

# Department of the East Maui Water Authority

Maui County Council

Water, Social Service, and Parks Committee

March 9, 2026

# FY2026 Department Operations

*First year of  
full operations*

Building capacity and foundation

Creating positions and hiring employees

Robust community engagement

Strategic and operational planning

Development of incoming and outgoing grant programs

**FY2026  
Total  
Department  
Funding**

***Newest &  
Smallest  
Department***

**Total Department Budget**

**\$1,265,537**

**A Account: Salaries & Wages**

**\$464,840**

**B Account: Operations**

**\$752,550**

**C Account: Machinery & Equipment**

**\$48,147**

# A Account

# Department Personnel

East Maui Water Authority  
8 positions, 9 employees

‘Oiwi Resources 14 positions

Department of Transportation 15 positions

Department of Agriculture 16.5 positions

# A Account: Salaries and Wages

## 8 Staff Positions and 9 Employees

---

Director

---

Department and Board Secretary

---

Grant Coordinator

---

2 Information & Education Specialists (half-time positions)

---

Planner II

---

Water Resource Specialist: in recruitment

---

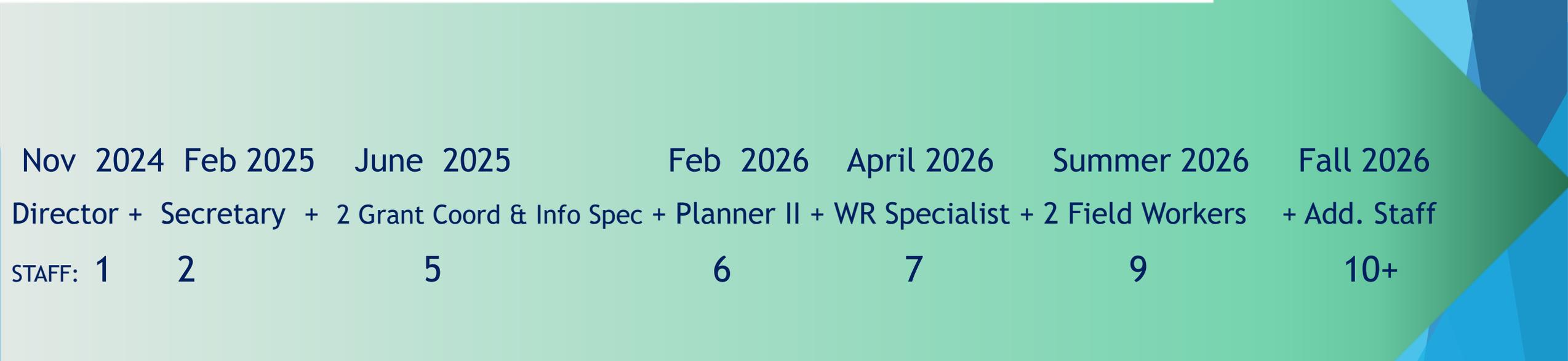
Field Supervisor - position being developed

---

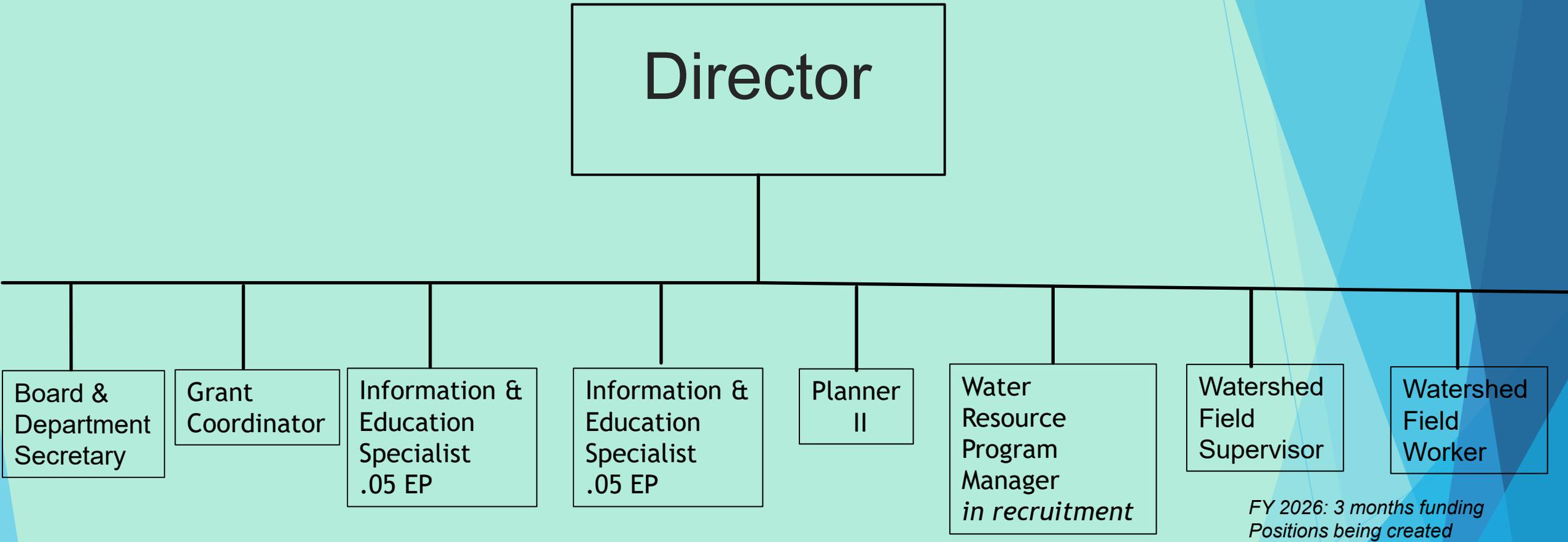
Field Worker - positions being developed

# Staffing

6 filled, 1 in recruitment, 2 being created



|            |             |                             |              |                 |                 |              |
|------------|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Nov 2024   | Feb 2025    | June 2025                   | Feb 2026     | April 2026      | Summer 2026     | Fall 2026    |
| Director + | Secretary + | 2 Grant Coord & Info Spec + | Planner II + | WR Specialist + | 2 Field Workers | + Add. Staff |
| STAFF: 1   | 2           | 5                           | 6            | 7               | 9               | 10+          |



*FY 2026: 3 months funding  
Positions being created*

9 Direct Reports

# Department Activity Mapping:

- identifies activities being done and needed
- identifies who is responsible and accountable
- Sets timelines
- identifies capacity and gaps

| EMWA Department Administration     |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Budget</b>                      |   |
|                                    | Salaries and OT   |
|                                    | Professional Services   |
| <b>Administrative work</b>         |   |
| 1. Travel                          | Guidelines<br>Conferences   |
| 2. Dept. Equipment                 |   |
| 3. Dept Personnel Officer          |   |
| 4. Creating, recruiting and hiring | (Field workers, Admin Officer)  |
| 5. Office renovations              |   |
| <b>Dept Reports</b>                |   |
| 1. Annual County Dep               | due 3 <sup>rd</sup> week in Sept  |
| 2. Quarterly report Budget metrics |   |
| 3. Quarterly program reports       | -Communications<br>-Grant program<br>-Watershed planning                  |
| <b>Technology</b>                  |   |
|                                    | Monkeypod   |
|                                    | Otter   |
| <b>Workday</b>                     |   |
|                                    | Pay period approval   |
|                                    | Position creation steps   |
| <b>Board Support</b>               |   |
| Monthly agenda                     | Gina, Chair VC agenda items to Cory<br>Monthly agenda to 'Owi and posting |
|                                    | Minutes   |
|                                    | Monthly Director's report   |
| Annual Financial Disclosures       |   |
| Annual Director Evaluation         |   |

| EMWA Department Plans                                     |  |
|---|--|
| 1 Dept Needs Assessment and water system operational plan | Go through awards process with Stantec<br>Execute contract   |
| 2 HCF Grant planning and executing                        | Update to HCF<br>Scope of services<br>Contract<br>Coordinate with larger watershed plan  |
| 3 Watershed Plan  | Prof servos options<br>Figure out budget<br>Writing a Scope  |
| 4 EMWA Strategic + Operational Plan                       | See draft plan from community engagement<br>Prof servos options<br>budget<br>Scope of services<br>Timeline – encumber funds in this budget |
| <b>Watershed Stewardship Planning</b>                     |  |
| 1 Dept plan (see above)                                   |  |
| 2 Base yard   | (lease, DLHR approval, identifying what's needed [pool/pallets])   |
| 3 Equipment   |  |
| 4 Grant funding   |  |
| <b>Community-Guided operation</b>                         |  |
| 1 Engagement  | Budget metrics, Comms Plan   |
| 2 Communications  | Draft Communications Plan<br>?youtube with no comments   |
| 3 Education   | Dept Library,<br>Kumu Pono Report, other programs to facilitate<br>knowledge transfer  |
| <b>Grant Program</b>                                      |  |
| Outgoing  |  |
| Incoming  |  |

## Mapping Identified Budget Inefficiencies

A Account  
Premium Pay:  
Overtime & CTO

B Account  
Professional  
Services

Overtime Pay, CTO & Professional Services reflects:

- Board management duties
- Department administrative duties

- Communications & community engagement

# B Account: Operations

Materials & Supplies  
Office supplies and small equipment

Services: printing, utilities and professional

Utilities: cell phone and electric

Travel

Other costs: office lease and  
grant program

# B Account Professional Services

**\$347,950 in funding**

Funding for department's strategic plan, special counsel with expertise in utility contracts, state executive orders and leases, public private partnerships, or other matters relating to water systems or long-term water rights.

- Strategic Planning community engagement work done internally, with pro bono assistance and some professional services
- Needs Assessment and Operational Plan in contracting

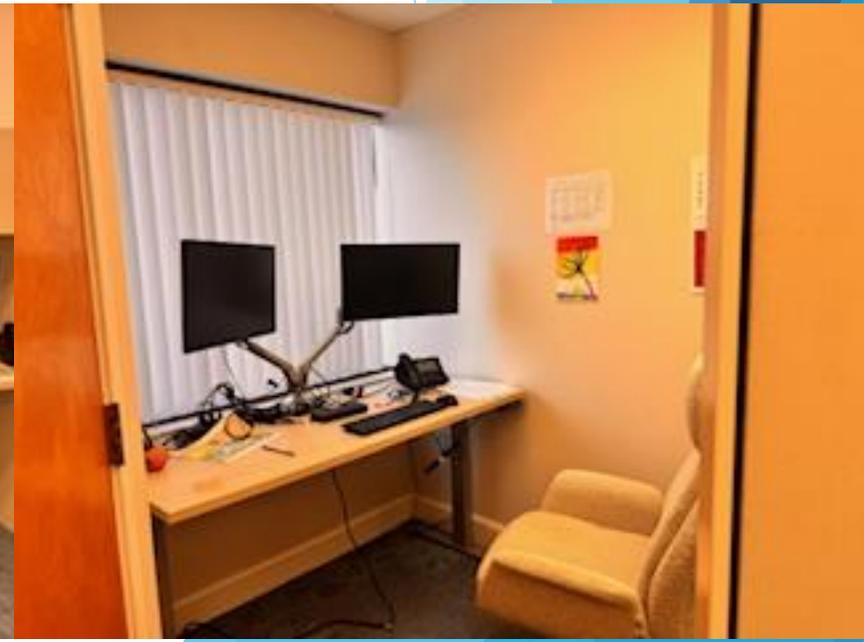
# B Account Professional Services Watershed Planning

**\$175,000 in funding**

- Community and stakeholder engagement - completed
- Stakeholder facilitation - in contracting
- Watershed plan scope development and research on types of plans
- Kumu Pono Report update

# C Account: Equipment

office equipment, furniture, work  
stations and copier lease



# Incoming Grants Program



Hawai'i Community Foundation  
Fresh Water Fund: \$40,000  
Watershed planning



Public Finance Initiative  
Extensive pro bono services  
Small and Rural Cities program  
and their Robert Wood Johnson  
impact investing program

# EMWA Outgoing Grant Program

\$75,000 to 5 grantees  
practicing Community  
Water Source Stewardship  
in Haiku/Ho'olawa,  
Honomanū, Huelo,  
Ke'anae/Wailua Nui.



# FY26 EMWA Grant Program Areas

Community-led ahupua'a and 'auwai restoration

Food sovereignty and cultural continuity

Place-based youth and community education

Community intergenerational story sharing - strengthening connections between people, place and water

Integrated cultural and scientific observation and monitoring

# FY26 EMWA Grantees

East Maui Farm (\$20,000)  
Honomanū Lo'i Restoration

Nā Moku Aupuni 'O Ko'olau Hui (\$20,000)  
Lo'i and 'Auwai Restoration Project

Friends of Twin Falls (\$19,000) Kupu Wai o Ho'olawa  
Youth and community place-based learning, water testing and mapping.

Okada Design (\$8,000) Mizu-Wai Story Weaving Kit  
Community historical and family sharing with lauhala weaving

Kahu 'Āina: Earth Guardian Network (\$8,000) 'Ōhi'a Lehua Waihonua  
Outdoor keiki education and intergenerational, biocultural stream stewardship



**QUESTIONS?**