

**Hawaii Agriculture Workforce Advisory Board Meeting  
Princess Ruth Keelikolani Building  
830 Punchbowl Street, Room 321  
Monday, December 3, 2018  
8:30am - 10:00am**

**AGENDA**

- I. Call To Order
- II. Review and Approval of September 27, 2018 Meeting Minutes
- III. FY 2019 Proposal Review and Recommendations for Budget Allocations
  - A. FFA Workforce Preparation
  - B. AG Tech Entrepreneurship
  - C. Keeping Hawaii Green and Cool
  - D. GoFarm Hawaii
  - E. Agriculture Teacher Professional Development
  - F. County of Kauai Summer Agriculture Internships
  - G. Other Proposals
- IV. Next Step
- V. Announcements and Updates
- VI. Next Meeting
- VII. Adjournment

**Hawaii Island  
University of Hawaii at Hilo  
200 W. Kawili Street  
Business Office Building, Room 120  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720**

**Equal Opportunity Employer/Program**

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**AGRICULTURE WORKFORCE ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Department of Labor and Industrial Relations**  
**Monday, December 3, 2018**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**DRAFT**

DATE: Monday, December 3, 2018  
TIME: 8:30am – 10:00am  
LOCATION: Department of Labor and Industrial Relations  
Princess Ruth Keelikolani Building, Room 321

**Members Present:**

Leonard Hoshijo, Chair, DLIR  
Nicolas Comerford, Dean - UH Manoa CTAHR  
David Fuertes (Representative of Farmers)  
Bruce Mathews, UH Hilo (through teleconference)  
Brian Miyamoto, Farm Bureau - for Randy Cabral  
Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser, Deputy, Dept. of Agriculture - for Scott Enright  
Troy Sueoka, DOE - for Superintendent Christina Kishimoto

**Members Excused:**

Representative Mark Nakashima  
Michael Moser, Windward Community College

**Staff:**

Elaine Young	Staff, DLIR, WDD
Carol Kanayama	Staff, DLIR, WDD
Jay Ishibashi	Staff, DLIR, WDD

**I. Call to Order and Introductions**

With a quorum of members present, the meeting was called to order by Chair Leonard Hoshijo at 8:42 a.m.

The Board members and meeting attendees introduced themselves to those in attendance.

- II.** A draft of minutes of the previous meeting held on September 27, 2018 was presented to the Board for approval. The minutes for the Board meeting held on September 27, 2018 were adopted by the Board unamended.

**III. FY 2019 Proposal Review and Recommendation for Budget Allocation**

Chair Hoshijo asked Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser, Chair of the Agriculture Workforce Development Board Proposal Review Committee to lead this portion of the meeting. Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser introduced the other members of the Proposal Review Committee - Bruce Mathews and Brian Miyamoto.

The Agriculture Workforce Development Board Proposal Review Committee met on Thursday, November 8, 2018 to review the proposals submitted to DLIR and formulate recommendations on acceptability to the Board. Chair Shimabukuro-Geiser proceeded to provide the Board members with an overview of the committee's recommendations (as listed below) for the allocation of FY19 State funds appropriated to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations Agriculture Workforce Development Board by the State Legislature.

- A. FFA Workforce Preparation (DOE) – recommend fully funding project
- B. Ag Tech Entrepreneurship – recommend fully funding project
- C. “Keeping Hawaii Green and Cool” - recommend not funding proposal  
[committee believed that the proposal’s focus (along with other issues) was on energy, and served more as a supplemental tool to farming – placing the proposal at a lower priority than other proposals that were more agriculture based]
- D. GoFarms Hawaii (University of Hawaii) – recommend fully funding project [committee suggests adding an additional \$1800 for a Molokai component (travel, staff time) for workforce development due to the recent closure of one of the large agricultural employers on the island]
- E. Agriculture Teacher Professional Development – recommend partially funding proposal with the suggestion limit the training to teachers only and to limit the class size with the intent of advancing the level of training. With the possibility of DOE not being able to pay for participating teachers to receive professional development credit, the Board offered flexibility to the proposal proponents to consider working with UH Hilo on the project.
- F. Kauai County Agriculture Internships – recommend fully funding the project  
[committee did have some concerns with the new county administration’s ability to continue the success of the previous project coordinator but believes the foundation has been adequately developed to advance the project.

Member Dean Comerford questioned the “science” in Korean Natural farming and the use of the method as the focus of curriculum in classes funded by the Board. A discussion ensued among the members of the Board.

The Board then proceeded to vote on the recommendations proposed by the Agriculture Workforce Development Board Proposal Review Committee (vote taken separately on each proposal) (with the results) as follows:

- FFA Workforce Preparation Proposal [Member Troy Sueoka recused]  
Board approved full funding
- AG Tech Entrepreneurship [Member Nicolas Comerford recused]  
Board approved full funding
- “Keeping Hawaii Green and Cool”  
Board approved recommendation not to fund project
- Go Farm Hawaii [Member Nicolas Comerford recused]  
Board approved (with revised funding amount)

Agriculture Teacher Professional Development  
[Members Bruce Mathews and Troy Sueoka recused]  
Board approved partial funding  
County of Kauai Agriculture Internships  
Board approved full funding

The Board entertained a motion by member Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser on behalf of the Proposal Review Committee to have the department monitor and assess the progress of the approved projects' expenditures after three to five months and if determined that the project(s) is/are not expending funds as proposed – the department be given the authority to move any excess funds to other approved projects.  
The Board concurred and approved the motion.

At the request of the FY18 Farmer and Ranch Worker Certificate program, a no cost extension of the project was proposed to the Board. After discussion, member Brian Miyamoto motioned and member Phyllis Shimabukuro seconded the motion to grant the no cost extension.  
The Board voted to approve the request for extension.

**IV. Announcements and Updates**

Elaine Young informed the Board of the briefing to the Legislature highlighting some of the DLIR State funded mini grants being held on January 14, 2019.

**V. Next Meeting**

The Board agreed to schedule the next meeting after the beginning of the next fiscal year to discuss FY19 funding if appropriated by the legislature.

**VI. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned by Chair Hoshijo at 9:40a.m.