

March 25, 2025

Road Planning Meeting of the Board

Attendance: Margie Nelson, Kaipo Dei, Brad Simone, Jordan Epperson, Alex Hebieson, Linette Quade, Devra Dynes. Arrived late: Marie Baird & Geneva Jackson

Held an informal brainstorming session. Conversations led to 2-3 different plans for actions.

1. How to increase the current road maintenance participation.
2. Focus on improvements should HARC succeed in getting such legal enforcement.
3. The legal process for obtaining reinforcement action for those that don't pay towards road maintenance.

Reviewed the current CERP. This plan follows the County plan of the "H" pattern involving Roads 1,8, D & 4. This would allow traffic through the Acres and adjoining into Orchidland. As it contains plans for paving; that aspect is completely contingent on County funding and completion of those projects. Discussion determined that this could be years from now & HARC needs to address creating "passable" roads for every lot.

BRAINSTORMING IDEAS:

Create Newsletter with focus on plans for road improvements; what would HARC actually do with the monies should we achieve enforcement mechanisms for maintenance fees.

Include current State Statutes regarding the current law to update all lot owners & inform of legal responsibilities.

Signage to inform/remind people of the need to pay dues! Alex will look into the cost of making the weatherproof signs; can determine how many & where to locate once costs available. David willing to donate money to signs made. Will include QR codes to enable people to access payment sites with Smartphones! Kaipo will assist with this endeavor. (discussion of how Quickbooks identifies lot owners; options beyond TMK which many people don't remember or take time to look up. Signage will state: HAWAIIAN ACRES ROAD MAINTENANCE FEES ARE DUE NOW. QR CODE

Kaipo & Linette will follow up with grant monies received by HOVE. Inquire as to which Fed/State department, funding source, how they applied and were approved. Linette will contact HOVE; Kaipo follow-up regarding possible grants.

ROAD IMPROVEMENT:

Start with locating the actual center of each road; measuring the 5ft behind utility poles & 45 ft across. Focus on spreading materials in the center to build a proper crown.

Use material that will build an adequate road bed. Recommendations state 6 loads of gravel per block. Current coverage at 2" for 300 ft costs \$550.00. Today's costs would be \$3,300.00 per block.

If road dues were increased to \$100.00 per year and the majority paid, could see \$300,000.00???

Identify and improve the worst ponding areas; improve drainage.

Reinstitute Matching Funds program for numbered roads until enough funds available for HARC to assume full responsibility for all roads.

LEGAL ACTIONS:

Continue comparing current estimates for attorney fees to petition Land Court for enforcement actions needed for nonpayments. Will need donations and other funding sources to cover legal fees. Reviewed the current quote for Tom Yeh office in Hilo.

NOTE: David explained info from the attorney he consulted. They offered a few suggestions:

Interpret the State Statutes as having the legal right to make dues “mandatory” and use language to indicate such. If disputed, it would be up to individual lot owners to file suit. Rely on the definition of the word “dues” as obligatory, not optional. HARD by-laws already utilizes the necessary language.

Locate and research the 1958 Nishimura Trust from Federal Court. Argue that HARC is now the legal trustee in charge of the roads and the right to charge for maintenance.

MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES:

Need for office manager tasks to be contracted out. Margie has done an excellent job at keeping the HARC books but it's way too much work for any volunteer position. Margie is leaving the Board at the end of April. For now, Kaipo will learn enough to cover temporarily. Estimated need for 10 hours at \$15.00 is \$8,000.00 per year. All expressed the price was worth less road maintenance if needed. Geneva will look into JB Services, currently contracting with Fern Acres for bookkeeping. (Upon Geneva resignation, Jordan will follow up with this task as he has the contact information).

Meeting concluded at 1:55pm