

SOLANO COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AAC)
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ON
March 11, 2009

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, John Mangels, Mary Helen Seeger

Others Present:

Jim Allan	Agriculture
Carole Paterson	UC Cooperative Extension
Jim Louie	Resource Management
Adam Cline	Agriculture
Jimmie McCants	Sheriff's Office
James Currie	Sherriff's Office
Fred Zaragoza	Aide to Sup Reagan Dist 5
Sabine Goerke-Shrode	Aide to Sup Spering Dist 3
Moirra Burke	Farmer

Item 1 Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by John Mangels at 3:05 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 as presented.

Item 4 Review/Approval of the Meeting Minutes of February 11, 2009

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of February 11, 2009 as presented. The motion carried on a unanimous vote of the members present.

Item 5 New Business

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

The Board has requested a review of the code compliance enforcement plan and is looking to add an administrative review step to the process. There will also be changes to the zoning ordinance in regards to home occupations in rural residential businesses. Staff will be coming next month to update committee regarding the proposed subdivision near Timm Rd.

(b) Rural Dumping-Solano County Sherriff's Office

Deputy Sherriff Jim McCants was assigned in January to investigate illegal dumping in the county. This position is partially funded by Resource Management to help farming community investigate dumping on private property. Committee requested copy of the ordinance to review with the intention to write a letter to the Board supporting the efforts of the Sherriff Dept.

Mr. Currie also advises to protect your private information as well as your personal property. You can apply for an owner applied number by going to www.agcrime.net.

(c) Agricultural Fees for 2009-2010

There are no proposed increases to the fee schedules for 2009-2010.

(d) County Talking Points for Delta/Water Issues

Committee was provided a hand out of the Solano Delta Specific Positions List which included information on Agricultural Land Conversion to Habitat and sub topics included; Economic Impacts, Endangered Species Act Issues, Governance, Salinity, Transportation Corridors, North Bay Aqueduct, Flood Management, Water Rights and Other topics. Also provided was a list of Bay Delta Conservation Plan Definitions & Acronyms.

Committee plans to ask Linda Fiack Executive Director of the Delta Protection Committee to come next month and do a presentation on water issues. Meeting will start at 2pm to accommodate for time.

Item 6 Continuing Business

(a) General Plan Update-Brigitta Corsello

Mrs. Corsello suggested that Adam Cline provide an update on the implementation of the Agricultural Regions' Strategic Plan Development Process.

(b) FARM Coordinator Update- Adam Cline

Mr. Cline reported that the next step in the process of developing the Suisun Valley Strategic Plan is a series of stakeholder meetings scheduled in March and April. The Suisun Valley Stakeholders Working Sessions dates and topics:

March 17, 2009- Agricultural Tourist Center Location Alternatives
March 30, 2009-Zoning & Development Standards Infrastructure Alternatives & Roadway Character & Design
April 20, 2009- Development Fees & Improvement Funding Marketing & Branding

The primary purpose of these working sessions is to review and refine planning approaches and alternatives for presentation at a second Suisun Valley Strategic Plan Community Workshop that will be scheduled in May 2009. Mr. Cline encouraged participation in the Strategic Plan development process.

(c) Edison Ag Tac Center Update- Carole Paterson

Edison AGTAC, Southern California Edison's 24,000 square-foot Agricultural Technology Application Center in Tulare, California, is dedicated to helping customers become more energy efficient and profitable. They have workshops, exhibits and meeting and conference facilities. Group is interested in having a similar center in this area; Ms. Paterson will investigate further and bring back any updates.

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 Issue- Linda Fiack of the Delta Protection Committee
- b. AB512- Assessors Office
- c. Agricultural Regions Study – Ongoing
- d. Large Animal Catastrophe/Carcass Disposal Plan – May
- e. Transportation Development Fee-Jim Fiack (Overview)

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

The University of California, Division of Ag and Natural Resource is in the process of creating a new strategic plan; please contact Ms. Paterson for the web site address if you are interested.

(c) Correspondence

The correspondences for the USDA Wildlife Trapper and the Timm Rd sub division were delivered and included for review.

Item 9 Next Meeting Date

Wednesday, April 8, 2009 at 2:00 p.m., first floor conference room, 501 Texas Street, Fairfield.

Item 10 Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50pm.