



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

**Gary Caseri**  
Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

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**Agricultural Advisory Board**

**MINUTES**

May 2, 2011

Stanislaus County Agricultural Center  
Conference Room H/I  
10:00 a.m.

**Board Members Present:**

Roger Duncan                      Arby Hoobyar  
Richard Gibson                    Tom Orvis  
John Herlihy                        Ed Perry

**Board Members Absent:**

Alan Cover                            Norman Kline                        Wayne Zipser  
Lisa Funk                              Thomas Maring

**Ex-Officio Board Members:**

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

**Others Present:**

Susan Azevedo, Ag Commissioner's Office              Milton O'Haire, Ag Commissioner's Office  
Eric Boyd, Northstar Eng.                                    Sean Roddy, Henning Bros.  
Joshua Mann, Stanislaus County Planning              Rachel Wyse, Stanislaus County Planning

**I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There was no public comment.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE April 4, 2011 MEETING**

It was M/S/P (unanimous), to approve the April 4, 2011 minutes.

**IV. ALTERNATIVE AGRICULTURAL BUFFERS**

**UP 2011-01 HENNINGS BROTHERS AG DRILLING**

The applicant is requesting to establish an agricultural water well drilling business on a 17.6+ acre parcel in the A-2-40 (General Agricultural) zoning District. The site is located at 1920 Ladd Road in the Modesto area and the northern, western and southern property lines meet the 150' setback. The applicant is proposing to fence the equipment storage area and propose a 30' setback with a single row of evergreen trees along the buildings and the adjacent pavement on the eastern property line.

There are concerns about spray drift from the neighboring orchard on the east and that a single row of trees would not be adequate.

Ed Perry stated there is an existing list of trees that would be well suited for this purpose and would provide such list if not already available (it was later confirmed that the list of Suggested Tree Species for Screening was approved and is available on the Ag Advisory Board website under the October 4, 2010 agenda).

It was M/S/P that there be a double row of trees along all 600 feet, 150' in front of the structural buildings and 450' along the gravel access area.

#### **V. GROUNDWATER REGULATION UPDATE**

Chairman Herlihy stated that at this time, Gary Caseri, Stanislaus County Agricultural Commissioner, has not received back any discussion from the Chief Executive Office regarding the final draft of the regulation. Supervisor DeMartini commented he was told it had been sent to outside counsel for review and was not clear why it was taking so long. It was noted the necessity to have an answer in order to move forward.

#### **VI. AG ELEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE**

Supervisor DeMartini stated the way the Ag Element was written they could work on specific areas instead of a total rewrite and the committee should start with the buffer and setback guidelines. It was suggested that genetically modified organisms be inserted into the Ag Element. Supervisor DeMartini stated the need to call for another meeting.

#### **VII. NEXT MEETING**

A. Meeting Date/Time:

The next scheduled meeting is **Monday, June 6, 2011, at 10:00 a.m.**  
at the Stanislaus County Ag Center, Conference Room H/I

B. Agenda Items

- ✓ Alternative Buffers, if applicable

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

#### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman John Herlihy adjourned the meeting.

Minutes Respectfully  
Submitted,

Susan Azevedo  
Ag Commissioner's Office  
Stanislaus County