



## Southern Guam Soil and Water Conservation District

671-735-2014

[www.conservaionguam.org](http://www.conservaionguam.org)

[southernguamswcd@gmail.com](mailto:southernguamswcd@gmail.com)

303 UOG CNAS University Drive, Mangilao, Guam 96923

[@southernguamconservation](#)

Southern Soil and Water Conservation District  
Bi-Monthly Partner Meeting  
Wednesday, January 21, 2026 4:00 PM  
University of Guam, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Building, Rm 104

### MEETING MINUTES

#### I. Call to Order & Roll Call

- The meeting was called to order at 4:05 PM.
- District Director Yvonne Manglona-Juaneza conducted a roll call, confirming a quorum.

#### Board of Directors:

- Chairperson: Michael Aguon - Present
- Vice Chairperson: Glenn Takai - Present
- District Director: Glenn Dulla - Absent
- District Director: Martha Tenorio - Present
- District Director: Yvonne Manglona-Juaneza - Present

#### Staff Present:

- District Administrator: Erica Alvarez (EA) - Present (online)
- Conservation Planner: Madeline Flores - Present
- Project Director: Geraldine Datuin - Present
- Conservation Associate: Jonathan Borja - Present
- Conservation Associate: Daeline Pangelinan - Present
- Resource Technician: Kenneth Aguon

#### Also Present:

- USDA NRCS: Jay Doronila
- UOG Drone Corp: Jonelle Sayama
- UOG Drone Corp: Andrea Velasquez
- UOG Technical Advisor: Mark Acosta
- The Guam Daily Post: Jonah Benavente
- Northern Guam SWCD: Savannah Garcia
- UOG Communications/REPI: Jonathan Borja
- USDA APHIS Wildlife Services: Nathan Flores
- Guam Department of Agriculture: Amber Powers
- USDA APHIS Wildlife Services: Chad Richardson
- UOG Extension/District Member: Dr. Robert Bevacqua
- Guam Environmental Protection Agency: Margaret Aguilar
- Guam Bureau of Statistics and Plans/GCMP: James Pangelinan

## II. Acceptance of Meeting Agenda

### III. Approval of Minutes — (11/19/2025)

- Director Martha T. motioned to accept the meeting minutes from the November 19, 2025 meeting as presented, subject to corrections. The motion carried.

### IV. Welcoming Remarks & District Updates — Chairperson Michael Aguon delivered the welcoming remarks on the district's conservation mission, stressing collaboration and accountability. He thanked partners and local producers for their continued support and attendance. District Administrator EA provided the district updates as follows:

- District Operations - EA acknowledged the district's strong partnerships and ongoing efforts in operations, education and outreach, and national representation. The team has grown from (5) to (9) staff members, including new hires: Kenneth Aguon (Resource Technician), John Borja (Communications Specialist), and Jonelle Sayama (UOG Drone Corp, GIS Specialist). The district will also onboard its first student interns in coordination with the University of Guam and Research Corporation of the University of Guam.
- NACD 80th Annual Meeting - San Antonio, Texas: SG-SWCD will attend the National Association of Conservation Districts Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas. Chairman Aguon will serve as a Pacific Region Executive Board representative, and Vice-Chair Takai as Guam's voting delegate. Two resolutions have been submitted. Meetings are scheduled with USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service leadership and the United States Department of Defense to discuss REPI successes and Guam's conservation priorities. The district will participate in breakout sessions focusing on Feral Swine Perimeter Fencing and Stewardship and Education efforts. Guam will participate in the NACD Poster Contest. Savannah G. from Northern Guam SWCD will attend the NCPP training for Conservation Planner certification. The district will host two outreach booths and promote pre-registration for the upcoming PAC/SW Regional Meeting in Guam (August 24-28, 2026).
- Feral Swine Program Updates: The Feral Swine Perimeter Fencing Program is entering the fence design and contracting phase. Appreciation was extended to Project Director Gera for her efforts. The feasibility study utilizing Pig Brig traps remains ongoing, overseen by Vice-Chair Takai and Ken Aguon. The district has contributed funds to USDA APHIS Wildlife Services to continue trapping efforts for district members.
- Upcoming events include Stewardship Week (April 26 - May 3, 2026), the 2nd Annual Guam Educators Conservation Summit (April 20-24, 2026) in coordination with UOG CIS, and upcoming WSARE partner workshops in collaboration with Mark Acosta and Joe Tuquero.

## V. Partner Reports

### A. USDA APHIS Wildlife Services, Chad Richardson

Chad Richardson reported that signatures are pending for the two-year DOAG grant to support feral dog and feral swine management. Following the two-year period, responsibility for feral dog management will be transitioned. Program capacity is expanding, with Nate Flores assisting with trapping operations across both Northern and Southern Guam. As of 2026, trapping totals include (160) pigs in the South and approximately (220) pigs in the North. The program is working toward exceeding last fiscal year's trapping record.

### B. UOG Cooperative Extension/District Member, Dr. Robert Bevacqua

Dr. Robert Bevacqua reported that he is retired but continues teaching classes at the University of Guam. He acknowledged and expressed appreciation for the Southern District's assistance, as well as for the contributions and work of Mark Acosta.

### C. USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service, Jay Doronila

Jay Doronila reported the first round of EQIP and CSP concluded on January 15, 2026. A total of (24) EQIP applications were received, with (13) from the south and (11) from the north. Additionally, (11) CSP applications were submitted, including (6) from the south and (5) from the north. He also noted the Farmer Regenerative Pilot Program as an additional funding tool offered alongside the signup period. Contracts must include required conservation practices such as crop rotation, contour farming, cover crops, and other applicable measures.

### D. Guam Bureau of Statistics and Planning/GCMP, James Pangelinan

James Pangelina shared the Guam Forest System Plan remains in progress, with the Guam DOAG Forestry and Soil Resources Division (FSRD) drafting rules, regulations, and protocols. FSRD is holding working sessions to re-engage the CHamoru Land Trust Commission and obtain its input, which is necessary to move forward with the Guam Forest System Plan and Habitat Conservation Plan. He also noted that flood warning signs were installed on January 12, 2026, in Merizo, Santa-Rita, Chalan Pago-Ordot, Asan-Maina, and Barrigada in known flood-prone areas in coordination with village mayors. Installations in Hågat and another village are pending, awaiting remaining signs from vendor. Director Yvonne M.J. suggested that the district monitors the progress of the plan.

### E. Guam Environmental Protection Agency, Margaret Aguilar

Margaret Aguilar reported that Guam EPA conducts bi-annual water quality assessment to identify waterbodies that do not meet standards, including bacteria impairments, and is requesting partners to share relevant water quality data. GEPA is updating their website on local water quality standards, including toxic chemical regulations. A watershed management plan developed by a NOAA contractor was approved by the committee, and Guam BSP secured a \$225,000 grant to implement stormwater management practices in southern Guam, focusing near Merizo Pier. Work continues in the Piti-Asan watershed, where coral mortality was observed in July 2025, and (50) bags of trash were removed from the Taguag River.

**F. Guam Department of Agriculture, Amber Powers**

Amber Powers reported that the Guam DOAG is managing a cooperative agreement with the USDA APHIS WS. The department also received a one-year, \$2.2 million Resilient Food Infrastructure grant to support Guam producers and increase local production. Updated hours were announced: Animal Health Cashier (8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) and Plant Nursery (9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., Monday-Thursday). Approximately (10) new Conservation Officers are expected to complete on-the-job training by March, increasing staffing from (4) to (14) officers. A forestry Community Grant is available for tree planting.

Comment: Chairman Aguon noted discussing with Guam DOAG the possibility of patrolling local farmlands to address poaching and related issues.

**G. UOG Drone Corps/SG-SWCD, Jonelle Sayama**

Jonelle Sayama GIS Specialist with SG-SWCD, is working on developing templates for the district and utilizing orthomosaic mapping.

**VI. Announcements**

- Next Bi-Monthly Partner Meeting: March 11, 2026

**VII. Adjournment**

- The meeting was adjourned at 5:18 PM.

Minutes Prepared By:  
Daeline Pangelinan, Conservation Associate

Approved By:

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Yvonne Manglona-Juaneza  
Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Michael E.D. Aguon  
Chairperson

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date