



SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

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

MINUTES

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD
Monday, September 22, 2025

Present: Kamaljit Bagri, Sara Bautista, Jose Cheney, Steven Freeman, Andrew Genasci, Chuck Hammond, Michelle Leinfelder-Miles, Richard Marchini, Sonya Miller, Joseph Nicolini, Linda Ormonde, Terry Ann Paoletti, Robert Rickman, Joseph Seimas, Roseanna Silva, Terry Violett

Excused: Jose Chavez, Steven Ding, Pedro Mendez, Kenneth Vogel

Absent: Felix Ogbah

-
- I. **Call to Order** – 10:04 am by Commissioner Kamal Bagri for Chair Vogel and followed by Pledge of Allegiance, led by Andrew Genasci
 - II. **Introduction of New Agricultural Advisory Board Members**
 - a. Commissioner Kamal Bagri introduced new Board Member:
 - i. Sara Bautista – Farm Service Agency
 - III. **Approval of Minutes** – June 23, 2025, Minutes approved; M/S Rickman/Freeman
 - IV. **Correspondence** – None reported
 - V. **Legislative Updates**
 - a. Andrew Gensaci reported that he is tracking any legislation revolving around groundwater adjudication and other water rights
 - b. Kamal Bagri – Agricultural Commissioner
 - i. A.B 732 – abandoned orchards
 1. Bill has passed the California state senate and assembly, is now waiting on Governor signature. This bill will authorize Agricultural Commissioners to levy a civil penalty, in lieu of a lien, against a person whose property is considered a “public nuisance”
 2. Double-Edged Sword - Owners don’t have the money to remove the plants themselves or take care of the land, so the land continues to be an issue. Counties must pay the bill to abate the land and then place a lien on the property. Chuck Hammond commented that it could take up to a year to get a burner to the property for abatement. Kamal Bagri explained that use of curtain burners instead of open burning still

- i. The federal reconciliation bill enacted on July 4, 2025, eliminated SNAP-ed funding, which supports the delivery of CalFresh Healthy Living educational programming in California. As a result, seven SJC UCCE staff positions - one-third of its workforce - will be laid off in 2026.
- ii. The department is currently recruiting for a Walnut and Cherry Advisor position and has recently hired a half-time 4-H Community Education Specialist to help rebuild the program, which has seen low enrollment since COVID.
- iii. The Delta Crops Advisor is providing expert testimony to the State Water Resources Control Board on salinity impacts to Delta agriculture at the request of protesting parties of the Delta Conveyance Project.

VII. Discussion items and Announcements

- a. Andrew Genasci & Kamal Bagri
 - i. DPR is holding an informal public workshop about Anticoagulant Rodenticide Mitigation on September 24th. They have also posted draft regulations pertaining to making these products as restricted materials.
 - ii. New regulations could prevent farmers from applying pesticide within 150ft of a structure, which could be a hardship on farmers.
- b. Sonya Miller
 - i. Accepting applications for Conservation programs
 - ii. RCD is holding a workshop on Nov. 13th – “Setting a Good Foundation”
 1. They are looking for vendors for the event
- c. Kamal Bagri
 - i. Noxious Weed continues to rapidly spread in San Joaquin County, currently working with RCD on how to spend funding for the Weed Management Area

VIII. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 11:14AM

Prepared By: Patricia Lord, Management Analyst III and Humera Imran, Office Worker II