

COUNTY OF PLACER AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

JOSHUA P. HUNTSINGER Agricultural Commissioner Sealer of Weights & Measures

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION MEMBERS
Tony Aguilar Larry Jordan
Patricia Beard William Morebeck
James Brenner John Nitta
Dan Macon Stewart Perry
Wayne Vineyard

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MINUTES

PLACER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION MEETING DECEMBER 10, 2012

Members Present: Tony Aguilar, Patricia Beard, James Brenner, Larry Jordan, Dan Macon,

William Morebeck, John Nitta, Stewart Perry, Wayne Vineyard

Members Absent: None

I. CALL TO ORDER

- II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR DECEMBER 10, 2012 AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 29, 2012. Motion to approve: Macon/Perry/MPUV
- III. PUBLIC COMMENT None
- IV. THE SIERRA NEVADA ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT PROJECT FOREST HEALTH, FIRE BEHAVIOR AND WATER– Kimberly Ingram, UC Cooperative Extension

Kimberly Ingram made a PowerPoint presentation showing results of tree trimming to reduce risk of catastrophic wild fires in the two study areas (Last Chance and Sugar Pine).

V. REPORTS

- A. Agricultural Marketing Program Josh Huntsinger
 - Holidays in the Hills Toy Drive on the Placer County Wine Trail was featured twice last week on KFBK.
 - The December 1st and 2nd Mountain Mandarin Growers Association Orchard Days was rained out.
 - Merlot has been delivering gift baskets to key media people.

B. Economic Development Board – Lyndell Grey

- A key issue continues to be the designation of community centers. The Rural Lincoln MAC will be meeting January 28, 2013, offering the community an opportunity to express their opinions.
- Economic Development is hiring a new staff person for business development

C. Livestock and Natural Resources Farm Advisor – Roger Ingram

- The PlacerGrown Farm Conference *Survive and Thrive* is scheduled for Saturday, January 26, 2013 at the Lincoln High School.
- A six week Farm Business Planning Course will be starting in February.

D. Horticultural and Small Farms Advisor – Cindy Fake

- Attended the Citrus Conference held in Valencia, Spain.
- The country of Georgia had 10% of the Mandarin crop rejected for export;
- Under the Specialty Crop Grant, the UC Extension has hired four people to run the program.
- Beginning Farming Academy was held December 7th, and 8th.
- A Pruning Workshop will be held at Brenner Ranch on December 13th.

E. Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) Agendas – Patti Beard

- The Meadow Vista, and the Weimar/Colfax MAC's have sent letters expressing their concerns about community centers.
- F. Placer Parkway Meeting Update No Report
- **G.** Rotating Agriculture Industry Update William Morebeck, Small Farm Industry
 - Discussed how position added to Commission to protect small farms.
 - Right to Farm ordinance the first action taken.

H. Agricultural Water Supply Issues - Josh Huntsinger

- If any damage sustained from recent rain storm, contact Josh Huntsinger.
- The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board adopted the Eastern San Joaquin General Order on December 7, 2012. This is three to four months behind schedule.

IX. AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER'S REPORT - Josh Huntsinger

- Wise Villa community center application goes before the Planning Commission December 20, 2012.
- 2013 pesticide permitting will begin next week.
- Three Asian Citrus Psyllid have been found in Tulare. Two last year, and one this year, but quarantine triggers have not been met.
- Small business assistance is available for Placer County farmers drought disaster declaration for Nevada county Covering October, 2012 through December, 2012.
- USDA has a program to address discrimination. Ted Van Steyn, Elk Grover Farm Services is the contact.

X. NEW BUSINESS (NON-ACTION ITEM)

Wayne Vineyard thanked the Commissioners for their thoughts and concerns regarding the community center issue.

XI. ADJOURNMENT