SOLANO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AAC) MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ON June 11, 2008

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, Barbara Comfort, Jeff Dittmer, Don Johnson, Craig Leathers, Russell Lester, Sue Lippstreu, John Mangels, Betty Mason, Al Medvitz, Mary Helen Seeger.

Others Present:

Jim Allan Agriculture

Birgitta Corsello Resource Management

Sabine Goerke-Shrode Aide to Supervisor Spering-District 3
Fred Zaragoza Aide to Supervisor Reagan-District 5

John Seeger Nursery

Michael Yankovich Resource Management

Moira Burke Agricola

Item 1 Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting began at 3:10. A quorum was present

Item 2 Introductions of Members and Guests

The Members and Guests in attendance introduced themselves.

Item 3 Changes and Approval of the Agenda

No changes to the agenda were offered.

Item 4 Review/Approval of the Meeting Minutes of May 14,, 2008

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of May 14, 2008 as presented with the small change of replacing the word "precedence" with "precedent in the paragraph under Public Comment. The motion carried on a unanimous vote of the members present.

<u>Item 5 Staff Report-Agriculture Department</u>

Mr. Allan directed the committee's attention to a press release with regard to, and Assembly Bill 2881. He recommended that the committee look it over to see if should be added as an agenda item in the future.

Mr. Allan looked into the item that Mr. Medvitz brought to the committee's attention last month (Center for Biological Diversity versus EPA-possible lawsuite). Future updates and guidance will be given by the Department of Pesticide Regulation.

The FARM Coordinator position closed on June 9. Eleven people met the minimum requirements. There will now be a paper-sifting process to determine final candidates, and hiring interviews will be scheduled sometime after that.

Mr. Allan gave a pest status report. With regard to the med fly situation, it is anticipated that the quarantine will be lifted on August 10, but may be moved up as soon as August 1. As far as the Light Brown Apple Moth is concerned, there have been five moth finds since January 1, with the most recent being last week. With no control being

exercised at the source (San Francisco, Prunedale, etc.) Mr. Allan felt that The Light Brown Apple Moth would likely be an ongoing problem.

At present there are approximately 60,000 twist-ties in Vallejo-Benicia area. It was asked whether or not there is a possibility of aerial spraying in Solano County. Mr. Allan stated that he did not think that there was a likelihood of this occurring.

Item 6 New Business

Report on Board of Supervisors Meetings – Board Topics Related to the Subject Matter of the AAC – Birgitta Corsello

On June 10, the Board of Supervisors approved an ordinance that establishes a voluntary green building program. It will include public outreach and information towards building residential and commercial structures that are more environmentally friendly. The recommendation next spring will be to move forward into mandatory requirement for environmentally-friendly components such as solar panels (i.e. solar generation of power).

The Board also adopted additional policies and joined four other counties in taking a position on the peripheral canal and Delta development regarding water solutions south versus north. Approach we take with regard to the potential loss of agricultural lands. She recommended the committee listen to the agenda item on the Board of Supervisors website for more information. Supervisor Reagan is taking the lead on this issue.

In addition, they certified a revised environmental document for the expansion of the Potrero Hills landfill which now goes forward for further review. This particular expansion did have to address green house gas emissions. There are no traffic implications related to the expansion. A committee member asked if a plasma incinerator been considered. Ms. Corsello informed the committee that the Board has not considered this due to the fact that the county does not own and operate the landfills. The integrated waste management plan needs to be updated, and staff is looking at different methods. The challenge of incineration of garbage is that a great deal of ash is generated. Because of its characteristics, some of that ash will continue to need to be put into a landfill. Air pollutants can also be a potential problem. Ms. Corsello fielded a question with regard to wastewater recycling, and said that she thought that "grey water" could potentially be a part of the "building green" of the future.

Item 7 Continuing Business

(a) General Plan Update-Birgitta Corsello

Ms. Corsello reported that the Planning Commission is finished with their review of the draft General Plan and have forwarded their suggestions to the Board of Supervisors. The Board will begin the hearing process on July 2. The meeting schedule is being put together. There will be sufficient notice as to what chapters will be discussed at what meeting. The overview is scheduled for July 2.

(b) Prioritize Recommendations from Ag Futures Study

Due to time constraints, this item was not discussed.

(c) Review of New Draft General Plan Provisions for Preservation of Agriculture - Committee

Mr. Yankovich stated that the Agricultural portion of the General Plan was previously brought before the committee. He assured the committee that none of the sub-plans are proposals until they are adopted by the Board on November 29.

AAC Minutes June 11, 2008 Page 2 of 4

After extensive discussion covering the agricultural section of the draft General Plan, the committee made the following recommendations, and asked that they be presented to the Board of Supervisors.

RECOMMENDATION 1: A motion was made with regard to Page AG-21 to add the phrase "tourist services that are ancillary to agricultural production to the agriculture region, Pleasants/Vaca/and Lagoon Valleys. The motion was seconded. VOTE: Eight ayes, two noes and one abstention.

RECOMMENDATION 2: A motion was made that the individual projects (concerning agricultural land) be voted on separately from the General Plan. The motion was seconded. VOTE: Four ayes, six noes, one abstention.

RECOMMENDATION 3: A motion was made that those individual projects outside of the Municipal Service Areas be separated out from the draft General Plan and voted on as a group, as a separate ballot issue, and be separated out from the policy statements of the draft General Plan that will also be voted on. The motion was seconded. VOTE: 10 ayes, one abstention.

RECOMMENDATION 4: A motion was made that the provisions of the current general plan of orderly growth initiative stay in place in each of the newly designated 10 agricultural regions until, in each specific region, a regional plan is developed and approved. The motion was seconded. VOTE: Four in favor, seven opposed.

(d) Agriculture Tour-Work Group

It was stated that comments and feedback for the Ag tour were extremely positive, and the project came in under budget.

Item 8 Identify and Clarify Future Agenda Topics and Timing of Discussion

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

- a. Compatible/Incompatible Land Uses Fall/Winter
- b. Horse Facilities/Farming Operations Update TBA
- c. Large Animal Catastrophe/Carcass Disposal Plan Fall/Winter

Item 9 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

There was no public comment.

(b) Announcements

On Saturday, June 14, there will be an advocacy training workshop sponsored and funded by SAREP. There are spaces available.

Committee member, Donald Johnson expressed his thanks to the FFA kids for helping out at the Ag Tour, and thanks were also extended to all who made the tour a success.

AAC Minutes June 11, 2008 Page 3 of 4

(c) Correspondence

There were no correspondences.

Item 10 Next Meeting Date

Wednesday, July 9, 2008 at 3:00 p.m., first floor conference room, 501 Texas Street, Fairfield.

Item 11 Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30.

AAC Minutes June 11, 2008 Page 4 of 4