

**Fern Acres Community Association Board of Directors  
Meeting Minutes November 15, 2025**

**Members Present:**, JR Paikuli, Mark Laret, Roy Kalili, Rick Kaluli, Hank Schultz, Patti Pinto, Cristi Fields, Joe Utt, Claudia Zioli.

**Members Absent:**, , Motion to approve Hank and Mark’s absence. Cristi seconds. All in favor, Passed.

**Visitors:** Patti Goodwin,

**CTO:** 9:00am

**Minutes:** Proposed for acceptance by Patti, Joe seconds. All in favor, Passed.

**President’s Report:** Welcomes visitors to the meeting.

Many visitors are present.

Laila, representing Resident’s Advisory Committee- re: road fee increase (MRMA), Emergency Response Plan contact network, Camera purchase. Voting upon the increase while Road chair was not present in October, Sites wording of the Bill 38 requirements, etc

Benjamin: add a key code in the back gate for access into Hawaiian Acres, He was invited to attend the next road meeting.

Patti moves that all above topics be discussed today. Roy seconds. All I favor, Passed.

**Treasurer’s Report:** presents the financial report for October as follows:

BoH MRMA Checking 7997	412,061.91
BoH FACA Checking 7989	47,265.58
BoH MRMA MM 0798	

Is there a way to know who has paid MRMA? Yes, but no personal info.

Benjamin mentions a discrepancy in expenditure in September to October- May be personnel related?

Joe asks that the request be submitted to him to investigate.

Hank approved....Roy seconded. All in favor, Passed.

**Road Committee:** Met last Wednesday. RE: The Anthurium gate. ‘James’ has asked about making gate access to Hawaiian Acres- He is willing to support financially a key coded lock.. He is willing to be “The Gate Master” in case of fire or emergency... JR responds that he is an Hawaiian Acres resident, whose Mom lives at pole 38 Plumeria. He also sends his kids through the gate to catch the bus.

JR asks if the kids can safely pass around the gate safely to catch their bus. Roy took them to the gate to show them that there is a clear path. JR asks about land/property on either side of the gate. He responds about the situation... JR: If we open it up, what do we gain? Access for the subdivisions, much additional traffic and crime on our roads.

Brian, as Fire Captain is in favor of the gate being opened. NOT in favor of a private citizen- let alone a Hawaiian Acres resident in charge.

JR asks Hank for the historic background on the gate issue.. He responds.. Hawaiian Acres have not been good neighbors over the years, have refused to improve Road 1, and want to have access to Plumeria- rather than improve their roads. James Madrigal has repeatedly vandalized the gate, has threatened the

road crew and Board members in the past. Basically, disrespect for our speed limits, safety and maintenance has required the access be closed.

Brian responds that the joint responders of FA and HA would really like to have access to fires.

Benjamin- How long would it take to clear the gate at this time? Roy can get there in 15 minutes and start clearing.. Roy suggests that we assist them with a grant? Patti is doing that right now. The gate needs to be repaired again- As long as Road 1, G road, etc.. are in the condition they are- it isn't a viable option for emergency exit.

Visitor agrees that the reduced traffic has been noticed, but they support emergency access through the gate.

JR says the basic issue here is Hawaiian Acres are not good neighbors- it isn't our responsibility to maintain roads for them. Why are we not providing emergency exit at Anthurium? THAT should be our argument..

Benjamin supports Brian's opinion. Hank states that the original purpose of the gate was to provide emergency access to responders. However, vandals have repeatedly destroyed- at FACA cost. Patti states that we have had many iterations of gates- the Madrigals have repeatedly destroyed any efforts we have made.

Why not have county take it on?

Roy suggests that we allow James to watch the gate- but not control. Has to be discussed. 'Trust the process' let us work through the issues. Road Com will continue to work on the issues.. He'd like to build bridges with him and try to diffuse his aggression towards us.

- Bill 187 to use allocated funds for subdivisions with substandard roads. Patti reports that she has been working with Matt. HA has to work on some legal easement issues before that can happen.

Joe makes a motion that we table this discussion to be referred to Committee. Hank seconds. All in favor, Passed.

Roy addresses the proposed budget for 2026 he emailed out to the Board this past week. There are a few line items that were not used this past year.. Patti points out that we need that extra money in case that contingencies can be covered. Patty G. suggests that we add a line item to cover costs of auditing every five years.. Roy responds that is a large item. Needs to go to the community at large. Hank responds that we already have a line item which will carry over our Legal and professional fees..

Patti moves that we accept the proposed road budget. Joe seconds. All in favor, passed.

Roy has issues about the voting on road fees when he was not present at the October meeting. He asks that we have two people who voted 'YES' on the increase- JR wants to open this for discussion first.

Hank reminds us we have just voted to approve the proposed budget for 2026. It is set. We would need to revisit this budget as presented if we make changes.

JR gives a brief synopsis of Bill 38. Despite the misinformation that is going out on Facebook- he'd like to clarify some of the points brought up to the Board.

1. Inflation- Fees have not been raised since 2021.
2. We need to bring our road fees up to parity- in order to keep up with cost increases.
3. The stated increase on FB was not \$250.00- it was \$230.00.

Laila says why are we raising road fees against this bill rather than by examining the needed budget proposal increases... Benjamin feels like the greater community wasn't included in this decision- can there be more inclusion in how the money is spent, mowing, improvements etc?

JR responds that we have already discussed how to be more inclusive in the future.

Visitor states that we already have sufficient roads for our neighborhood, and a budget to cover our current maintenance levels..

Another visitor asks about “How are we going to get their money back.” First, primary TMK, with the exemption, and you pay MRMA. County will take the amount off your County taxes for the following year.

Visitor becomes very irate- want to know why we have to raise the yearly fee? -To justify getting the rebate?

[more discussion and comments from the community- much is re-stating points made previously...]

Roy explains how much paving is being done each year- it isn't true that we are paving less and less each year. If you do the square footage math- we are still paving our roads at the rates we can pay for.

Roy continues to try to keep as much road repair going... Communication: Any resident who wants to step up and help with our FB pages, getting signs up etc.. Please do!

Why isn't there more transparency... We need signs up in advance when big changes are coming up.

Brian comments that if we can get more asphalt paving, isn't that a good thing?

Laila responds she's been trying to get more communication out there.. She is saying that what they are asking is, Where is the justification to increase the road fees without more community knowledge and input? Where is the budgetary information to justify the increase?

Patty G. asks Roy if he agrees with this increase? Roy, 'No'. Will you revise the budget? What do we do with any increase? WE PAVE ROADS.

Bill 38 came about after decades of trying to get County assistance to pave some of our roads- 'Non-Conforming Subdivisions'. Finally, the County is recognizing the issue- and with Bill 38 this is the first step. Additionally Bill 187 will eventually support road paving.

Patty G. suggests that we comply with all Bylaw policies. But, can we look at the increase next year?

[Heated comments and discussion- transparency- Board meetings are the second Saturday each month at 9:00 for the past 30+ years. We welcome attendance anytime! Secretary of Resident's Advisory Committee has offered to take minutes] Visitor suggests that a sign should go up at the front to announce upcoming meeting. Communication is the primary issue here today.

[Heated Comments – verbal altercation...] JR brings us back to the meeting.

Patty G. Asks who files this request for tax refund? Joe responds that it will come from a compilation of MRMA dues paid- submitted to County Tax collector- reported at the end of our fiscal year and will be exempted in 2027.

Hank makes a motion that we revisit the Road fee increase of \$20.00 per year-effective in 2026. Joe seconds.

Roy asks, Does it have to be \$20.00? (9%) Can't it be less? Patti responds. Joe comments that if we went the full 15% it would be a large increase all at once... We looked at a lesser increase with an additional increase in the next calendar year? How about a 7% increase this year? Roy thinks they don't need to raise them -except to benefit from the property tax refund? Patti responds that we should add small increments each year, increasing road work by the additional budget each year. Roy responds that he's concerned about the cost effect on those who can't afford it.. How about \$5.00 per year?

JR states that with \$20.00, it amounts to \$4.00 per year, Joe answers that Social Security will add a 2.5% increase which will add 50+. How much have costs gone up this past year?

Roy says 20,000.00 increase in costs from last year to this.

Roy asks for a \$5.00 increase.

**Safety/Fire Department:** The 2400 acre brush fire on Mana road is pau.

**HUB:** Claudia reports that we've been really busy with the Aloha in Action Emergency Food Distribution the past two Wednesdays.. One more this coming Wednesday.

**Fundraising and Events:** Aloha in Action this coming Wednesday. Food Basket will come in Thursday.

**Nominating Committee:** No meeting..

**Audit Committee: Audit Committee is scheduled to meet December 12 at 4:00pm.** Laila would like to participate in the review, Benjamin asks why only MRMA gets audited and not FACA. It is required by our Bylaws that the MRMA accounts be audited every five years by a professional auditor. No, the information is not available to the public- but the spreadsheet information is available. JR asks if this process could be done by the community? Patty G says that she thinks we can. Patti replies that the books were in disorder when Maria began (Our current bookkeeper) took on the job- Books are currently in order. Patti explains to the group our accounting past – our current financial is accurate from the reset point of the audit. Cristi asks if a licensed bookkeeper in the community be able to help with the community review process? Can we talk about it again in January to discuss the issue? Patti says we can do that; look at all the ramifications for making changes- ie: Access to personal information, Bylaws requirement.. Benjamin has more inquiries regarding ongoing audit intervals? Patti answers that question.. Hank says that a certified accountant is required to keep personal information quite- residents are not. Roy responds- Better to have an external professional who will not disclose information. Patti says, she had assisted with the 990 2 years ago- she doesn't see what the privacy issues are that we are saying. Roy responds re: issue, Patti does too- clarifying adjustments basically being line item changes- not road fee related or accounting errors.

JR asks if people here are interested in changing the Bylaws to allow resident audits?

Cristi asks if we can discuss this again in January re: changing our audit/ review

Patti suggests that we can meet again in January to review policy, Bylaw requirements etc ., and decide how to go forward.

Roy moves that we bring this up for discussion to work on Bylaws in January. Hank seconds.

**Policy Committee:** Patti reports that they will bring an update to the January meeting.

**Internet Committee:**

**FANW:** Cristi reports that the police managed to capture a car thief who ran into the bushes.. Recovered a large amount of meth and a stolen car. No Neighborhood Watch meeting this month.

**CERT:** Cert met the second Saturday, We had a brief meeting, then proceeded to work a table top exercise.

**Old Business:** Laila comments on our communication plan and how best we can reach people in case of emergency? Patti suggests that we put a flyer in the Food Basket this coming Thursday. Laila will get it to Joe.

Laila will purchase a video camera and turn in the receipt to the office. We need a Zoom or Google workspace in order to get it all set up. Laila needs to work with a Board member to get this set up... Joe comments about process...

**New Business:**

**Member's Report:** Roy says we are open for clean green waste. Stop in at the office to let them see what is being dropped... Roy hopes to grind in the next few weeks. Patti is working with BIISC to have someone to come in in January to do a presentation on Himalayan Raspberry. Benjamin reiterates - communication..

**Adjourn:** Roy moves to call the meeting to adjourn. Joe seconds Adjourned 11:16am.