



AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

4137 Branch Center Rd.
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www.saccounty.gov

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 March 9, 2022 6:30 pm

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

<https://meet.goto.com/874158677>

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Agricultural Advisory Committee Chair Ken Oneto called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Campbell, Morgan Doran, Ken Oneto, Brad van Loben Sels, Jim Vietheer, and Michael Wackman.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Brian Fishback, Charlotte Mitchell.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Nate Doberneck, Herb Garms, Jim Gillum, Don Rose, John Lundgren, Clark Skillman, Daniel Menahem, Amber McDowell.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The March agenda was presented to the Committee for approval. Steve Campbell motioned to approve the agenda and was seconded by Brad van Loben Sels. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The November Committee Meeting minutes were presented to the Committee for approval. Michael Wackman 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. PNL2021-00191 Coyote Creek Solar Facility:

Nate Doberneck with Sacramento County Planning and Environmental Review presented details regarding the request of a Level II Commercial Solar Facility on 55 parcels, totaling 2,555 acres in the Cosumnes community. The request entailed a Use Permit to allow the proposed solar facility, a Special Development Permit to deviate from County development standards, and a Design Review to determine compliance with Countywide Design Guidelines. After hearing from the applicant, the Committee discussed the merits of the application.

It was moved by Steve Campbell and seconded by Michael Wackman to support the project as presented. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote. Ken Oneto abstained due to a possible conflict of interest.

B. Review of Sacramento County Pesticide Aerial Application Drift Prevention Conditions:

Chris Flores updated the Committee on wording issues in the Pesticide Aerial Application Drift Prevention Conditions that have prevented growers from spraying on no burn days. Brad van Loben Sels motioned that section 2. d. i. be removed from the Conditions and Attachment A (map) included with the Conditions show only the Permit Condition boundary. Michael Wackman seconded. Motioned passed by unanimous voice vote.

6. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Agricultural Commissioner Update:

Chris Flores informed the Committee on the following items:

- The new office in Galt is now open, and is located at 232 North Lincoln Way. The Walnut Grove office will be closing on March 10th.
- Karen Vietheer and Danny Sarracino have retired, and will be missed.
- Ag Day at the Capitol is March 23rd.
- FFA Leadership Conference is in March and CACASA will have a booth there.
- Container Recycling Day will be held on April 14th at KLM Ranches.
- Legislative bills to watch:
 - AB 1620: Broomrape control program bill. This bill is being led by the tomato industry, and would create a Board to conduct research and keep an eye on broomrape.
 - AB 1638: Motor vehicle fuel tax. This may affect unclaimed gas tax, which funds a lot of the Department's agricultural programs.
 - AB 1773: Williamson Act Subvention Payments. Sacramento County sent a support letter, and CACASA is supporting this as well.
 - AB 1787: This is a pesticide bill that primarily deals with Health and Safety Codes.
 - AB 2146: Neonicotinoid legislation that proposes to ban non-agricultural uses and will make all neonicotinoids restricted materials. CACASA is opposing this as an association.
 - SB 856: Wild pig bill.

B. Industry Updates:

Amber McDowell introduced herself as the new Executive Director of the Sacramento County Farm Bureau.

C. Committee Member Updates:

- Morgan Doran with UC Cooperative Extension announced that the Environmental Horticulture Advisor position in Sacramento County is in the final stages of being filled. A Food Systems Advisor position in Solano County is under recruitment.

Four more Advisor positions are awaiting approval, and Cooperative Extension should know the status by March 20th. Susan Ellsworth is the new County Director, and Morgan will return to his role of Livestock/Natural Resources Advisor.

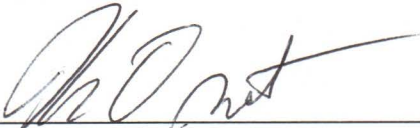
- Jim Vietheer gave an update on the Livestock Show and the Junior Livestock Auction happening at the Sacramento County Fair. The CEO of Sacramento County Fair was terminated by CDFA. Jim and the President of the Board Mike Albani are trying to ensure that the show and auction will move forward.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

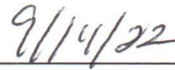
The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 p.m. The next meeting of the Agricultural Advisory Committee is scheduled for May 11, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting minutes prepared by Laura McCready, Agricultural Advisory Committee Clerk,
mccreadyl@sacounty.gov

APPROVAL OF MINUTES



Ken Oneto, Chair



Date