Stanislaus County
Agricultural Advisory Board

MINUTES
February 7, 2022
8:00 a.m.

Board Members Present:
Carlos Estacio                Jim Mortensen
Jennifer Heguy               Tom Orvis
Gordon Heinrich              Ed Perry
Arby Hoobyar                 Stan Sinclair
Brandi LoForti               Wayne Zipser

Board Members Absent:

Ex-Officio Board Members:
Robert Kostlivy, Environmental Resources – Present  Supervisor Vito Chiesa – Present
Kamaljit Bagri, Agricultural Commissioner – Present  Diana Waller, USDA - Absent

I.  CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 8:03 a.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

III. ROLL CALL

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
There was no public comment.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 10, 2022, MEETING
The minutes of the January 10, 2022, meeting were presented by the Chairman. The members were asked to consider the minutes for approval, and action was taken as follows:

  Motion: Jim Mortensen
  Second: Arby Hoobyar
  Vote: Unanimous

VI. BYLAWS REVISION TO CHANGE MEETING START TIME
At the January 10, 2022, Agricultural Advisory Board meeting, a motion was made to recommend changing the Bylaws, Article V, Section, Frequency and Time of Meetings, changing the meeting start time from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. The proposed Bylaw language was then sent to all voting members with voting set to take place at the February 7, 2022, meeting. The vote was held and the motion to change the meeting start time to 10:00 a.m. passed with a vote of 8-1. The Agricultural Commissioner was directed to draft
an agenda item requesting final approval of this change from the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors.

VII. TID WATER RIGHTS APPLICATION ON THE TUOLUMNE RIVER
Josh Weimer and Herb Smart from the Turlock Irrigation District provided information regarding MID & TID filing a water rights application to capture unappropriated flood waters from the Tuolumne River, filing for 2.7 million acre-feet. This is the first time they have filed for water rights since 1951. Over the last 70 years there have been a lot of changes specific to what they are seeing in their hydrology, the run-off time period changing in the watershed, and regulatory changes. TID staff is looking at ways to maximize the time of the year that the river is not fully appropriated and to put that water to beneficial use such as helping to offset irrigation supplies, making fishery improvements, and habitat restoration for SIGMA as well as several other projects. It was noted that this will be a long process. The application was submitted two weeks ago, and they are awaiting the next steps from the State.

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

IX. NEXT MEETING
A. Meeting Date/Time:
   It was noted that there will be no meeting for March. The next meeting was scheduled for April 4, 2022, with a change in start time of 10:00 a.m.

B. Agenda Items:
   None.

X. ADJOURNMENT
Chairman Orvis adjourned the meeting at 9:07 a.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Azevedo
Ag Commissioner's Office
Stanislaus County