SOLANO COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (AAC) MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ON July 08, 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, Dittmer, Jeff, Don Johnson, Craig Leathers, Russ Lester, Sue Lippstreu, John Mangels, Al Medvitz, Mary Helen Seeger

Others Present:

Carole Paterson UC Cooperative Extension
Birgitta Corsello Resource Management
Jim Louie Resource Management

Fred Zaragoza Aide to Supervisor Reagan Dist 5

Adam Cline F.A.R.M. Coordinator

Katherine Holmes SRCD

Item 1 Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by John Mangels at 3:03 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 May 13, 2009 and June 10, 2009

Minutes from May 13, 2009 and June 10, 2008 were approved unanimously.

Item 5 New Business

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

Mr. Yankovich updated the AAC on Middle Green Valley they are half way through the specific plan and will be starting the EIR. Here is the link for more information;

http://www.solanocounty.com/depts/rm/boardscommissions/middle_green_valley_cac/default.asp

(b) Weed Management- Kathryn Holmes

Ms. Holmes provided a hand out which indicated the different programs they are working on now.

- Cost Share-Targeted Weed Control Program
- Invasive Weed Mapping
- Arundo and Red Sesbania Control
- Artichoke Thistle Control West County
- Invasive Weed Education and Coordination
- Invasive Woody Species Control
- Artichoke Thistle Control East County

(c) Senate Ag Committee Hearings on CDFA

Committee passed a motion to write a letter to Supervisors opposing the idea of breaking up the Agricultural Division of CDFA.

(d) Recruitment for Vacant Committee Seats

There are 4 vacancies on the AAC. One is the appointee of Supervisor Seifert. The other three are eligible to be filled by members of the agricultural community. An announcement for the vacancies went out in the FARM Program Bulletin in mid-June. The AAC members were asked to alert possible candidates to the openings and to submit applications to the Agricultural Department.

Item 6 Continuing Business

(a) General Plan Update-Jim Louie

The Suisun Valley Strategic Plan development process continued with a Community Meeting on June 29th. During this meeting the concepts developed through the Stakeholder Workings Sessions were recapped. The Plan is now being developed by EDAW and a draft will be ready for public comment sometime this fall.

The Dixon Ridge Strategic Plan development process is continuing with Jim Louie and Adam Cline meeting with small groups of growers in the region. The feedback from these meetings and the initial Kick-Off meeting will be used to develop planning concepts specific to the Dixon Ridge Plan. A follow-up Community Meeting is tentatively scheduled for sometime this fall.

(b) Delta Water Issues

Members expressed a desire to keep this as a recurrent topic.

(c) FARM Coordinator Update- Adam Cline

Cline added that he has been involved with the development of the agricultural portion of the Middle Green Valley Specific Plan. He has attended several meetings and has provided information to Sibella Krause, the consultant working on the agricultural element.

(d) Solano County Fair Plan

Here is the link to the Solano County Fair http://solano360.org

(e) TANC Project Update

SMUD has pulled out of the project

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

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

- Delta Water Issue-Discussion
- b. Agricultural Regions Study Ongoing
- c. Green House Gas Emissions- Consultant-Oct
- d. LBAM Update
- e. Solano County Fair Plan-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
- (b) Announcements
- (c) Correspondence

Item 9 Next Meeting Date

Wednesday, October 14, 2009 at 3:00 p.m., first floor conference room, 501 Texas Street, Fairfield.

Item 10 Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.