawaii and American Samoa.
- The Governor and Lieutenant Governor will address attendees on the last day, September 24.

A motion was made by Director Martha Tenorio that our Chairman will attend the CNMI visit with leadership team to Saipan with reimbursement. The motion was approved without objection.

G. Guam Local Working Group - August 02, 2024

- Sent out summary report to everyone who attended. Report will be sent to Jay Doronila.

A motion was made by Director Martha Tenorio to approve the summary report as presented. The motion was made without objection.

VII. Board Correspondence

- Discussion about the potential to participate in a symposium in October.
- A request for funding assistance of \$500 for a rent-related issue was proposed.
- Exploring internet for our office

VIII. Public Comment/Announcements

- No public comments or announcements were recorded.

VI. New Business

A. 2024 Next Generation Leadership Institute Cohort

- Director Glenn Takai is the representative for this program, he will attend the summer meeting and his travel for the meeting is reimbursable. He has a project to present to the board at a later time.

B. Southern Guam Feral Swine Program

- Cooperative agreement with APHIS is in place, with a focus on ensuring serviced landowners are registered with the district.
- A waiting list has been created for individuals inquiring about the program.
- APHIS agreed to prioritize farmers registered with the district over others who are inquiring about assistance.
- The University of Guam Experimental Station has requested assistance, but there are concerns about providing help to government entities.
- The board is working on a Pig Brig study to submit as a proposal for conservation practice funding under the EQIP program.
- NRCS requested a study proposal to review. The proposal outlines efforts to get Pig Brig funded.
- The committee will draft a memo to request approval from NRCS for this initiative.
- Director Glenn Takai and the team are working on setting up a Pig Brig for a demonstration.
- The team is trying to secure bait for the traps, with leftover funds from the project possibly being used for this purpose.
- Dr. Dulla offered to assist in developing specifications for perimeter fencing upon request.
- A letter will be drafted to formalize the request and include specifications for three types of fencing: cyclone, modified wire, and electric fencing.
- The fencing project is awaiting approval from NRCS and administrative processing.
- The board will coordinate a meeting to finalize the specs and move forward with the project.
- Many farmers have expressed interest in the perimeter fencing program.
- The board is working to iron out details and begin implementation.
- Discussion regarding delays in the program rollout compared to other states.
- Consideration of including concerns in a letter to NRCS to address administrative holdups.

C. DOAG Stress Grant

- A Conservation Corps event was held last Saturday, though attendance was low due to a conflicting workshop at the University of Guam.
- The event received positive feedback from the mayor, who expressed interest in hosting similar events monthly to boost farmer participation and networking.
- Farmers at the event voiced the need for assistance with grants and shared successful experiences, indicating a desire for community support and collaboration.
- A request was made for monthly networking events for farmers to share resources and experiences.
- Consistent events are expected to increase interest and participation.
- Consideration for integrating these events into the next grant proposal to secure funding and personnel.

- **Feral Swine Account:** \$11,097.90
- **NACD Technical Assistance 2023:** \$14,435.36
- **NACD Technical Assistance 2024:** \$23,828.86

V. Old Business

A. NACD Technical Assistance Program Update:

- Closeouts for the 2022 and 2023 technical assistance grants are in progress. Changes were discussed, including the need for district staff to use their own vehicles for site visits unless proper insurance is obtained.
- The board will explore obtaining insurance or purchasing a vehicle.

B. GACD Technical Assistance Program:

- A meeting with Northern District representatives and advisors is scheduled to finalize the closeout of the 2022 grant and discuss the status of the Guam State Association of Conservation Districts.
- The board discussed the reorganization of the GACD and the need for collaboration with Senator Sabina's office for legislative support.
- The Northern District's stance on revising the GACD bylaws was reviewed, with differing opinions on creating a new association.
- The 2024 round of technical assistance grants is open for application, with a deadline of September 30, 2024. The board discussed adding a vehicle to the grant application.

A motion was made by Director Martha Tenorio to accept the MOA indicating the revised SOW and budget for the TA2021 reprogram of funds. The motion was seconded by Director Glenn Dulla and accepted without objection.

C. NACD REPI Grant

- Jon and Madeline have been developing our producer network. UOG drone pilot on medical leave, the Southern District is ready for drone mapping. Identified a need for two iPads.

D. NACD Poster Contest:

- Plans for collaborating with the Department of Education and other schools on a national poster contest were discussed. The board agreed on criteria and judge selection for the contest, with a deadline for submissions by December 2024.

E. Southern District Active District Registry:

- 13 new active members were added to the registry following site visits. The board discussed the process for officially approving members and issuing certificates.

F. Digital Archive Support:

- Plans to hire part-time archival support were discussed, with the board agreeing to advertise the position.

G. Southern SWCD Branding and Marketing:

- The board agreed on consistent branding as "Southern Guam SWCD" for all official communications, including social media handles and the website.
- A letterhead design was presented and discussion of starting a WhatsApp group was approved.



SOUTHERN GUAM SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Southern Soil and Water Conservation District
Regular Board Meeting
Wednesday, August 28, 2024 4:00 PM
University of Guam, College of Natural and Applied Sciences Building, Room 126

MEETING MINUTES

I. Meeting Call to Order & Roll Call

- The meeting was called to order at 4:07 PM.
- Roll call was conducted, and a quorum was confirmed.

Board of Directors:

- Chairman Michael Aguon, Present
- Vice Chairperson Glenn Takai, Absent (excused)
- District Director Glenn Dulla, Present
- District Director Yvonne Manglona-Juaneza, Absent (excused)
- District Director: Martha Tenorio, Present

A motion was made by Director Martha Tenorio to excuse Director Glenn Takai and Yvonne Manglona-Juaneza absences. The motion was seconded by Director Glenn Dulla and accepted without objection.

Staff:

- District Administrator: Erica Pangelinan
- Program Support Specialist: Jon Tanuvasa
- Conservation Technician: Madeline Flores

Also present:

- Dr. Mark Acosta, UOG Technical Advisor
- Ariana Millard, Legislative Representative
- Jesse Chargalauf, Legislative Representative

II. Acceptance of Meeting Agenda

A motion was made by Director Martha Tenorio to accept the meeting agenda as published. The motion was seconded by Director Dr. Glenn Dulla and accepted without objection.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes - 07/17/2024

A motion was made by Director Martha Tenorio to approve the minutes from the July 17, 2024, meeting. The motion was seconded by Director Dr. Glenn Dulla and accepted without objection.

IV. Treasurer's Report

- The Treasurer's report was presented, detailing the balances of various accounts as follows:
 - **Savings Account:** \$1.20
 - **General Fund Account:** \$32,412.22
 - **Stress Grant Account:** \$19,958.03