



Stanislaus County  
Agricultural Advisory Board

MINUTES  
October 3, 2022  
10:00 a.m.

**Board Members Present:**

Caitie Diemel  
Jennifer Heguy  
Brandi LoForti  
Jim Mortensen  
Tom Orvis  
Ed Perry  
Stan Sinclear

**Board Members Absent:**

Carlos Estacio  
Gordon Heinrich  
Arby Hoobyar

**Ex-Officio Board Members:**

Christy McKinnon (sub), Environmental Resources – Present  
Kamaljit Bagri, Agricultural Commissioner – Present

Rose Collins, USDA-NRCS – Present  
Supervisor Vito Chiesa – Absent

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m.

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

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

There was no public comment.

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JUNE 6, 2022, MEETING**

The minutes of the June 6, 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: Brandi LoForti  
Vote: Unanimous

**V. IRRIGATION SEASON UPDATES – MID**

Staff from Modesto Irrigation District (MID) and Turlock Irrigation District (TID) provided information on Voluntary Agreements (VA) that they, along with the City and County of San Francisco (CCSF) have actively pursued with the State. Negotiations are currently in process, so details were not available, but MID provided some background information on the VA



negotiation process. Voluntary agreements focus on “incorporating a mix of flow and non-flow measures that meet or exceed the new and revised water quality objectives and protect fish and wildlife beneficial uses.” MID is collaborating with the State and other water agencies to finalize an agreement that will provide water supply reliability to the community while enhancing the ecosystem.

For more detailed information, a copy of the presentation can be found on the County’s website at <http://www.stanag.org/ag-advisory-board.shtm>.

**VI. NEW PRIVATE APPLICATOR CERTIFICATION EXAM & OTHER UPDATES – AG COMMISSIONER**

Ag Commissioner Kamal Bagri announced that the new Private Applicator Certification (PAC) exam is here. Those whose license is expiring this year and do not want to take continuing education classes will be given the new test starting this November. Continuing education classes focusing on the new exam are being developed by staff and will be available at some point. One change to note, growers will no longer be able to purchase vertebrate (i.e., squirrels, gophers) pest control California restricted materials without going through a new sub-category exam. Commissioner Bagri also introduced the new Assistant Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer, Dave Singh.

**VII. ROUNDTABLE**

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

**VIII. NEXT MEETING**

A. Meeting Date/Time:

It was noted that the November 7, 2022, meeting would be canceled, and the December meeting will be changed to December 12, 2022, at 11:00 a.m. at the Stanislaus County Farm Bureau located at 1201 L Street, Modesto, CA.

B. Agenda Items:

None noted

**VX. ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Orvis adjourned the meeting at 11:10 a.m.

Minutes Respectfully  
Submitted,

Susan Azevedo  
Ag Commissioner’s Office  
Stanislaus County