SOLANO COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AAC)
FINAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ON
January 12, 2011

The meeting of the Solano County Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) was held at the Department of Agriculture and UC Cooperative Extension Building, Downstairs Conference Room, 501 Texas Street, Fairfield, CA.

Members Present:

Bruce Brazelton, Moira Burke, Barbara Comfort, Jeff Dittmer, Don Johnson. Craig Leathers, Russ Lester, Al Medvitz, Mary Helen Seeger, James Wallace

Others Present:

Mike Yankovich	Resource Management
Carole Paterson	UC Cooperative Extension
Fred Zaragoza	Aide to Supervisor Reagan
Jim Allan	Ag Commissioner

Item 1 Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Russ Lester at 3:15 PM.

Item 2 Introductions of Members and Guests

The Members and Guests in attendance introduced themselves.

Item 3 Changes and Approval of the Agenda

Agenda was approved unanimously with the following additions:

- 5c. Ag Tour working group
- 7c. Local food shed working group
- 7d. Delta education working group
- 7e. Renewable energy working group

Item 4 Review/Approval of the Meeting Minutes of December 8, 2010

The minutes for December 8, 2010 were approved. With corrections to 5d 3rd bullet change the word district to county, also under 4th bullet add the word Ag. Ag Tour of the Delta

Item 5 New Business

(a) Report on Board of Supervisors Meetings-Board Topics Related to Subject Matter of the AAC

Agricultural dept had two items in front of the board since last meeting

- A budget reduction eliminating .5 OAII position, this will affect the AAC clerical support, 2011 Crop report and also lunch time counter support.
- BOS approved extension of OAII position until March 5, 2011

Motion passed for Chairman to draft letter on behalf of the Committee to backfill the .5 OAII position.

An appeal of a use permit for an 81-stall horse stable on Pleasants Valley Road is in limbo awaiting a majority vote from the Solano County Board of Supervisors. A 2 to 2 vote Tuesday by supervisors on whether to deny the appeal stalled the official decision by the board. Supervisor Spering was not in attendance.

(b) Administrative Support for Ag Advisory Committee- Jim Allan

See 5 (a) for more information

The minutes will be transcribed by Jim, Carole or a Committee member.

(c) Ag Tour of Delta Committee-Russ Lester

The committee voted in favor of creating working group to make the arrangements for Ag Tour of Delta. The following people volunteered Al Medvitz, Jim Wallace, Moira Burke, Craig Leathers and Russ Lester.

Item 6 Continuing Business

(a) General Plan Update/Agricultural Regions Study

No additional updates at this time

(b) EGVM/LBAM Update-Jim Allan

The EGVM technical working group reported out in mid December. The findings of the group were not acceptable to the outlying counties that are infested. The satellite counties Mendocino, Solano, Fresno, Merced, Monterey, and San Joaquin did not find the regulations reasonable. Technical group will have another meeting to negotiate less restrictive regulations for outlying counties. Napa and Sonoma were in agreement with the regulations.

(c) Future Budget Planning-Discussion

No additional comments at this time.

(d) Bicycle Complaints/Issues

Ms. Hardy is on the agenda for STA committee meeting on January 13, 2011. She will be discussing possibility of creating a working group with Stakeholders for Agriculture and Bicycle communities to move forward with opening dialogue about the bicycle/agricultural interface.

(e) Delta Water Issues

No updates at this time.

(f) Williamson Act Update

The Governor vetoed Williamson Act Funding.

Click here for more information: http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/lca/Pages/index.aspx

(g) Solano County Fair Plan-Ongoing

The Governors proposed budget eliminates the Division of Fair & Expositions.

Here is the link to the Solano County Fair http://solano360.org

(g) Pesticide Update/

Permit conditions are changing for field fumigations.

Item 7 Identify and Clarify Future Agenda Topics and Timing of Discussion

The Future Agenda Topics and Timing of Discussion are as follows:

a. Delta Water Issues-Ongoing
b. EVGM Update- Jim Allan
c. Williamson Act Update- Ongoing
d. Solano County Branding- Ongoing
e. Solano County Fair Plan- Ongoing
f. Guideline on the Use of Prime Farmland- Report from Working Group
g. Future Budget Planning-Discussion
h. Bicycle Complaints/Solutions- Discussion
i. Rio Vista Bridge Studies (STA)-Presentation
j. Local Food Shed working group 2/9/2011
k. Delta education working group 2/9/2011
l. Renewable Energy working group 2/9/11

Item 8 Public Comments/Announcements/Correspondence

This is the opportunity to address the committee on a matter not listed on the agenda, but within the subject jurisdiction of the Committee.

(a) Public Comments

(b) Announcements

Yolo County Board of Supervisor Don Saylor is Yolo County representative at the Ag Summit.

Open Forum on Jobs Economic Development and Sustainable Communities on February 3, 2011 at the Solano County Events Center

Russ Lester Company has won an award from Department of Pesticide Regulations the IPM Innovative Award for 2010.

(c) Correspondence

Item 9 Next Meeting Date

Wednesday, February 9, 2011 at 3:00 p.m., first floor conference room, 501 Texas Street, Fairfield.

Item 10 Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.