Agricultural Advisory Board

MINUTES
April 7, 2014
Stanislaus County Agricultural Center
Conference Room H/I
8:00 a.m.

Board Members Present:
Sherman Boone  Arby Hoobyar  Ed Perry
Roger Duncan  Jim Mortensen  Wayne Zipser
John Herlihy  Tom Orvis

Board Members Absent:
Carlos Estacio III
Tracy Miller
Pamela Sweeten

Ex-Officio Board Members:
Supervisor Jim DeMartini – Present
Jami Aggers, DER & Parks - Present
Milton O’Haire, Ag Commissioner – Present
Diana Waller, USDA-NRCS – Absent

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
There was no public comment.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 3, 2014 MEETING
It was M/S/P (unanimous), to approve the March 3, 2014 minutes.

IV. WESTERN US IRRIGATION WATER CONFERENCE
Melissa Partyka, Research Analyst from UC Davis Western Center for Food Safety (WCFS), provided information regarding a conference the WCFS is hosting April 24th-25th. The Western US Irrigation Water Conference is aimed at identifying impediments to the adoption of the irrigation water quality criteria in the Produce Safety Rule section of FSMA. She extended an invitation to the board members and their constituents to attend the conference to voice any concerns or opinions regarding this topic.
V. STANISLAUS COUNTY GROWN PRESENTATION
Trina Walley from the East Stanislaus Resource Conservation District provided information on their Stanislaus County Grown project which aims to promote local agricultural products and the heritage of Stanislaus County by developing a cohesive and recognizable local brand supported with a marketing and education campaign. It will respond to the need for more direct-to-consumer opportunities, especially within the food deserts of Stanislaus County. A copy of her presentation materials will be available on the Agricultural Advisory Board website: http://www.stanag.org/ag-advisory-board.shtm.

VI. WALNUT ORDINANCE
Sherman Boone provided an update from the walnut ordinance subcommittee which held their first meeting on March 21, 2014 and was comprised of representatives from the walnut industry, the Ag Advisory Board and various County departments which include the Agricultural Commissioner, Planning, Environmental Resources, County Counsel and the Sheriff’s Department. The subcommittee is expected to present a draft ordinance at the next Ag Advisory Board monthly meeting.

VII. ROUNDTABLE
Attendees provided comments, updates on programs, and upcoming events and activities in their respective organizations.

VII. NEXT MEETING
A. Meeting Date/Time:

   The next scheduled meeting is Monday, May 5, 2014, at 8:00 a.m. at the Stanislaus County Ag Center, Conference Room H/I

B. Agenda Items

   ✓ None

Please contact Milton O’Haire or Susan Azevedo with items you wish placed on the agenda.

IX. ADJOURNMENT
Chairman Tom Orvis adjourned the meeting.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Azevedo
Ag Commissioner’s Office
Stanislaus County