SOLANO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AAC) DRAFT MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ON April 11, 2012

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, Jeff Dittmer, Don Johnson, Craig leathers, Russ Lester, Sue Lipstreu, James Wallace, Mary Helen Seeger, Barbara Comfort

Others Present:

Jim Allan Agricultural Commissioner

Morgan Doran Director, UC Cooperative Extension

Solano County

Mike Yankovich Resource Management

Stephen Pierce CAO/PIO Wendy Rash USDA

Fred Zaragoza Supervisor Mike Reagan's Office

Jerald Kohls River News-Herald

Item 1 Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Russ Lester at 3:10 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 minor changes in the order of business to accommodate guests. A quick reference guide to the Brown Act, prepared by the County Counsel was distributed.

Item 4 Review/Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Minutes of March meeting were approved. Approval of January and February minutes were tabled forward; will be posted on internet for review by members.

Item 5 New Business

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

Jim Allan spoke to the Board in support of an item by Mosquito and Vector control to support HR 872.

(b) Williamson Act - Mike Yankovich

Mike reviewed proposed changes to the rules and procedures brining the county rule into harmony with the general plan. Next meeting – possible action to change, support or draft a letter.

(c) AAC Items

After negotiation with the administration, the AAC will not have schedule changes imposed upon it, but will be required to provide more of it's own administrative support. Jim will be drafting a Board item to implement previously approved By-Laws changes and re-appoint seated members whose terms have lapsed to new, staggered terms of office. Also a Board item to change the Grievance Committee to three, *ad hoc* members as discussed previously with Ag Advisory.

(d) Brown Act

The handout was reviewed and the training requirements were discussed.

(e) Bicycle Issue

The current status of this topic was reviewed at length, communication with bike groups and UC Davis has been facilitated, but there has been little movement on issues such as signage, permit restrictions and diverting bicycle traffic to safer routes.

Item 6 Continuing Business

(a) General Plan Update/Agricultural Regions Study

Mike Yankovich reported that the Dixon industrial park planning is continuing. The next meeting is planned for April 25th at the Dixon City Hall to continue discussion of the NE Dixon Agriculture Supporting Limited Industrial Area.

(b) Exotic Pest Update- Jim Allan

An Asian Citrus Psyllid and a citrus tree in Hacienda Heights were positive for HLB. Updates on San Joaquin Oriental Fruit fly.

(c) Future Budget Planning-Discussion

Another round of cuts is looming.

(d) Delta Water Issues-Discussion

Delta Conservancy to present to BOS on April 24.

(e)..Williamson Act

County Policy to be a topic of discussion at the next meeting see earlier item.

(f) Solano County Fair Plan

Will be deleted from future agendas, redevelopment funding tied to project has been canceled.

(g) Local Food Shed Working Group

Has not met, will meet soon.

(h) Renewable Energy Working Group

The group will be working on Wind and Solar Installations on farm land, working group to meet soon.

(i) Pesticide Update

Update on drift issues in eastern county. After regulating phenoxy herbicides, grain growers switched to Shark herbicide creating different problems.

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

- a. Delta Water Issues-Ongoing
- b. Exotic Pest Update- Jim Allan
- c. Williamson Act Update- Ongoing
- d. Bicycle Committee- Barbara C., Moira B., Russ L.
- e. Local Food Shed working group Moira will calendar a meeting. Jim W., Moira B., Russ L.
- Renewable Energy working group Solar Issues Russ L – Ch., Mary Helen S.
- g. Pesticide Update-Ag Dept-Ongoing
- h. Strategic Plan Development Dixon Ridge-Ongoing

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 – Morgan spoke about clustering farm advisors regionally, will be looking for support for new positions- Small Farms and Viticulture.

(b) Announcements

Item 9 Next Meeting Date

Wednesday, May 9th, 2012 at 3:00 p.m., first floor conference room, 501 Texas Street, Fairfield.

Item 10 Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 4:56 PM.