Agricultural Advisory Board

MINUTES
June 1, 2015
Stanislaus County Agricultural Center
3800 Cornucopia Way, Modesto
Conference Room H/I
8:00 a.m.

Board Members Present:
Roger Duncan        Jim Mortensen        Wayne Zipser
Carlos Estacio III  Tom Orvis           
Gordon Heinrich     Ed Perry             
Arby Hoobyar        Stan Sinclair        

Board Members Absent:
Sherman Boone
Pamela Sweeten

Ex-Officio Board Members:
Jami Aggers, Environmental Resources - Absent     Milton O’Haire, Ag Commissioner – Present
Jim De Martini, Board of Supervisors - Present    Diana Waller, USDA/NRCS - Absent

I.  CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m.

II.  PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

III.  PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
There were no public comments made.

IV.  APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MAY 4, 2015 MEETING
It was M/S/P (unanimous), to approve the May 4, 2015 minutes.

V.  NOMINATING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS
Ed Perry spoke on behalf of the nominating committee which was also comprised of Arby Hoobyar and Jim Mortensen. The committee met on May 4, 2015 to discuss the nominations and presented the following recommendations for nomination: Tom Orvis for the position of Chairman and Pamela Sweeten for the position of Vice-Chair. The floor was then open for additional nominations (none received) and a motion was made to accept the nominations and the vote was taken.
It was M/S/P (unanimous) that Tom Orvis be elected to Chairman of the Agricultural Advisory Board for the term July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

It was M/S/P (unanimous), that Pamela Sweeten be elected as Vice-Chair of the Agricultural Advisory Board for the term July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

VI. GRAZING REGULATORY ACTION PLAN
Theresa Becchetti, Livestock and Natural Resource Advisor with the UC Cooperative Extension, provided a presentation on the Grazing Regulatory Program (GRAP). GRAP is one of several collaborative efforts established by the Water boards to develop regulatory strategies for addressing water quality impacts related to livestock grazing in California. Ms. Becchetti provided information on stakeholders concerns about GRAP (not transparent, based on pre-conceived opinions, questioning the need for GRAP or is it reinventing the wheel). She then discussed two programs that the UC Cooperative Extension is involved in: California’s Rangeland Water Quality Partnership and Water Quality Impairments, Grazing, and California.

A copy of the PowerPoint for this presentation will be included on the County’s webpage at http://www.stanag.org/ag-advisory-board.shtm.

VII. ROUNDTABLE
Attendees provided general 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, August 3, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. at the Stanislaus County Agricultural Center, Conference Room H/I. It was determined, upon common consent, at the June 1, 2015 meeting to cancel the July 6, 2015 meeting.

B. Agenda Items

✓ Possible Topic: Introduction of the New UC Integrated Pest Management Advisor

Please contact Milton O’Haire or Susan Azevedo at (209) 525-4730 with items you wish placed on the agenda.

VI. ADJOURNMENT
Meeting adjourned at 9:17 a.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Azevedo
Office of the Agricultural Commissioner,
Stanislaus County