



# SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

2101 E. Earhart Avenue, Suite 100, Stockton, CA 95206

## MINUTES

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD  
Monday, December 8, 2025

- Present:** Kamaljit Bagri, Josh Cheney, Chuck Hammond, Michelle Leinfelder-Miles, Felix Ogbah, Linda Ormonde, Robert Rickman, Terry Violet, Kenneth Vogel
- Excused:** Sara Bautista, Jose Chavez, Steven Ding, Steven Freeman, Andrew Genasci, Pedro Mendez, Richard Marchini, Sonya Miller, Joseph Nicolini, Terry Ann Paoletti, Joseph Seimas, Roseanna Silva
- Staff:** Gavin Cline, Board Aide for Supervisor Ding's Office

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- I. Call to Order** – 10:05 AM by Chair Vogel and followed by Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Introduction of New Agricultural Advisory Board Members**
- a. No new members currently.
- III. Approval of Minutes** – September 22, 2025, meeting minutes to be corrected and distributed at the next meeting for consideration.
- IV. Correspondence** – “Save the Date” for April 2, 2026, for the San Joaquin Farm Bureau Foundation for Agricultural Education’s 31<sup>st</sup> Annual “Taste of San Joaquin” on Thursday, April 2, 2026, at the Lodi Festival Grounds.
- V. Legislative Updates**
- a. Kamal Bagri – Agricultural Commissioner
- i. Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) draft “Treated Seed” regulations: The Department had a lawsuit filed against them that prompted a new regulatory package through the registration branch. Based on the new language treated seed will be considered “pesticide” and any person handling the seed would be considered “pesticide handler”. County Agricultural Commissioners provided comments as there are some unintended consequences with the proposed draft regulations.

- ii. DPR Enforcement Response Regulations will be revised affecting growers with fine actions potentially increasing from \$15K for Class A violations. Chair Vogel inquired if there are more opportunities for industry input impacted by regulations.

## **VI. New Business**

### **a. Agricultural Commissioner's Report**

- i. Commissioner Bagri discussed that the cattle industry is working with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) regarding concerns about New World Screw Worm. The California Department of Agriculture (CDFA) is conducting trapping near the border in Southern California and monitoring movement of cattle from Mexico to California
- ii. Some dairies still have active High-Path Influenza. There were reported finds in poultry in Sonoma County, detection in El Dorado with a "backyard" find. If there is a commercial find, then the entire herd or flock will be depopulated. The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) provides recommendations and guidelines for poultry and dairy workers.
- iii. Agricultural Commissioner's Office issues with the Pest Control Advisors (PCA). PCA's are requesting restricted materials permits for their growers. This is an issue as they do not operate the property and are acting as an agent.
- iv. Continuing Education classes have been reporting good attendance. The next upcoming classes are scheduled for December 10 in Stockton and December 18 in Lodi.
- v. The Agricultural Commissioner's Office is working on an agreement with CDFA regarding funding for noxious weed species. The project plan includes continued survey for Noxious Weeds including Yellow Star Thistle, Russian Thistle, Italian Thistle, Artichoke Thistle and Tree of Heaven.

### **b. UCCE Director's Report, Michelle Leinfelder-Miles**

- i. The department is currently recruiting for a Walnut and Cherry Advisor position to fill the position in 2026.
- ii. The University of California Cooperative Extension upcoming calendar of events includes:
  - 1. January 9, 2026, at the Ag Center: SJC and Delta Field Crops Meeting
  - 2. February 3, 2026, in Lodi at Hutchins Street Square: Lodi Grape Day Symposium
  - 3. February 11, 2026, in Lodi at Hutchins Street Square: Northern San Joaquin Valley Processing Tomato Meeting
  - 4. April 9, 2026, at the Ag Center: Rangeland Summit

## **VII. Discussion items and Announcements**

- a. Chair Vogel asked about the status of a disaster declaration for the cherry crop. Commissioner Bagri responded that a declaration is being deferred while waiting for additional data from Contra Costa County "you pick it" orchards.
- b. The Agricultural Commissioner's Office is working with San Joaquin County General Services Department, UCCE and the Office of Emergency services on enhancements to Robert J. Cabral Agricultural Center lobby. Plans include a new display case to highlight awards related to agriculture to be curated by the California Cattlewomen's Association. Additionally, soil profiles of San Joaquin County will be displayed. Member Ormond suggested an interactive soil display.

- c. The Agricultural Center's Office is working with the Information Systems Division (ISD) to provide a large-format screen display in the lobby to highlight events, programs, services and daily rental activities.
- d. The Robert J. Cabral Center will be completing a carpet replacement project in late December. Ongoing refurbishing includes replacement of tables, chairs and window coverings.
- e. Commissioner Bagri reported that on September 23, 2026, the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors conducted a Public Hearing to adopt revised fees for the use of facilities at the Robert J. Cabral Agricultural Center and approved a Resolution to amend the Facility Use Policy and Fee Schedule, effective January 1, 2026. The most significant policy revision relates to the eligibility of approved users that may rent facilities at the Ag. Center by giving priority to agricultural or government-related events or professional meetings.
- f. Supervisor Rickman discussed representing San Joaquin County at the annual California State Association of Counties (CSAC) meeting held December 1-5, 2025, in Santa Clara County. The CSAC Annual meeting brings California's counties together to confront shared challenges, exchange ideas, and identify practical solutions. He noted that California leads the nation in farm bankruptcies, and there is an increased burden on small family farms. He also commented on challenges related to the Delta Tunnels water conveyance system, and the need for more sustainable Central California groundwater storage.
- g. Gavin Cline, Board Aide from Supervisor Ding's Office, commented on Proposition 36, known as "The Homelessness, Drug Addiction, and Theft Reduction Act," adds substantive charges and enhancements to areas of the Penal and Health and Safety Code regarding theft, property damage, and drug-related crimes. Mr. Cline discussed the new noise ordinance with required decibel device readings of 150 feet in residential areas and 500 feet in rural areas.
- h. Supervisor Rickman provided an update on the Dog Detection Program; Supervisors and staff met with elected officials in Washington D.C. and discussed language for funding a study to identify a potential property for a dog training center in the Western United States, to possibly share with Sheriff's and city police canine safety training programs.

**VIII. Adjournment** – Meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM

Prepared By: Patricia Lord  
Board Secretary