



County of Placer
Agricultural Commission

11477 E Avenue ▪ Auburn, CA 95603 ▪ (530) 889-7372

Denise Moore – Nursery
Earl Stephens – Ag Processing
Elisa Noble – Small Farms

Jim Brenner – Fruit & Nut Farm
Larry Jordan – Timber
Patricia Beard – Livestock

Patrick Bollinger – Foothill Farms
Rich Ferreira – Citrus
Wayne Vineyard – Rice

Please Note: In observance of President Lincoln’s Birthday on Monday, February 13, 2023, the meeting is moving to Monday, February 6, 2023.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

7:00 pm Monday, February 6, 2023

Placer County Planning Commission Hearing Room

3091 County Center Drive, Auburn, CA

County Contact: Joshua Huntsinger

I. CALL TO ORDER and Roll Call

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA for February 6, 2023 AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES from December 12, 2022

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Individuals may address the Commission on items under the jurisdiction of the Agricultural Commission not included on this agenda for no longer than five (5) minutes. No action can be taken on items addressed under Public Comment.

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS:

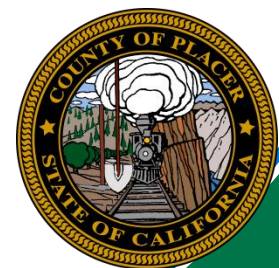
A. Form 700 Filing: Deadline is March 30, 2023

B. Water Supply Updates:

1. Nevada Irrigation District
2. Placer County Water Agency

C. Country Acres Project – Agrivoltaics: Professor Majdi Abou Najm, UC Davis

As part of the Country Acres solar and battery project, SMUD, in partnership with UC Davis Professor Majdi Abou Najm, is planning to construct and operate an Agrivoltaics demonstration project in Placer County. The project aims to test modifications to conventional solar project design for full-scale agricultural production. This will be accomplished by constructing a portion of the solar panels at varying heights to allow access for farm equipment and plant growth and also varying row spacing to test the impacts of more or less shading on crop yields, water and energy efficiencies and soil health. Prolonged drought, extended warm season and more extreme weather all pose a threat to Placer County’s farm economy. This project will give regional farmers with practical information that can be applied to make their production more resilient and support expanded food security. The presentation tonight will provide an overview of agrivoltaics as a practice, the research planned at Country Acres and provide an opportunity for discussion.



The Agricultural Commission is composed of appointed community members whose purpose is to advise the Board of Supervisors on all matters pertaining to agriculture including recommendations regarding California Land Conservation Act/Williamson Act applications. Residents are encouraged to attend and provide input. Placer County is committed to ensuring that persons with disabilities are provided the resources to participate fully in public meetings. If you require disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, to attend or participate in this meeting, please contact the Placer County Agriculture Department at (530) 889-7372.

D. Country Acres Solar and Batter Project Overview: Amanda Beck, Project Development Manager, Power Generation and Project Development, SMUD

The Country Acres Project is a 344MW solar and up to 344 MW battery project located on approximately 1,170 acres of land in Western Placer County north of Baseline Rd. Existing land uses include almond orchards, agricultural rice fields, and grasslands. The project is being designed and planned with pollinator plantings at the site to support the surrounding farming operations as well as sheep grazing for vegetation management. In addition, the project will include an 11-acre agrivoltaics demonstration site that includes crop plantings. The project is planned to begin construction in mid-2023 and complete construction, testing and commissioning in 2025. The project is required to mitigate for the loss of Farmland of Statewide Importance and Unique Farmland at a 1:1 ratio. This presentation will provide an overview of the details of the overall project.

V. REPORTS

A. UCCE Farm Advisor Updates

B. Agriculture Department's Reports: Josh Huntsinger

C. Agricultural Commissioner's Reports

VI. ADJOURNMENT