

**Hawaii Agriculture Workforce Advisory Board Meeting  
Princess Ruth Keelikolani Building  
830 Punchbowl Street, Room 321  
Thursday, September 27, 2018  
9:00am - 11:00am**

**AGENDA**

- I. Call To Order
- II. Review and Approval of January 16, 2018 Meeting Minutes
- III. FY 2018 Project Updates
- IV. FY 2019 Project Proposals
  - A. Budget
  - B. Proposal Criteria/Guidelines
  - C. Proposal Request Process
  - D. Proposal Review Process
- V. Next Steps
  - A. Next Meeting
- VI. Announcements and Updates
- VII. Adjournment

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**AGRICULTURE WORKFORCE ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Department of Labor and Industrial Relations**  
**Tuesday, September 27, 2018**

**MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: Tuesday, September 27, 2018  
TIME: 9:00am – 11:00am  
LOCATION: Department of Labor and Industrial Relations  
Princess Ruth Keelikolani Building, Room 321

**Members Present:**

Leonard Hoshijo, Chair, DLIR  
Representative Mark Nakashima  
Nicolas Comerford, Dean - UH Manoa CTAHR  
David Fuertes (Representative of Farmers)  
Bruce Mathews, UH Hilo, [through teleconference]  
Brian Miyamoto, Farm Bureau - for Randy Cabral  
Michael Moser, Windward Community College

**Members Excused:**

Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser, Deputy, Dept. of Agriculture - for Scott Enright  
Troy Sueoka, DOE - for Superintendent Christina Kishimoto

**Staff:**

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

**Guests:**

George Costa, County of Kauai  
Michael Barros, FFA  
Nicolette Lee, UH Maui College (through tele conference)  
Nancy Ooki, CTAHR Maui (through tele conference)  
Richard Cowan, Hawaii Community College (through tele conference)

**I. Call to Order and Introductions**

With a quorum of members present, the meeting was called to order by Chair Leonard Hoshijo at 9:08 a.m. The attendees introduced

- II.** A draft of minutes of the previous meeting held on January 18, 2018 were presented to the Board for approval. After Board member David Fuertes motioned for acceptance and Board member Brian Miyamoto seconded, the minutes for the Board meeting held on January 18, 2018 were adopted by the Board.

### **III. FY 2018 Project Updates**

#### **Youth Aquapono: Aquaponics Technician Training Program (UH Maui College)**

Nicolette Lee from UH Maui College thanked the Board for their support and highlighted the program's activities to date. In the spring of this year, UH Maui did an extensive recruitment campaign to promote the program through outreach to all the local high schools, flyers to CTE instructors and advertising through tabloids and the UH Maui catalog. Ten students from various high schools participated in Aquapono I and Aquapono II during the summer. During the summer programs, the students learned fundamental skills as greenhouse technicians - understanding the science of aquaponics and hydroponics. They also learned basic culinary skills while earning their food handler certification at the Maui Food Innovation Center. The focus for the next steps in the deliverables for the grant is job placement and continuing education. UH Maui is working with the DOE to establish credit for the program courses.

#### **4H Outreach on Agriculture Pathways (UH 4-H Youth Development Programs)**

Nancy Ooki (UH 4-H Youth Development Programs Cooperative Extension, Maui County) summarized the program's effort to expand interest in agriculture (not specifically farming) to younger students. The program, "Diversity in Agriculture" was held at Maui Waena Intermediate School over the summer with the intent of having students view agriculture as a science and follow as an educational and career path. The students were introduced to hands on activities in landscaping; food sciences; agriculture technology; animal science and plant science. The classwork and activities were videotaped and the program is in the process of converting all the videos in to educational learning objects by topic for future enrichment.

#### **Kauai County Agriculture Internships (County of Kauai)**

George Costa (County of Kauai Office of Economic Development) thanked the Board for four years of funding through DLIR grants to the County of Kauai's Agriculture Summer Internships. The program started four years ago with two students; grew to eight students the following year, then through the efforts of Kylie Hashizaki (who recruited twenty-nine students) there were a total of thirty-seven students who participated last year. This year, a total of forty-one students were enrolled in the internship program. As in past internships, each student was able to intern at a different farm for two weeks during the summer period. The County of Kauai was again able to appropriate \$20,000 for transportation of the students from their homes to the farms and back. The Department of Education is working on accreditation for the program and having a year round curriculum. The farmers showed a genuine interest in working with the students during the internship and the students expressed through their evaluations - the value of the program to them and their wish for the internships to continue. With the success of the program and increasing numbers, the farmers recommended that it would be more

beneficial to the program to limit the number of students participating by having a selection process after having students apply for an internship.

### **Farmer and Ranch Worker Certificate Program (Hawaii Community College)**

Richard Cowan of Hawaii Community College detailed some of the challenges that the project has encountered thus far. The program started in June but due to curfew conflicts, transportation constraints and low interest – only the general maintenance portion of the program was completed. The expected enrollment from the transition house did not materialize – therefore the program has been exploring other avenues and trying to secure a new location to house the largest (farming) lab portion of the program. Richard will update the Board on his efforts to complete the program and in turn, the Board will provide insight into the direction for the program.

### **Future Farmers of America (FFA) Internship/National Leadership Conference (DOE)**

Michael Barros (project liaison - formerly from the Department of Education) reported on the two activities for the project. Part of the grant funding paid for fourteen Hawaii FFA students to attend the Washington Leadership Conference (WLC) in July of this year. Two advisors and two other students paid their own way to the conference for a total of eighteen participants from Hawaii. All of the FFA Chapters (except Waimea) identified a student to attend the conference. The students came back very excited by what they had learned and experienced, and expressed this in their post conference survey. The other portion of the funding for this project was used to send two FFA officers to the State Officers' Summit. The focus of the summit was to have the attendees communicate positively and become true advocates for agriculture, agriculture education and FFA. Michael Barros also stressed the importance of the project to agriculture and the impact of the program on students – as both the number of FFA chapters and FFA membership have increased over the last three years due in large part to these efforts to expose more students to the area of agriculture.

### **UH Hilo Agriculture Internships**

David Fuertes (project coordinator in cooperation with the University of Hawaii at Hilo) shared a brief overview and outcomes of the project. The goals of the project were to provide workforce development for the industry and familiarize Hawaii's youth with careers in agriculture. At the opening workshop, the interns were introduced to various areas of discussion through a number speakers. The interns then over the next two days were exposed to agriculture related industries through tours by the project. The interns completed their internships by working and receiving hands on experience at different agricultural locations.

**IV. FY 2019 Project Proposals**

The Board was told that the funding for FY19 DLIR Agriculture projects will be within a range of totals from the past few years. The Board recommended keeping the language (updating the dates) for the Board's FY19 project criteria and proposal guidelines the same as last year's documents. It was motioned and approved by the Board to have Phyllis Shimabukuro-Geiser chair the Agriculture Workforce Advisory Board Proposal Review Committee with Brian Miyamoto and Bruce Mathews as committee members. The Board set a deadline of October 31, 2018 for the submittal of proposals for FY19 Agriculture project funding. DLIR WDD staff will send out the project criteria and proposal guidelines and poll the Proposal Review Committee and the full Board for dates to hold the meetings.

**V. Next Meeting**

The Board agreed to schedule by e-mail the next meeting to review and select the proposals to fund for FY 2019.

**VI. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned by Chair Hoshijo at 11:18a.m.