



AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

4137 Branch Center Rd.
Sacramento, CA 95827
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www.saccounty.net

Steve Campbell – HOA Representative
Vacant – Agricultural Economics
Brian Fishback – Commercial Bee Keeping
Morgan Doran – UC Extension Farm Advisor
Charlotte Mitchell – Natural Resources; Poultry
Ken Oneto – Orchards, Vineyards, Row Crops
Brad van Loben Sels – Farm Management
Jim Vietheer – Livestock
Michael Wackman – Natural Resources; Wineries

Agricultural Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of January 8, 2020 6:30 pm

Valley Oak Room
4137 Branch Center Rd.
Sacramento, California 95827

1. CALL TO ORDER

Agricultural Advisory Committee Chair Ken Oneto called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Campbell, Morgan Doran, Brian Fishback, Charlotte Mitchell, Ken Oneto, Jim Vietheer, and Michael Wackman

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brad van Loben Sels

STAFF PRESENT: Chris Flores (Agricultural Commissioner), Parminder Malhi (Chief Deputy Agricultural Commissioner), and Laura McCready (Clerk of the Committee)

ALSO PRESENT: Lindsey Liebig (Sacramento County Farm Bureau), Representatives from American River Ag, Pioneer Law Group, J.H. Jonson & Sons, Minasian, Meith, Sexton & Soares, Brian Leahy, and members of the Delta community.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The January agenda was presented to the Board for approval. Brian Fishback motioned to approve the agenda and was seconded by Michael Wackman. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The November Committee Meeting minutes were presented to the Board for approval. Charlotte Mitchell motioned to approve the minutes as presented. It was seconded by Jim Vietheer. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

4. PUBLIC FORUM – No comments received.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. PLNP2019-00283; American River Ag:

Leanne Mueller with Sacramento County Planning and Environmental Review presented details regarding the request to cancel the existing Williamson Act contract (01-AP-01) on the portion of the 61.16 acre parcel at 875 Alfalfa Plant Road. After hearing from the applicant and members of the community, the Committee members discussed the merits of the application.

A motion was made by Charlotte Mitchell to deny the cancellation request and continue the use of processing on Williamson Act contracted land. Motion was clarified and amended to deny the cancellation request. It was seconded by Michael Wackman. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote. Committee members considered agricultural processing a compatible use on Williamson Act contracted land, and interpreted the request to be a Use Permit issue. (See attached AAC recommendation)

B. Industrial Hemp Draft Zoning Language and Ordinance Review:

Chris Flores, Wendy Hartman and Mark Michelini presented the details of the draft ordinance and zoning code language. Buffers are being written into the ordinance and includes setbacks from property lines, city boundaries, residences, and sensitive receptors. It was suggested by Committee members that a 200 foot buffer from the road would essentially be unplanted ground, as it is not enough space to plant another crop. The hemp discussion will be brought back to the Committee at the meeting in March.

6. **OLD BUSINESS** – Apiary ordinance tabled to March meeting.

7. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

A. Sacramento County Agricultural Commissioner Report:

Chris Flores informed the Committee on the current events in the Department.

- Parminder Malhi is the new Chief Deputy. He has been with the Department since 1998 and was the Deputy Sealer.
- Debbie Thompson is retiring at the end of March. Debbie's replacement will be moving up to the main office. Laura McCreedy will be moving to the Walnut Grove office. Our Urban Pesticide Deputy Diana Acosta will be retiring at the end of March as well.
- Dr. Andrew Walker with UC Davis has released five new Pierce's Disease resistant grapevines. They have applied for a patent and will be able to market those vines once the patent has been processed.
- There's still a quarantine for Virulent Newcastle Disease in Southern California. Another site has been found in San Bernardino County that contained backyard roosters and a feed store. The State is ramping up deployments to that area to contain the disease.

B. Other Industry Updates:

Lindsay Liebig updated the Committee with current events within the Sacramento County Farm Bureau.

- The Farm Bureau is focusing on the Delta Conveyance Tunneling Project. Multiple meetings have been scheduled through May. A Notice of Declaration for the new project has not been submitted yet.

- Lindsay was just appointed to serve a 4 year term on the LAFCO Commission.

C. Committee Member Updates:

It was recommended by committee members to see examples of existing Williamson Act contracts. Williamson Act contract examples will be available at the March meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT

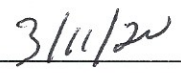
The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m. The next meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Committee will be held on March 11, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting minutes prepared by Laura McCready, Agricultural Advisory Committee Clerk, mccreadyl@saccounty.net

APPROVAL OF MINUTES



Ken Oneto, Chair



Date



COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER, SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

INTER OFFICE MEMORANDUM

January 16, 2020

To: Leanne Mueller, Associate Planner

FROM: Ken Oneto, Agricultural Advisory Committee Chair

SUBJECT: PLNP 2019-00283; American River Ag

On January 8, 2020, the Sacramento County Agricultural Advisory Committee heard the above referenced item during their regularly scheduled meeting. The request is to cancel the existing Williamson Act contract (No. 01-AP-01) located at 875 Alfalfa Plant Road. The applicants and members of the public were in attendance.

The Agricultural Advisory Committee was given project information by planning staff and received comments from the applicants. Public comments were also heard. After discussing the item, the Agricultural Advisory Committee made the following recommendation:

It was moved by Committee Member Charlotte Mitchell and seconded by Committee Member Michael Wackman, to recommend the denial of the Williamson Act cancellation request. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote. Committee Members present: Steve Campbell, Morgan Doran, Brian Fishback, Charlotte Mitchell, Ken Oneto, Jim Vietheer, and Michael Wackman.

The Agricultural Advisory Committee interprets this as a Use Permit issue, and considers agricultural processing a compatible use for Williamson Act contracts. The Agricultural Advisory Committee plans to revisit compatible uses on Williamson Act contracted land.

If you have any questions, please contact Chris Flores at 916-875-0578.

Cc: Agricultural Advisory Committee