



Minutes for September 15, 2017

In Attendance:

Jessica Yeh	Hawaii County Corporation Counsel
Springer Kay	BIISC
Franny Brewer	BIISC
Maria Tirone	Realtor – Koa Realty
Rose Bautista	Exec. Assistant Mayor’s Office
Cas Vanderwoude	HAL
Judge David Wiseman	Community member – Ret.
Tanya Power	West Hawaii Assoc. of Realtors
Paul Strauss	HDOH
Carolyn Dillon	Founder

Announcements:

Little Fire Ant HUI is coming to Hilo! Our next regularly scheduled meeting **Friday, October 13th, 10:30-12:00p** will convene at the County Building – Puna conference room.

Beginning 2018 we’ll rotate east and west sides with meetings to be held 10:30-12:00pm as follows:

<u>KONA</u>	<u>HILO</u>
Jan 12	Feb 9
Mar 9	Apr 13
May 11	June 8
July 13	Aug 10
Sept 14	Oct 12
Nov 9	



LFA HUI covered a lot of ground today and enjoyed good synergy. It seemed that for every topic and question raised the right answer, resource or contact was at hand.

Realtors' participation has been highly anticipated as they are an important component of our HUI with the many resources, valued perspectives and connections they bring to bear on the LFA crisis.

Tanya gave an overview of the separate entities that make up the realtor industry. Hawaii Association of Realtors is the state organization. There are also two county associations, one representing each side of the Big Island: West Hawaii Association of Realtors and Hawaii Island Realtors respectively.

Regarding disclosure forms, the state association has its own line-item form for Sellers to complete. This is open to review once every two years. At the county level, each brokerage has their own general disclosure form to provide Buyers. None of these forms currently provide explanatory language or a dedicated line for LFA. The Buyer form is open for changes at any time so a dedicated paragraph could be readily included. Each brokerage will receive this suggestion, disseminated through their respective Association, to include LFA verbiage. It is hoped they will each independently volunteer to amend their form. The state form will need to wait until the next open period.

Jessica Yeh of Corporation Counsel joined us by speaker phone to update us on Act 182 - county access to remediate invasives on private land. She reported she reached out to the other counties to learn what they are doing to implement. Within Hawaii county she contacted existing departments to study which one might best administer this Act, or whether a new task force might need to be created.

In reference to these derelict properties, David spoke of the untapped citizen involvement due to lack of awareness or appreciation of the threat. To that end, the focus and priority for LFA HUI continues to be outreach, risk communication and education.



In continuation of our initiatives to expand resources to homeowners, on September 7th HAL provided LFA training for Pest Control Operators (PCO's). Nearly half of the PCO's on-island attended (7:15). The response was very positive. We plan to provide more PCO workshops periodically in future. Article below:

<http://westhawaii.com/news/local-news/lines-defense-lfa-education-effort-reaches-out-pest-control-community>

Also, Hawaii Island Landscape Association (HILA) has coordinated an LFA training workshop with BIISC for landscapers and gardeners on September 30th at Palamanui Community College. This builds off earlier success with yard care sessions BIISC provided at the CTAHR extension office.

Spot the Ant month, a statewide LFA public awareness campaign, runs the entire month of October. Governor Ige and Mayor Kim will kick it off by giving proclamations at the beginning of the month. Radio PSA's, TV, flyers and print ads are planned. The coordinated message among all counties is "surveying & early detection."

As part of Spot the Ant month, Little Fire Ant HUI will promote Saturday tent events for on-site LFA identification conducted by BIISC and HAL. Thank you to our sponsors: West Hawaii council members Karen Eoff, Dru Kanuha and Maile David.

A discussion of the free mulch at county green waste sites completed the meeting. Cas shared that Waikoloa and Hilo sites are consistently testing free of LFA. The concern remains whether each and every green waste location on island is regularly tested and to assure they are LFA free. This will be address in more detail at our next meeting.

As always, mahalo for your support. We wouldn't be a HUI without you!



Spot the Ant Stop the Ant