Agricultural Advisory Board

MINUTES
December 19, 2016
Stanislaus County Farm Bureau
11:30 a.m.

Board Members Present:
Sherman Boone   Tom Orvis, Chairman   Pamela Sweeten, Vice-Chairman
Gordon Heinrich Ed Perry                   Wayne Zipser
Jim Mortensen   Stan Sinclair

Board Members Absent:
Roger Duncan   Arby Hoobyar
Carlos Estacio III   Stan Sinclear

Ex-Officio Board Members:
Jami Aggers, Environmental Resources – Present
Milton O’Haire, Agricultural Commissioner – Present
Supervisor Vito Chiesa (Alternate) – Absent

Others Present:
Patrick Cavanah - Stanislaus County Chief Executive Office
Debbie Wohld – Stanislaus County Agricultural Commissioner’s Office

I. CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 11:34 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
There was no public comment.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 7, 2016 MEETING
The Minutes were unavailable; therefore approval was deferred until the next meeting.

V. AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER – BRIEF UPDATES
Milton O’Haire, Stanislaus County Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer, gave a quick overview regarding two main agricultural issues: Cannabis Cultivation and the proposed regulations regarding Pesticide Use near Schools. He began by discussing Proposition 64 which legalizes marijuana under state law for use by adults 21 years or older. He referenced two agencies that will work closely with the Agricultural Commissioner’s Office: the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA); and the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR). CDFA’s responsibilities will include licensing and regulating growers; tracking production up through the sale;
and weights and measures. DPR’s responsibilities will include regulating pesticide use for growing marijuana; (10) license types; and when established, pesticide tolerances. He noted that the State will set the standards which are still under development. He also included in his presentation the duties of the County Agricultural Commissioner and the changes that could be forthcoming due to the passing of Proposition 64, but also noted that nonmedical marijuana is not yet legal in Stanislaus County. During the second part of his presentation he provided information about the use of pesticides near schools and the requirements which include notification by growers and prohibited applications during certain time frames. At the end of his presentation, he took questions from the attendees and provided answers regarding the topics he had discussed.

VI. ROUNDTABLE

Chairman Tom Orvis expressed Merry Christmas wishes to all in attendance. He reminded those in attendance about the public hearing with the State Water Resources Control Board (Worth Your Fight) at the Modesto Centre Plaza the following day. He referenced a letter he had received from the Westside RCD regarding an upcoming tour.

VII. NEXT MEETING

A. Meeting Date/Time:

   The next scheduled meeting will be Monday, February 6, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.
   The meeting will be held at the Stanislaus County Agricultural Center, 3800 Cornucopia Way, Modesto, Conference Room H/I.

B. Agenda Items

   ✓ There were no agenda items suggested at this time for the next meeting.

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,

Debbie Wohld
Ag Commissioner’s Office
Stanislaus County