Agricultural Advisory Board

MINUTES
December 10, 2012
Stanislaus Farm Bureau
1201 L Street, Modesto, CA
10:00 a.m.

Board Members Present:
Sherman Boone   Tracy Miller
Carlos Estacio III  Tom Orvis
John Herlihy   Ed Perry
Arby Hoobyar   Wayne Zipser

Board Members Absent:
Roger Duncan
Lisa Funk

Ex-Officio Board Members:
Supervisor Jim DeMartini – Present   Diana Waller, USDA-NRCS - Absent
Supervisor Vito Chiesa (Alternate) – Present   Jami Aggers, DER & Parks - Present
Gary Caseri, Ag Commissioner – Present

Others Present:
Lisa Alamo, USDA-NRCS   Stacy Henderson, Law Office-Thomas Terpstra
Susan Azevedo, Ag Commissioner’s Office   Debbie Liebersbach, TID
Keith Boggs, County CEO   Mark Loeser, County CEO
Jack Bond, City of Modesto   Raul Mendez, County CEO
Tom Boze, County Counsel   Milton O’Haire, Ag. Commissioner’s Office
Michael Cooke, City of Turlock   Tim Pelican, Ag. Commissioner’s Office
Horacio Ferriz, DER   Judy Sly, Modesto Bee
Anthea Hansen, Del Puerto Water   Terry Withrow

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There was no public comment.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE August 27, 2012 MEETING

It was M/S/P (unanimous), to approve the August 27, 2012 minutes.

IV. GROUNDWATER ORDINANCE UPDATE
Stanislaus County Ag Commissioner Gary Caseri stated a small water stakeholder working group would be formed to work on the ordinance. Staff is in the process of securing a facilitator to oversee the meetings. The banking component would be taken out of the draft and the working group would review two components: the base groundwater ordinance and surface elements. A Groundwater/Surface Water Ordinance Development Outreach Timeline draft was provided during the meeting:

December 2012-March 2013
- Water Stakeholder working group meetings
- Facilitated
- Clear objectives and end point

March 2013 - April 2013
- Info Share
- Water Summit Participants
- Share with City Managers

May 2013 – July 2013
- Share with Ag Advisory Board for final comment
- Recommendation to County Board of Supervisors (BOS)

July 2013
- Draft BOS Agenda Item
- Final BOS briefings
- Present Ordinance to County Board of Supervisors

Key individuals from irrigation districts, city managers and County staff would make up the small workgroup. Stakeholders would be identified and contacted in the next couple of weeks.

V. WALNUT THEFT ORDINANCE

Tim Pelican, Stanislaus County Deputy Agricultural Commissioner provided information on walnut theft in Stanislaus County and the possibility of having a walnut theft ordinance in place. After looking at other counties’ ordinances, Butte County’s ordinance might be best suited for Stanislaus. It is less restrictive and deals directly with what is required to provide proof of ownership and the record keeping requirements of the buyers. Commissioner Caseri stated that his department would talk to industry and determine how to move forward with the issue.

VI. NEXT MEETING

A. Meeting Date/Time:

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 7, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. at the Stanislaus County Ag Center, Conference Room H/I.

B. Agenda Items

- Confirmation of the water stakeholder facilitator and group members.

Please contact Gary Caseri or Susan Azevedo with items you wish placed on the agenda.
VII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Orvis adjourned the meeting.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Azevedo
Ag Commissioner’s Office
Stanislaus County