# HAWAIIAN ACRES ROAD CORPORATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES Kurtistown Assembly of God, 17-550 Old Volcano Road & via ZOOM April 10, 2021 @ 2 PM & via ZOOM

We are:

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#### **Board Members:**

President: Geneva Jackson, present

Vice President: Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers, present

Treasurer: Vacant, accepting apps Secretary: Joyce Seyferth, present

Secretary Pro Tem: Marie Baird, present on ZOOM

Director: Margie Nelson, present Director: Joshua Jacobs, present

Road Representatives: (Accepting Apps for all Roads)

Road 1: Jordan Epperson, present

Road B: Debi Lowe, accepting apps, present

Road C: River Rogers, present Road D: Open, accepting apps Road E: Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers

Road F: Geneva Jackson, accepting apps

Road G: Geneva Jackson, accepting apps

ALOHA! Aloha Etiquette:

Listen for understanding

• Be respectful

• Be concise

Avoid repetition

Agree to disagree

 Use appropriate phone/device usage

Fill out Comment Form for Public Comments Section (please email: hawaiianacresroads@gmail.com)

Fill out any questions for Matt Kleinfelder for the end of the meeting, too, along with.

# **Call to Order and Aloha Etiquette**

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 PM. Geneva introduced board members, meaning of aloha etiquette, and called for road rep reports.

## **Road Rep Reports**

Road 1:Jordan-many donations to buy several loads of gravel, but rain made the work get delayed. Pavement is crumbling and falling apart. Lots of traffic and people driving way too fast, so many potholes. However, despite many donations for cold patch, the weather has not allowed for the work to be done. We currently have open POs for asphalt. Geneva asked for anyone who might have a trailer or truck and can volunteer to pick up asphalt and assist.

Road B: Debi-two loads of 2.5" base between 9-11; 1 load 2.5" base between 3-4; one load 1.5" base between 7-8 with tractor work done on both sections. We buy aggregate and husband fills potholes in our adopted 6-7 section. When more dollars, we will do loads between 6-4.

Road C: River read by Margie: Cannot hear first part, recording went silent. Machine work between 1 to 2 to smooth road. Delivered 2 loads between 8 and 9. Too much rain to do much work and road is in bad shape. A couple of abandoned vehicles in a pond created a real mess. One vehicle was claimed, but one was abandoned, attempts to drag made road worse, then vehicle was set on fire and county hired a tow truck to drag vehicle into drainage ditch. It took a long time to get county to remove vehicle.

Road D: Geneva and Graceson (our previous Road D rep)-Graceson trying to get as many people into huis as possible to work on road and hopefully more would pay dues. Graceson does what he can from 8 to 5 with his tractor for drainage and he bought some 3", 2.5", and 1.5" rock in worse areas and no one comes to help him. There has also been a load from 5 to 4. Geneva stated there is an open PO for material between 1 to 3, hopefully, to be spread later this month and the community in lower section between 11 to 8 has raised funds to which HARC can add dollars to assist in getting full loads of aggregate.

Road E: Roberta- Some of the aggregate laid at the end of last year between 3 and 8 got stolen. 1 load aggregate from 8 to 9 and box scraping and aggregate going on 1 to 3. We need a vehicle to get cold patch from Yamada to fix asphalt on hills and holed area. Road is in bad shape and the weather is not helping. There has been no 1.5" for the month of February and into March, but it is now and there is a load scheduled for May 4<sup>th</sup>. Geneva asked that if anyone sees people stealing rock from the roads, please take a video so we can make Police reports.

Road F: Geneva-working on drainage and next load going in between 1-3. There have been aggregate thefts, too, so if you hear any large truck and some beeping sounds at night, that is someone stealing our aggregate. Work will be done by volunteers offering tractor work.

Road G: Geneva-6 to 8 now terrific and much work has been done on draining. Front of electric pole across 35 feet is our roadway, and Geneva has been putting rock back on the road away from the easement. Asphalt is \$143/T and it is expensive to buy and spread.

### **Old Business**

Hawaiian Telcom/HELCO complaints – FCC information – There will be information on HARC website for making FCC complaints about HELCO not providing wireless/fiber internet, or connections not being sound

#### **New Business**

- Approval of February 20, 2021 meeting minutes all approved minutes, motion passed
- Approval of check for \$100 to Assembly of God church for monthly meeting
- Marie Baird Facebook moderator updates posted to FB for proposed road work Marie asked road reps to send a couple days
  in advance of road work happening so she can post on Facebook, plus where the funds are coming from (who is paying for what
  sections and why some sections may not be getting aggregate/road work), and she is asking for more volunteers to help with
  HARC website
- Quotes for April dues reminder postcards Geneva requested approval for postcards with quote for 3000 is \$1672.75, cost for 3500 is \$1920. Geneva asked for a motion to approve the 3000 number. Joshua stated he could get a better deal and Geneva will discuss with him after the meeting. Geneva stated they will table for now.
- HARC Work Calendar in progress. Posts to website. Geneva stated that one will be able to see what roads are getting work; each road will be a different color.

# **Community Info**

Open call for new vendors and bids

Moho/8rd concerns - County Puna roads division (808) 966-5906

• Report abandoned vehicles – make, model, license plate/VIN & location to (808) 935-3311 New HARC Phone Number (808) 313-0542

# Guest: Councilman Matt Kleinfelder - Discussion of Road Improvement District (RID) Project

Summary: 2019-2020 began discussion of what a RID is; on website for HACA there is all the information about what a RID is. There are 4 options with 1 through 3 being certain areas of the roads that would be improved and the 4<sup>th</sup> option being no action whatsoever. HACA sent out a survey in 2019 with about 714 responses. Matt had no idea how many mailers were mailed out. Out of the 714 responses, 524 were positive for some motion going forward. HACA and HARC boards stated to go ahead with a feasibility study. A feasibility study is something the County does, looking at the options that are presented and the County Council will take a vote, with public input, to move forward with the feasibility study as to what the RID is going to cost. Matt is working on a resolution in order for the County will perform the feasibility study, what the study and the project is going to cost, and what the cost will be to each property owner. The legislature requires this resolution document and this process is one that is required by Hawaii County Code (law).

Once the resolution is approved and the cost is determined, as well as the cost per property owner, the County will pull a bond at a very low interest rate which allows for large community project to be undertaken, with the bond being like a mortgage on a house that is paid over 30 years. The County estimates the cost for roads (with drainage up to standards) is \$1million/mile. Though HA has almost 80 miles of roads, depending on the option that is chosen will result in different miles of road that would be paved. Between 1950 to 1970, most subdivisions in Puna were large, private, unimproved subdivisions whose roadways are the responsibility of the property owners. Matt does not agree with this fact, but he is not able to change what happened before he was born. Matt wants to have the County buy into this project, but also, the County has stepped away from any fiscal liability for subdivisions like Hawaiian Acres. Matt is wanting to do what he can so there is some sort of buy in at the State, County and Federal level to help.

The feasibility study has to be written up in order that everything is done to standards for drainage, roadways, and utilities. After the feasibility study is done and the costs known, the County will send out mailers to all property owners to ask them to vote yes or no. Any property owner who does not respond, the vote will be counted as a yes. It is up to the HA property owners as a whole as to what we want to do.

A statement was made as to the condition of Moho Road that was done by the County and how poorly that road was made. Matt stated that the Moho was done quick and not well and that is not what would happen for any road voted on to be improved in Hawaiian Acres. The work would be done by a third parties, bid upon by contractors as in any large project, which in doing so may bring the cost down to \$600,000 to \$700,000 a mile.

A question arose as to whether once this RID is finished will the County be maintaining the roads, or will the property owners have to maintain, and the answer is the property owners.

Matt wants to County and the State to input dollars because the County created this problem. Matt has to get commitment, buy in, as he states, in order to ensure the County and State will commit dollars to any RID project that may get approved.

A question was asked about how many letters went out for the HACA survey because the individual did not get a survey. Geneva stated 2800 although she does not know how many came back as not deliverable. Another individual stated he has sent out mailers and mostly a large percentage of mailers for surveys get thrown in the trash. Graceson stated how important it is to have accurate addresses in relation to if the feasibility study is approved and when the County mails out their survey for a yes or no on the RID, is ii going to be a problem that anyone who does not return a response is counted as a yes.

Matt explained the process is lengthy and every process has to be put up to a vote at the County Council at which time there is always the ability for public input.

Many people provided input on the problem areas on respective access and main roads. Flooding and rivers running through the roads was a main issue. Geneva stated to always take a video of any flooding and send to <a href="mailto:hawaiianacresroads@gmail.com">hawaiianacresroads@gmail.com</a> for compiling a disc for providing to the County and other government entities. Geneva stated Kulani River dumps into our subdivision, which comes above Road 1. Geneva has begged and groveled for any funds coming from the feds to help with our drainage and flooding situation, but to no avail at this time. Plus, there are roads in limbo, our Old Volcano Trail goes from Kulani to Road 1 is Old Volcano Trail, plus Old Volcano Trail that goes from Road 9 to 11 is a road in limbo that the County should maintain.

The discussion sidetracked to mandatory dues and Geneva stated that if so, the billing would be done by a third-party entity so no funds would pass through the HARC board members; only their decision as to how to spend the funds would be forwarded to the third-party entity. Another question was asked regarding cell tower coverage that is sorely lacking in the Acres. Matt suggested that could be a part of the improvement district project. Another question regarded whether the study was going to be done by someone coming out and driving each road. Matt stated the Director of Public Works actually lives in Hawaiian Acres and he hopes that individual will drive every road to make the study hands on and personal, but that has to be discussed at the County Council meeting.

The question is how to break that 1966 clause regarding the making of subdivisions that require all infrastructure to be up to standards.

HARC could actually go to the Supreme Court and ask for mandatory dues because of the precedence set by the lawsuits awarded to Fern Acres, HPP, Orchidland, etal.

Matt stated if anyone has any questions to call his office number which is 808-961-8263.

Public Comments (please turn in your written Comment Card in advance to be included)

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 PM

Next Board Meeting is 6/12/2021 at 2:00 p.m. via ZOOM	
Signed, Joyce Seyferth, Secretary	 Date Signed
(Minutes written by Debi Lowe)	· ·