

MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF PLACER

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jennifer Montgomery, Supervisor, District 5

DATE: February 25, 2014

SUBJECT: **COMMENDATION** – Present a Commendation honoring the Placer Farm Bureau on its 100th Anniversary.

ACTION REQUESTED

Present a Commendation honoring the Placer Farm Bureau on its 100th Anniversary.

BACKGROUND

The Agricultural Extension Service was founded by Congress in 1914 to provide a connection between the university research and the farmer. As California's land grant university, UC Davis hosted what is now known as the Cooperative Extension Service. Before Cooperative Extension would bring a Farm Advisor into a county, a local farm organization needed to be formed. This guaranteed a channel through which county farm advisors and extension specialists could reach individual farmers and their families. A county Farm Bureau representing at least 20 percent of the farmers in the county had to be operating before a farm advisor could be appointed for the county.

On October 21, 1914, a group of farmers and interested citizens met at the courthouse in Auburn for the purpose of forming the Placer County Farm Bureau and to request the services of a Farm Advisor. The Dean and Director of the UC Davis Agricultural Experiment Station Thomas Forsyth Hunt addressed the meeting, one hundred members signed to establish the Placer County Farm Bureau. Directors were appointed for each of the fourteen area "farm centers," which collectively acted as the Farm Bureau until transportation become more widespread.

The Placer County Farm Bureau was formed in 1914 to find solutions for "the farm, the farm home, and the rural community." Today, nearly 100 years later, the Placer County Farm Bureau is still serving as the voice of local agriculture by championing the industry's success through education, outreach and political action. On July 7, 1915 the Placer County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the petition to form the Placer County Farm Bureau and made the necessary appropriation to pay the expenses of a Farm Advisor.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

**FEBRUARY 4, 2014 IN THE MATTER OF A COMMENDATION IN
RECOGNITION OF THE PLACER COUNTY FARM BUREAU'S 100TH
ANNIVERSARY**

WHEREAS, the Agricultural Extension Service was founded by Congress in 1914 to provide a connection between the university research and the farmer. As California's land grant university, UC Davis hosted what is now known as the Cooperative Extension Service; and

WHEREAS, before Cooperative Extension would bring a Farm Advisor into a county, a local farm organization needed to be formed. This guaranteed a channel through which county farm advisors and extension specialists could reach individual farmers and their families. A county Farm Bureau representing at least 20 percent of the farmers in the county had to be operating before a farm advisor could be appointed for the county; and

WHEREAS, on October 21, 1914, a group of farmers and interested citizens met at the courthouse in Auburn for the purpose of forming the Placer County Farm Bureau and to request the services of a Farm Advisor; and

WHEREAS, the Dean and Director of the UC Davis Agricultural Experiment Station Thomas Forsyth Hunt addressed the meeting, one hundred members signed to establish the Placer County Farm Bureau. Directors were appointed for each of the fourteen area "farm centers," which collectively acted as the Farm Bureau until transportation become more widespread; and

WHEREAS, the Placer County Farm Bureau was formed in 1914 to find solutions for "the farm, the farm home, and the rural community." Today, nearly 100 years later, the Placer County Farm Bureau is still serving as the voice of local agriculture by championing the industry's success through education, outreach and political action; and

WHEREAS, on July 7, 1915 the Placer County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the petition to form the Placer County Farm Bureau and made the necessary appropriation to pay the expenses of a Farm Advisor; and

WHEREAS, the total gross value for Placer County's agricultural products in 2007 reached almost \$60 million. The top five agricultural crops in Placer County are: rice, nursery products, cattle, timber and walnuts. Numerous other popular and specialty crops are produced in the county, including wine grapes, mandarins and honey bees (apiary). Placer County's rolling-hill landscape and semi-arid climate lend themselves to small-scale niche market production, and our local farmers' market system is active and popular.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE KNOWN, the Placer County Board of Supervisors recognize the contribution of our farmers and ranchers as an integral thread to the fabric that is Placer County. And congratulates the Farm Bureau on 100 years of Service to the County its residents, farmers, and ranchers.

Jack Duran, Supervisor District 1,
Chairman 2014

Robert M. Weygandt, Supervisor District 2
Jim Holmes, Supervisor District 3
Kirk Uhler, Supervisor District 4
Jennifer Montgomery, Supervisor District 5