



**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	

11477 E AVENUE  
AUBURN, CALIFORNIA 95603  
TELEPHONE: (530) 889-7372  
FAX: (530) 823-1698  
www.placer.ca.gov

**MINUTES**

**PLACER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION MEETING**

**March 12, 2012**

**Members Present:** Tony Aguilar, James Brenner, Larry Jordan, Dan Macon, John Nitta, Wayne Vineyard

**Members Absent:** Patricia Beard, William Morebeck, Stewart Perry

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR March 12, 2012 AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 9, 2012. Motion to approve: Aguilar/Brenner/MPUV**

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**IV. UPDATE ON IMPACTS OF NPDES PERMIT REQUIREMENTS** – Joel Buettner, Placer Mosquito and Vector Control District, was present to give an overview and update on the impacts of NPDES Permit Requirements.

The NPDES Permit has been in effect since November, 2011. The Mosquito and Vector Control District is looking for support in the Senate for HR872, which would provide relief from the NPDES Permit process.

More West Nile Virus is appearing in California, and a new vector, the Tiger Mosquito which carries Dengue and Yellow fever, has been found in southern California. The vector control districts in Placer and Sacramento Counties are working together to coordinate regional applications.

The Placer Mosquito and Vector Control District has set up a dedicated email address and voicemail box for agriculture producers to participate in an information sharing program to help select the most effective control products and timing for mosquito control applications. All rice permittees will be provided with the information.

**V. PRESENTATION ON GEORGIAN MANDARIN PRODUCTION** – Cindy Fake and Steve Pilz gave a power point presentation on mandarin production in the Republic of Georgia, from their recent visits to assist growers with improving agricultural practices and production.

## **VI. REPORTS**

### **A. Agricultural Marketing Program – Josh Huntsinger**

- Approval of a fifteen month Agriculture Marketing contract with Merlot Marketing of Sacramento is on the Board of Supervisors Agenda, March 13, 2012.
- The Farm and Barn Tour is scheduled for October 14, 2012.

### **B. Economic Development Board – Lyndell Grey**

- Michael Johnson, Placer County Planning Department, has determined that breweries fall under the Winery Ordinance.
- The Gold Hill Garden project to be review by the Planning Department, April 25, 2012. This project is for a commercial wedding garden, no agriculture involved.

### **C. Livestock and Natural Resources Farm Advisor - Roger Ingram – No Report**

### **D. Horticultural and Small Farms Advisor - Cindy Fake**

- Farmer to Farmer Breakfast held last week in Grass Valley. Next breakfast will be April 4, 2012 in Lincoln.
- Contingency Risk Management workshop was held on March 9, 2012.
- Discussed upcoming workshops:
  - Marketing Academy – April 20 and 21, 2012
  - Beginning Farming Academy – March 15 and 16, 2012

### **E. Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) Agendas - Patti Beard – No Report**

### **F. Placer Parkway Meeting Update - William Morebeck – No Report**

### **G. Rotating Agriculture Industry Update – Livestock Industry, Dan Macon**

- Discussed how the livestock industry is developing and changing in the current market.

### **H. Agricultural Water Supply Issues - Josh Huntsinger**

- Attended the Northern California Water Association's annual meeting in Chico on March 9, 2012. Most of the discussion pertained to the amount of water Northern California would be required to send to the delta to maintain adequate flows for fish habitat.
- The PCWA Board meeting will be held March 15, 2012. PG&E will be giving an update on the current water situation.
- The PNSSNS Sup-Watershed Coalition's annual meeting was held on February 22, 2012. The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board has greatly increased the per acre fees they charge, causing financial difficulties for the coalition.
- Contact the Agriculture Department to report any significant losses due to drought. This will be helpful to determine if a disaster declaration is necessary.

## **VII. AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER'S REPORT - Josh Huntsinger**

- Rio Oso Solar Project is currently stalled. The Planning Department will bring the project to the Agriculture Commission for input as soon as it is appropriate.
- California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) has suspended European Grapevine Moth trapping for non-infested counties.
- The Temporary Outdoor Event permit process for Agriculture Events is being modified by the Planning Department. It is hopeful that the process can be streamlined and fee relief be implemented.
- Form 700 forms are due April 2, 2012.

- Tony Aguilar volunteered to be the next Commissioner to give an overview of the Citrus Industry

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS (NON-ACTION ITEM)**

- Dan Macon observed that rattlesnakes are out early this year, by three weeks.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**