



**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**

**APRIL 8, 2013**

**Members Present:** Tony Aguilar, Patricia Beard, James Brenner, Larry Jordan, Dan Macon, William Morebeck, John Nitta, Stewart Perry, Wayne Vineyard

**Members Absent:** None

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- I. CALL TO ORDER**
  - II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR APRIL 11, 2013 AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 11, 2013. Motion to approve: *Jordan/Brenner/MPUV***
  - III. PUBLIC COMMENT – None**
  - IV. PROPOSED ADDITIONAL SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING ON PORTION OF AGP 145 (APN 035-050-005) – Alex Fisch, Placer County Planning Services Division**  
Request that the Agricultural Commission determine if existing and proposed agricultural uses of the subject property warrant construction of an additional single family dwelling for an owner manager.

Agricultural Preserve 145 consists of four parcels totaling 165 acres, located on both sides of Cavitt Stallman Road. Matt Dawson is a prospective buyer for the 79 acre parcel north of Cavitt Stallman Road that currently supports a cow calf operation for Rickey Ranch and has three inches of irrigation water. Mr. Dawson requests that the Agricultural Commission determine if existing and proposed agricultural uses of the subject property warrant construction of an additional single family dwelling for an owner manager.

Following an informational overview, Matt Dawson answered questions from the Commission.

At the conclusion of discussion, the Commission tabled the matter and recommended Mr. Dawson discuss the feasibility of splitting the Williamson Act contract with the Planning Department and the Rickey family.

Scott and Sabrina Brening, also requests that the Agricultural Commission determine if existing and proposed agricultural uses of the subject property warrant construction of a third single family dwelling for an owner manager on a 23 acre parcel, APN 035-120-028, in the Ricky Ranch AGP 145..

Scott Brening answered questions from the Commission, and at the conclusion of the discussion, the Commission tabled the matter and made the same recommendation of splitting the contract.

## **V. REPORTS**

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

- An Easter promotion by Merlot Marketing just concluded.
- Merlot Marketing is working on a recap of activities to present to the Commission.

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

- The Mountain Mandarin Festival, received a private-sector award for its support of agriculture at the annual Economic Development Summit.
- Community Centers remains a big issue.

### **C. Livestock and Natural Resources Farm Advisor – Roger Ingram**

- Discussed upcoming workshops:  
California Grazing Academy in Brownsville– April 26 – 27. 2013  
Field Workshop – May 7, 2013
- Mother Lode Meats looking at building an USDA processing/slaughter house.
- There will be a tour of the Prather Ranch USDA facility in MacDoel on April 16, 2013.

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

- Discussed completed workshops:  
Beginning Farmer Academy completed last week  
Farm Business Planning Course completed in March  
Held four pest management workshops in March
- Discussed upcoming workshops:  
Commercial Vegetable Production Workshop – April 12, 2013  
Ag Resources Workshop – April 24, 2013
- There were 1,450 customers at the farmers markets last week.

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

### **F. Placer Parkway Meeting Update – No Report**

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

- Even though the April snow survey shows half of normal water content, good water storage will allow PCWA to make close to full deliveries this year.
- Last week a judge ruled that the EIR, adopted last summer by the Regional Water Quality Control Board to facilitate adopting Irrigated Lands Program long term waivers, is insufficient. This will stretch out the timeline for adopting the long term waivers.

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

- Wise Villa's Community Center was approved by the Planning Commission, and the Board of Supervisors upheld the approval.
- The Gold Hill Community Center denial by the Planning Commission was reversed by the Board of Supervisors 3 to 2.
- The new department head of Environmental Health, Wes Nicks is not in favor of the Agriculture Department running the Hazardous Material Inventory program, and will be doing it in house.
- Ed King, Deputy Agriculture Commissioner, is compiling the crop report data for 2012.

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

Patricia Beard requested an update on the Ag Program at Sierra College.

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**