Stanislaus County Agricultural Advisory Board

MINUTES
June 13, 2016
Stanislaus County Agricultural Center
Conference Room H/I
8:00 a.m.

Board Members Present:
Sherman Boone
Gordon Heinrich
Arby Hoobyar
Jim Mortensen
Stan Sinclair
Tom Orvis
Ed Perry

Board Members Absent:
Roger Duncan
Carlos Estacio III
Pamela Sweeten
Wayne Zipser

Ex-Officio Board Members:
Jami Aggers, Environmental Resources – Present
Milton O’Haire, Agricultural Commissioner – Present
Supervisor Jim DeMartini – Present
Diana Waller, USDA-NRCS – Present

I. CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 8:04 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
There was no public comment.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MAY 2, 2016 MEETING
The minutes of the last meeting were presented by the Chairman. The members were asked to consider the minutes for approval, and the action was taken as follows:

Motion: Gordon Heinrich
Second: Jim Mortensen
Vote: Unanimous
V. CROWS LANDING INDUSTRIAL BUSINESS PARK UPDATE

County staff provided the Board with an overview presentation of the Crows Landing Industrial Business Park project. Project objectives include creation of a regional employment center to address historical unemployment rates, provide living-wage jobs, reduce out of county commute miles and vehicle miles traveled, and provide a concentrated reuse on the County’s west side. The project would also optimize transportation infrastructure, offer large building sites and development flexibility. General land uses include light industrial, business park/professional office, logistics/distribution, public use airport/aviation compatible, public facilities/services, and green space/open space. The project phasing/buildout would be in three (3) phases with a 30-year timeframe. Updated information about this project can be obtained from the Crowsbizpark.biz website.

A copy of the presentation can be found as an attachment to the June 13, 2016 Ag Advisory Board meeting at the following link:


VI. STANISLAUS GENERAL PLAN AND AIRPORT LAND USE COMPATIBILITY PLAN UPDATE

Staff from the Planning Department provided the Board with an overview of an update to the Stanislaus County General Plan. This included updates to the following elements: Land Use, Circulation, Conservation/Open Space, Noise, Safety, and Agricultural. The purpose of the update is to incorporate changes in state law, and changes in local codes, standards and management plans and some minor language and formatting revisions. It also addresses Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan consistency. A handout was provided noting the summary of policy enhancements for each of these elements.

A copy of the handout can be found as an attachment to the June 13, 2016 Ag Advisory Board meeting at the following link:


VII. ROOSTER ORDINANCE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Staff from the Planning Department shared with the Board that they will be exploring an ordinance amendment relating to rooster limits on properties. Over the last few years, the County has received several complaints regarding both the number of roosters on properties, and illegal rooster fighting activities. Earlier in 2016, there was an illegal rooster fighting operation discovered where it was reported that there were over 300 live roosters found with an enclosed fence for fighting, and 50 dead roosters found on the property. The County zoning ordinance, which controls how land can be used, has some limitations on the number of roosters allowed, but the ordinance is limited. Planning will be forming a working group with different agencies to work on an ordinance amendment. The Board asked that county staff keep it updated on the ordinance development.
VIII. 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 2, 2016 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, 2016 – June 30, 2017.

It was M/S/P (unanimous), that Pamela Sweeten be elected as Vice-Chair of the Agricultural Advisory Board for the term July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017.

IX. ROUNDTABLE

Members provided general comments, program updates, and upcoming events and activities in their respective organizations.

X. NEXT MEETING

A. Meeting Date/Time:

During the May 2, 2016 meeting, it was determined, upon common consent, to cancel the July 2016 meeting. The next meeting is set for August 1, 2016, at 8:00 a.m. at the Stanislaus County Agricultural Center, 3800 Cornucopia Way, Modesto, Conference Room H/I.

B. Agenda Items

None

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Orvis adjourned the meeting at 9:34 a.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Azevedo
Ag Commissioner’s Office
Stanislaus County