

**Orchidland Community Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Approved Minutes
April 21, 2020**

Call to Order: Vice President, Doug Anderson presiding; this is the Board of Directors meeting of April 21, 2020. Due to the virus scare, Covid-19, the OLCA monthly conference room at the Neighborhood Place of Puna in Keaau is temporarily closed. Tonight's meeting is being held at the Dean residence on 40th Ave. in a covered open-sided garage bay. All social distancing standards recommended by the State are being followed and some Board members will be joining the meeting via conference call. The time is 6:45pm.

Roll Call on location: Vice President Doug Anderson, Secretary Ric Wirick, RMC Chair Sky Platt, RMC Vice Chair John Erickson, Hershel Hood and Brennan Low.

Roll Call for via conference call: Jerimai Cann, Betty Saleh and David Guinn.

(conference call reception was intermittent, motions were completed with the 6 BOD present, and via conference call when possible).

Special Guests: OLCA parliamentarian Lloyd Swierenga and OLCA legal secretary Carrie Walters.

Motion to approve the Agenda for the BOD meeting of April 21, 2020 as distributed.

Seconded, call to vote, 6 in favor, motion approved.

Motion to approve the Minutes of the BOD meeting of March 17, 2020 as distributed.

Seconded, call to vote, 6 in favor, motion approved.

Vice President's welcome announcement to members and general public:

Aloha and welcome to the 2020 April Board of Director's meeting for fiscal year 2019-20.

In accordance with State emergency suggestions regarding the virus scare, the OLCA Board and guests are practicing social distancing, sitting about 6' apart from one another. And this meeting is being audio recorded.

RMC report summarized by RMC Vice Chair John Erickson (full report as distributed):

Updates on pothole filling: As anticipated lower Orchidland Drive, primarily used as the business access road for the commercial district, continues to crack and break away in every rain storm. The worst potholes developing where lower Orchidland Drive adjoins Hwy 130. This has created a Public Safety Hazard and Risk. During the past months many large potholes have opened up, one had spanned inbound lane of traffic. OLCA maintenance crews have attempted cold patching between storms and gravel has been used while the road is flooded.

Due to this increased Public Safety Hazard and Risk during heavy rains and flooding, OLCA has requested that the County temporarily close this section of road in order to help prevent vehicular/ pedestrian injury and/ or fatality. This short section of roadway receives heavy

commercial traffic, including large delivery trucks (including tandem fuel trucks) and school bus traffic (loading and unloading for and of school children). In addition, the flooding in this section is made worse by the church's lower parking lot draining directly onto lower Orchidland Drive.

Letters were sent to commercial property owners on lower Orchidland Drive in 2017 and a complaint filed with the Hawaii County Works Department in 2018 concerning the road flooding and ponding issue. Letters and/ or emails will be sent to business owners in early 2020 -- plus County, State, Federal officials, politicians and the media regarding this increased Public Safety Hazard. We anticipate a workable solution in the future, in order to avoid the closure of this section of roadway.

Over the past two months OLCA made requests with the State Hwy Dept for assistance in opening natural drainages on lower Orchidland near the inbound lanes at the intersection with HWY 130 to prevent flooding and ponding during heavy rains. No attempts were made by HDOT to assist with our request. This month, OLCA road crews opened the natural drainage to the best of their ability, removed road side debris and dispersed gravel. This additional drainage work has reduced the flooding on the inbound lane. Flooding and ponding remain an issue on the outbound lane with rainwater drainage directly from the Mormon churches parking lot.

Other potholes are filled once a month as part of ongoing road maintenance.

Unpaved road maintenance updates: last month's sustained heavy rains and flooding washed out some areas on unpaved roads. Hokori Construction was directed to check out all 30 miles of unpaved roads and repair as needed (specifically repair/ fill washed out areas and large potholes). Their road repair service was completed in about a week at a cost of just over \$12,000 = \$4,000 labor and equipment and \$8000 materials (1 ½" or 2 ½" base course). About 13, 20-ton truck loads of base course with a skid steer loader for dispersal of materials.

With the extended heavy rains and flooding over the past month, the RMC recommends another round of road repair similar to those noted above.

Abandoned Vehicles (AVs) on OLCA roads or in the right-of-way:

Discussion: Abandoned vehicles and the arson of abandoned vehicles in Orchidland Estates has been on rise over the past years. One major reason is that vehicle recycle centers stopped paying for metal recycling and now charge a fee. Technically, dumping vehicles is a criminal littering offense, up to \$1000 fine and 200 hours of community service.

If an abandoned vehicle (AV) is dumped on an Orchidland road or in the right of way, and it is reported to the HPD and they follow-up with an incident report. The AV should be towed or removed by the County within a week or two. If not, follow-up with the HPD on a weekly basis until the vehicle is removed.

The process is to call the HPD non-emergency number at 808-935-3311

Report an abandoned vehicle: provide the HPD with the date of incident, location, type vehicle and be sure to get an incident number and HPD officer contact name.

Additional updates regarding AVs and trash dumping: last month the RMC and BOD approved the formation of subcommittee of the RMC, to address AV and trash dumping in Orchidland Estates. The group will coordinate their efforts via conference calls, emails – but no monthly meetings have been scheduled.

Some assistance with large trash containers and hauling has been offered by Matson shipping. The company now offers an annual grant of \$1000 to assist with Community clean-up operations. Recently the County Council announced that there might be some addition funds to support trash removal and hauling. Also, it has been suggested with abandoned vehicles to contact the EPA directly, apparently there might be clean up funds available for abandoned vehicles. In addition, for the past 4-years OLCA roadside mowing crews have removed excessive trash before mowing road sides.

This new special subcommittee will specifically address this AV and trash issue. Making it easier and more efficient for residents to report AV and trash dumping to the HPD for hauling and disposal.

New Business:

On April 1, 2020 the RMC received an email from an Orchidland resident, Anne Kamau, on 34th Ave between Ilima Drive and Ainaloa Blvd. She reported excessive traffic from Ainaloa Blvd. cutting through Orchidland Estates to by-pass the road construction on Hwy 130, the new roundabout construction location. Ms. Kamau indicated that this has already become a public safety hazard and will get even worse when the “stay at home” ban has been lifted. She asked if OLCA could temporarily block/ barricade the entrance on 34th from Ainaloa Blvd. to prevent the excessive traffic and reduce the damage to OLCA private roads. Ms. Kamau’s email was shared with the RMC, OLCA president Lyon and legal secretary Walters.

After a week of email correspondence, suggestions, etc. – responses were combined into an email which was sent to County Council District 5 representative Matt Kleinfelder on April 7, 2020 requesting immediate assistance with this new County cut-through/ bypass traffic issue:

“...OLCA has proposed/ recommended two options until the Hwy 130/ Ainaloa Blvd. road construction is completed:

Option 1) The County provides and maintains portable barriers preventing County residents from cutting through Orchidland Estates on 34th, 35th, 36th and 37th during the road construction on Hwy 130 at Ainaloa Blvd.

Option 2) The County provides gravel road materials, maintenance equipment and personnel to repair 34th, 35th, 36th and 37th from Ainaloa Blvd and on these private roads to the exits back

onto Hwy 130 including: Auli'i, Orchidland and Pohaku Drives. In addition, provides adequate HPD to keep the County cut-through/ by-pass traffic at the posted speed of 15 mph on unpaved roads and 25 mph on paved roads..."

On or about April 11, 2020 Matt Kleinfelder responded:

"...I understand the concerns we all have for the entrance to Orchidland Dr. from HWY 130. In light of this and many other infrastructure issues we face in Puna, our office has drafted a Bill requiring the county to improve qualifying private routes.

I am hoping for the support of the community for our Legislative Bill being heard on the next Council meeting.

I will have Danielle give you the Bill number as soon as its posted.

Mahalo for your patience. I have and always will fight for improving our community.

Matt Kanealii-Kleinfelder
Hawaii County Council District 5

On April 13, 2020, a second email – was sent to Mr. Kleinfelder emphasizing what was originally requested in the April 7th email.

A day or two later Mr. Kleinfelder responded that he preferred option 2, but would like to limit to one road due to the County's limited funding.

He also indicated that he would be submitting the new Bill for County consideration. A copy of the new County Bill would be sent to the RMC, president and legal secretary for review.

Since the County has side-stepped the new and excessive cut-through/ by pass traffic from Ainaloa Blvd. (a County maintained road) through Orchidland Estates. We, the RMC, should address this issue as soon as possible. Once the "stay a home" order has been lifted by the State the traffic situation will get much, much worse than it is now.

We, the RMC can coordinate with Ms. Kamau – who can help us coordinate with Orchidland residents living the area. Road blockage/ road closure seems like the best and most efficient option.

The RMC approved the following Motion and recommends it for BOD approval:

Motion to approve funding of up to \$2000 for the installation of econoblock barriers, signage and to temporarily block road access to and from Ainaloa Blvd. onto 34th Ave.

Seconded

Discussion: this short section of road, 34th Ave between Ainaloa Blvd. and Illima, has been a traffic safety issue for many years. The recent construction on Hwy 130 at the intersection of Ainaloa Blvd. has led to traffic jams -- with an excessive amount of traffic using 34th as a cut-through/ bypass from and to Ainaloa Blvd. – traffic including commercial delivery trucks and more. OLCA residents are very concerned for their safety and the rapid deterioration of this private road.

For the last month, since April 1, 2020, OLCA has reached out to our County Council District 5 representative Matt Kleinfelder but it now seems unlikely that the County will have any funding

available to assist OLCA – not even County barricades to temporarily block entrances. Whereas the County has provided traffic barriers and personnel on the OLCA private roads of 40th Ave and Pohaku Drive when hazardous conditions exist such as flooding.

More discussion, call motion to vote, 8 in favor, motion approved.

Old Business:

1) At last month's RMC meeting a few motions were discussed regarding the potential costs and funding for necessary repairs and the overdue reconstruction of lower Orchardland Drive from Hwy 130 to the intersection of 34th Ave. Repairs and reconstruction are needed in order to prevent the temporary road closure of lower Orchardland Drive during heavy rains and flooding which creates hazardous road conditions.

It was determined by the RMC that it would be best to wait until after the 2020 letter was sent to businesses, church and County, State and Federal officials/ representatives and reporters before moving forward with costs and funding suggestions. The RMC suggested meeting with all parties to discuss a workable solution.

This meeting with all parties was proposed for April or May 2020, but with the recent virus scare and stay a home orders the meeting will be postponed.

Old Business:

The OLCA March 2020 Newsletter was mailed before the due date of March 25th.

It included:

- 1) the RMC recommended OLCA 2020 Paving Plan (listed below).
- 2) the RMC recommended OLCA 2020-21 MRMA (Mandatory Road Maintenance Assessment) for \$200 with at least \$50 going towards asphalt paving.

OLCA 2020 Paving Plan:

-- Tear out of chip seal intersections and replacement with asphalt intersections plus the addition of 20' asphalt aprons. These Main Access chip sealed road intersections include:

Pohaku Drive from 35th to 37th Ave, Laniuma Drive from 35th to 36th Ave, Orchardland Drive from 34th to 37th Ave, Auli'i Drive from 34th to 36th Ave, and Illima Drive at 36th Ave.

-- Installation of 25 speed limit signs and posts along Main Access Roads.

-- Installation of 25 mph "Speed Humps" where needed to slow traffic and deter cut-through traffic. Installation to begin on Pohaku Drive and 40th Ave (the elbow, the primary bypass roads)

Long term plans include:

The installation of 20' asphalt aprons at all intersections with paved Main Access Roads.

Asphalt paving of upper Auli'i Drive from 40th to 41st Ave.

Possible tear out and replacement of chip seal roads with asphalt paving or resealing of the chip sealed roads including: Orchardland Drive from 34th to 37th Ave, Pohaku Drive from 35th to 37th Ave,

Laniuma Drive from 35th to 36th Ave, , Auli'i from 34th to 36th Ave, and Illima Drive from 35th to 36th Ave. Also, sections of 35th Ave from Pohaku Circle to Laniuma Drive.

-- Permanent repairs and installations with asphalt or concrete (A.C.) on 40th Ave from Laniuma to Pohaku Drive, to help reduce wash-outs in this area during heavy rains.

-- Center striping of asphalt roads.

The OLCA letter regarding the Public Safety Hazard and Risk at lower Orchidland Drive and Hwy 130 -- will be to be sent soon (via mail and/ or email) to the businesses and the church on lower Orchidland Drive as well as County, State and Federal agencies and representatives, reporters and more.

More RMC discussion:

-- USDA Rural Development grants and/ or loan options for possible additional road repair, maintenance and improvement funding. For instance, additional gravel, basecourse, materials to bring unpaved roads up to minimum Federal standards.

That completes this month's RMC reports, updates and discussions.

Monthly Updates:

This came up without any advance notice. Below is an email from Lei Kapuni, CCD5 Matt Kleinfelder's assistant regarding the proposed Bill, Chapter 23, please click on the links for more specific information:

Aloha,

For your information, below is the link to Councilmember Matt's bill for amendments to Chapter 23. We have not received a confirmation of the date/time it will be heard on the council floor yet but we will be happy to let you know when we find out.

<http://records.hawaiicounty.gov/Weblink/0/doc/995190/Page1.aspx>

Also, we encourage you to provide written or electronic testimony by following the instructions on this link: <https://www.hawaiicounty.gov/our-county/legislative/county-council/attend-meetings-submit-testimony>

Thank you for taking the time to make your voice heard. Please continue to stay healthy and safe.

Sincerely,

The Office of Matt Kanealii-Kleinfelder

Announcement: Around the first of April, President Lyon was contacted by the commercial property owners on the corner of 34th Ave and Orchidland Drive, 130 Holdings. They have a new proposed tenant, Hawaii Academy of Arts and Science (HAAS). The intention would be for HAAS to establish a satellite campus for their charter school now located near Pahoā.

This development could be very beneficial for all parties in many ways, plus it would give us more pull with State and County regarding road and public safety issues.

Social and Community Lot Committee Report:

The OLCA First Saturday Harvest Share and Farmers Market was cancelled on April 4, 2020. Due to vendor concerns regarding the virus scare, Covid-19.

The next monthly OLCA Harvest Share and Farmer Market is scheduled for May 2, 2020. At this point and time, it seems the OLCA First Saturday May Market will likely also be cancelled. For more information on upcoming events please visit www.Orchidland.org, in addition, on the website there is a direct link to the OLCA group Facebook page. For vendor information please contact either Committee co-chairs Merlin Forman or Sharon Walker at the monthly events or by calling 808-464-5598.

Community Lot Development Committee Report/ Update by Secretary Wirick:

At the OLCA First Saturday Market held on March 7, 2020 -- the Community Lot Development Committee Chair, Norman Kauahi, prepared and circulated a survey asking participants and vendors a number of questions relating to upcoming OLCA markets, events and proposals for the upcoming OLCA Agri-Cultural Center.

Chairperson, Norman Kauahi, working with committee members also prepared the proposed Agri-Cultural Center site plan and update published in the March 2020 Newsletter.

The OLCA Agri-Cultural Center received formal approval for the 501c3 from the IRS by mail this month.

As approved by the OLCA BOD in February 2020, the three OLCA Community Lot Development Committee members Norman Kauahi, Lloyd Swierenga and Frederic Wirick will formally transition to president, treasurer and secretary respectively of the OLCA Agri-Cultural Center. In accordance the OLCA ACC Bylaws, the Board will move forward with the election of additional Board and Committee members. Unfortunately, this process has been delayed due to the virus scare, Covid-19. Once the restrictions have been lifted the OLCA ACC Board will move forward – fundraising for the Center is on the top of the list. The proposed OLCA Agri-Cultural Center includes pavilions, restrooms, off-street parking, covered post office boxes and more. And, the newly proposed site plan was published in the 2020 March Newsletter.

That concludes the OLCA BOD and Committee reports, New Business and Old Business.

Final Announcement:

The following announcement was published in the Hawaii Tribune Herald on Saturday April 18 and Sunday April 19, 2020. And will remain on the HTH online page for the entire week from Saturday April 18 to April 25th. In addition, it is posted on the OLCA website:

“Due to the current covid-19 quarantine, the Orchidland Community Association (OLCA) Semi-Annual Membership meeting scheduled for April 25, 2020 is cancelled. Ballots sent with the OLCA March Newsletter will need to be mailed to address on the back of the ballot on or before April 25th.”

Please remind your OLCA friends and neighbors to send their ballots in before the Saturday April 25th deadline.

That concludes the OLCA BOD meeting for April 12, 2020, motion to adjourn, call to vote, 8 in favor -- the time is 7:48pm.

Submitted by:

Frederic Wirick, Secretary

Date