SOLANO COUNTY
AGRICULTURE ADVISORY MEETING (AAC)
DRAFT MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ON
August 8, 2012

The meeting of the Solano County Agriculture Advisory Committee (AAC) was held at the Department of Agriculture and UC Cooperative Extension Building, Downstairs Conference Room, 501 Texas Street, Fairfield, CA at 3:00 pm

Members Present:
Moira Burke (Meeting Chair in the absence of Russ Lester) Sue Lippstreu, Craig Leathers, Mary Helen Seeger, Bruce Brazelton, Don Johnson, Jeff Dittmer

Others present:
Jim Allan, Solano County Agriculture Commissioner
Simone Hardy, Assistant Solano County Agriculture Commissioner

Solano County Resource Management staff:
Mike Yankovich, Senior Planner
Nick from Matt Tuggle's office
Nedzlene Ferrario Staff person working on the Renewable Energy Regulations

Item 1 Call to Order/Roll Call
The meeting was called to order by Moira at 3:15 PM.

Item 2 Introductions of Members and Guests

Item 3 Changes and Approval of the Agenda

Item 4 Review/Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
Minutes could not be approved from last two meetings in May and June as there was not a quorum.

Item 5 New Business

(a) Report on the Board of Supervisor Meeting-Board Topics Related to Subject Matter of the AAC

Mike Yankovich reported Board of Supervisor approved changes to the Biosolids Application which eliminate the sunset date of Oct. 15th, 2012, clarify prohibitions to be compatible with state and fed regulations, clarify exemptions, etc.

Item 6 Continuing Business

(a) General Plan Update/Agriculture Region Study Dixon Ridge-Resource Management

Mike Yankovich reported that traffic counts are being conducted in Ag industrial area, in Dixon Ridge-Resource Management.

A question was raised regarding county-wide adoption of Suisun Valley plan. Mike Y responded that elements of the plan were incorporated county wide (Such as the Pastured Poultry requirements) but other elements such as ag tourism centers are intrinsic to Suisun Valley.

(b) EGVM/LBAM Updates

No EGVM moths found in South County. There is still a Quarantine line north of Mankas Corner due to EGVM in Napa Co.

(c) Future Budget Planning – Discussion

Jim Allan reports Budget in holding pattern.
Mike Yankovich reports the Board of Supervisors voted to give Williamson Act assistance though assessments.
Jeff asked about primary and secondary protections in Suisun Marsh. Watershed is protected according to BCDC - Mike Yankovich

(d) Delta Water Issues

Jim Allan: Board of Supervisors received a report that Gov. approved Delta tunnels; Mike Reagan attended Bay Delta Conservation Development event. They have no EIR. Solano South County will have less water; many Solano acres in tidal wetlands.
Funding still an issue, although reports indicated Southern California users will pay.
Water districts can fund it without much government funding.

(e) Williamson Act Update - see above

(f) Proposed Changes to Solano County Code Chapter 25 – land application of biosolids

See Mike Y. comment in 5 a

(g) Local Food Shed Working Group -

Moira: have not met recently. Simone: Solano Grown has put up two billboards to promote Solano Agriculture as well as radio spots.

(h) Renewable Energy Working Group

Staff presented proposed ordinance based on Yolo County Ordinance after review of many other County ordinances. A previous draft had been reviewed by working group.
Four categories of facilities proposed:
rooftop
small ground mounted
medium
large

Peabody application for large facility has been filed and would not be bound by ordinance as it was submitted prior to proposed ordinance.

Roof mount requires building permit, ground mount - wind load, electrical permit

Comments for incorporation: should be acknowledgment of right to farm because there will likely be issues due to dust and aerial spray.

Request for consideration no mitigation if only for only own use on Ag property

discussion of minimum threshold no acreage....

does there need to be a difference if it is small system in the ground or on a roof

Jeff Dittmer suggested that staff talk to Solano land trust re mitigation proposals

May want to exempt small plans from mitigation

(i) Pesticide Update Container Recycling Ag Dept

Ag plastic recycling day is being planned.
30-50 gal barrels have to be cut up in 1/4s.
Like small containers, all need to be triple rinsed.
Farmers/ SID/ will be main contributors
People can do online registration or paper on site.
It has been announced on the Farm Bureau website

Later will have an event to address
legacy pesticides-
requires a hazardous waste hauler
they charge to get rid of it
Narciscus is the staff contact for that.

Item 7 Public Comments/Announcements/Correspondence
Movie on Delta Water: *Over Troubled Waters,* playing in Sacramento at Crest Aug. 8th

8. Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, October 10, 2012 at 3:00 PM
(No meeting in September)

9. Meeting Adjourned at 4.45 PM