



**AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AND
SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES**

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Agricultural Advisory Board

MINUTES

October 4, 2010
Stanislaus County Agricultural Center
Conference Room H/I
10:00 a.m.

Board Members Present:

Kathy Anderson	Tom Maring	Ed Perry
Richard Gibson	Tom Orvis	Wayne Zipser
John Herlihy		

Board Members Absent:

Alan Cover	Lisa Funk	Arby Hoobyar
Norman Kline		

Ex-Officio Board Members:

Supervisor Jim DeMartini – Present	Chris Hartley, USDA-NRCS - Present
Supervisor Vito Chiesa (Alternate) – Absent	Rowe Barney, DER & Parks - Present
Gary Caseri, Ag Commissioner – Present	

Others Present:

Steve Burke, Subcommittee Member	Roger Masuda, Attorney At Law
Bill Carlson, Stanislaus County Planning	Raul Mendez, Stan Co. Chief Executive Office
Michael Cooke, City of Turlock	Milton O'Haire, Ag Commissioner's Office
Vance Kennedy, Hydrologist/Farmer	Carrie Rasmussen, Attorney At Law
Dan Madden, City of Turlock	Walter Ward, Modesto Irrigation District
Joshua Mann, Stanislaus County Planning	Chris White, Central California Irrigation District
Joe Marcotte, Eastside Water District	Debbie Wohld, Ag Commissioner's Office

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There was no public comment.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 2, 2010 MEETING

It was M/S/P (unanimous), to approve the August 2, 2010 minutes.

**IV. ALTERNATIVE AGRICULTURAL BUFFER
NO. 2010-06 CENTRAL VALLEY AG GRINDING**

Stanislaus County Department of Planning and Community Development has received an application to allow for an expansion of nine (9) acres (currently used for material storage) to an existing agricultural grinding business, Central Valley Ag Grinding (CVAG). Joshua Mann, Associate Planner for Stanislaus County, stated that the applicant has proposed an alternative to the agricultural buffer standards to

reduce the setback for the southern and northern property lines to 60' with no vegetative screening along the expansion area. The western and eastern property lines meet the 150' setback. The site is located at 5507 Langworth Road, north of Claribel Road and south of Patterson Road, in the Riverbank/Oakdale area. Mr. Mann presented a PowerPoint showing the area in question. He noted that the dairy to the south is run by the applicants.

It was M/S/P (unanimous), to accept the alternative buffers as stated.

At this point, additional information was provided from a past discussion regarding clarification on the types of trees that could be incorporated into the buffer. Ed Perry, Retired Director-University of Cooperative Extension, provided a listing of suggested tree species which could be used as buffer screens.

It was M/S/P (unanimous) to approve adding these trees to the existing approved list.

V. GROUNDWATER SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE

Several public comments were made and questions were raised regarding the preliminary draft of the groundwater export ordinance. Various issues within the draft were discussed including recharge and exemption clarifications, the inclusion of municipalities, and public hearings. Chairman John Herlihy commented that while he appreciated the input, he wondered why these questions were just now being asked so late into the process. A representative from the City of Turlock commented that some agencies had not become aware of this ordinance until about six months ago. Chairman Herlihy responded that the committee had gone to considerable lengths to get the information out to all involved sources. Roger Masuda, a representative for TID, stated that he was not in-house and apologized for the delay. Mr. Masuda indicated he would like to address his questions and comments directly to the County Counsel. It was reiterated that the preliminary draft would be reviewed by County Counsel. Chairman Herlihy requested that Mr. Masuda give a written copy of his questions and comments to the subcommittee and to Gary Caseri. It was decided that the subcommittee would meet on October 20, 2010, to review these and any other suggestions/comments/questions received into the Ag Commissioner's Office no later than October 18, 2010. A vote to recommend that the draft be forwarded to the Board and the Chief Executive Office is tentatively scheduled for November.

VI. NEXT MEETING

A. Meeting Date/Time:

The next scheduled meeting is Monday, November 1, 2010, at 10:00 a.m.
at the Stanislaus County Ag Center, Conference Room H/I

B. Agenda Items

- ✓ Alternative Buffers, if applicable
- ✓ Groundwater Subcommittee Report

Please contact John Herlihy, Gary Caseri or Cynthia Darmstandler with items you wish placed on the agenda.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman John Herlihy adjourned the meeting.

Minutes Respectfully
Submitted,

Debbie Wohld
Ag Commissioner's Office
Stanislaus County