# SOLANO COUNTY AGRICULTURE ADVISORY MEETING (AAC) DRAFT MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ON

October 9, 2013

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.

#### Members Present:

James Wallace, Sue Lippstreu, Mary Helen Seeger, Don Johnson Moira Burke. Barbara Comfort

## Others present:

Simone Hardy Assistant Solano County Agriculture Commissioner

Linda Pinfold Solano County Agriculture Dept.
Nedzlene Ferrario Solano County Resource Management

Morgan Duran UCCE Director

Mike Yankovich Solano County Resources Management staff Senior Planner,

Peggy Nelson Assistant to Supervisor John Downs John Downs@wildlife.ca.gov

Wendy Rash USDA NRCS, as member of the public

Carrie Teiken USDA, as member of the public

### Item 1 Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Moira Burke at 3:10 PM.

#### Item 2 Introductions of Members and Guests

## Item 3 Changes and Approval of the Agenda

No Quorum, no change to Agenda

#### Item 4 Review/Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

No Quorum, no vote to approve meetings

## Item 5 New Business

# (a) Report on the Board of Supervisor Meeting –

Board Topics Related to Subject Matter of the AAC

Mike Yankovich -

Travis Air Force conflict between "Renewables" (wind turbines) and adjacent Emergency Landing Training on low elevation (500 ft or lower) dirt runways which training is a part of Travis Air Force mission.

More on "Renewables"

the subject will go before the November Board of Supervisors Gestamp proceeding with application on Ag Land, despite indications from Staff, Ag Advisory EIR will be required. Ag Advisory may want to comment again.

# (b) Dixon Ag Industrial Strategic Plan

See below

## **CONTINUING BUSINESS**

# A. General Plan Update/Dixon Ridge

Button Transportation wants to move to north of their existing yard, south of Sparling Lane to consolidate a number of their truck parking locations, to a 10 acre area. It is an allowed activity in the Ag Industrial Zone.

## B. Exotic Pest Update

#### Linda Pinfold:

- 1. Peach fruit fly found in Fairfield
- ~If there are 6 of same generation found in an area, a quarantine of 3-5 miles radius, affecting 80-90 sq mile could go into effect.
- ~So far. there are 5 insects. If no more are found between Oct 13th to Nov. 13th, quarantine threat will subside. It would have an effect on many farming operations. Some near by growers have done preventative treatments.
- ~Pest affects cucumbers, melons, tomatoes, citrus, eggplant, not squash or grapes. Why the pest is a concern can have 4-6 generations in a growing season, female lay eggs in fruit, eggs hatch, maggots in fruit, making fruit unmarketable.
- ~Control techniques include "Male Annihilation" pheromone and insecticide combination on phone poles, requires an EIR

#### 2. Eureopean Grape Vine Moth

- ~getting good control, there are only 20 sites in CA, with 50 insects basically all in Napa, previously hundreds of thousands of moths
- ~declared eradicated in Solano Co after effective treatments by Solano growers
- ~ tracking difficult now as the Technical Working Group doing the monitoring is on hold with Fed. Govt. shut down

#### 3. Asian Citrus Psyllid

- ~there is an expanding quarantine in Tulare County. Attempting treatments to eradicate. In other counties to the south, quarantine in effect, no longer attempt to eradicate. Biological Control parasitic wasp is being reared and distributed.
- ~Problem: the tiny Psyllid is a vector of HLB also known as Greening which affects fruit and health of citrus tree, having devastating effects in Florida.

## 4. Brown Marmorated Stinkbug

~has been found in Solano County, usually from NE part of USA.

They cluster on deciduous trees to overwinter

Hitchhike here from household articles when people move.

~found again recently in Sacramento which means there is an established breeding population in CA. A concern for grapes, fruit crops, berries,

They have a piercing sucking habit which degrades fruit quality.

~Particularly, don't want them in grape crush, especially with white wines.

# C. Future Budget Planning

Simone Hardy: "Steady State Budget" - cost of living increases, no big changes

## D. Delta Water Issues –

Fracking is proposed in Monterey County

County has Jurisdiction on surface only, State has sub-surface control:

Dept of Oil and Gas and Geo Thermal Resource in Dept of Resources

- ~Fracking is exempt from Federal Clean Water and Clean Air Acts
- ~put on agenda for next meeting

E. Williamson Act - nothing new to report

F. Local Food Shed working group | - will meet again soon

# G. Renewable Energy Working Group –

- ~Staff want to continue to address concerns of Ag Advisory committee
- ~Baryy Surela owner of Solarga proposing agriculture under solar panels
- ~Solar energy carpenters & Electricians in favor of this type of business

# H. Pesticide Update

Simone

- ~MSDS sheets will be reformatted as Safety Data Sheets, a gradual change by 2015, among the changes fewer signal words, eliminating CAUTION.
- ~DPR will provide info sheets on Closed system changes
- ~Rodenticides increased restricted materials
- ~Fumigants second generation

## I. LESA – Update for Solano County

- ~Has support by Farm Bureau and Solano Land trust to go with letter from AG Advisory to go before the Board of Supervisors
- ~will need committee, a stake holder group, to help develop it

## J. Proposed Nut Theft Ordinance

Ordinance was passed yesterday at Board of Supervisors on the consent calendar. Plan this year is for outreach - more enforcement next year.

# K. Dixon Movie Studio

Staff informs that the application has been pulled

# 7. PUBLIC COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE

a. there will be a "Conservation Effect" Phone Survey in Farms in CA Bay Delta Initiative source of funds to learn more about the Crop Land in the Central Valley, the current Practices and future plans. Hope is for good participation.

b. Orchard Systems Advisor- there is now a job opening – called Orchard "Systems" as it is not just Pomology but covers soil, water, air as well.

8. NEXT MEETING DATE November 13th, 2013, 3:00 pm 501 Texas Street, Fairfield, CA

Adjourned at 4:40 pm