

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD

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

MINUTES

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD Monday, August 10, 2020

Virtual Microsoft Teams Meeting

+1 209-645-4071 United States, Stockton (Toll) Conference ID: 183 243 486#

Present:Bruce Blodgett, Josh Cheney, Bob Elliott, Chuck Hammond, Scott Johnson,
Richard Marchini, Tim Pelican, Joseph Seimas, Terry Violett, Ken Vogel

Excused: Jeremy Terhune

Absent: Joseph Bacchetti, George Biagi, Brent Holtz, Terry Ann Paoletti, Ernie Pombo, Jeff Torres, Charles Winn

Guest: Dr. Maggie Park, Joan Singson, Moses Zapian, Scott Tyrell

I. Call to Order – Chair Scott Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes - None

III. Correspondence - None

IV. Old Business

- a. Ag Commissioner's Report:
 - i. On the pesticide front, there is a pilot program starting with Telone down in the southern valley including Merced and Stanislaus with sweet potatoes. As well as proposed mitigation for neonics coming out soon. There is going to be a public meeting held here next week, the information for that is on the DPR website.
 - ii. In terms of CE's, Public Health has majority of our building for contact tracing thru December. We are looking at contracting with a company that can provide that service for us online. There are specifics that is required by DPR that makes that happen and makes it count. They are also looking at doing some of the State licensing locally through the Ag Commissioner Offices, I have not heard anything final on that yet.

V. New Business

a. Housing for Harvest Program:

- i. Tim Pelican gave an update on COVID and our Ag industry. We have been in contact with the Governor's office regarding the Housing for the Harvest program. The Governor came out to Stockton two weeks ago and announced the program. We have been working with Community Foundation of San Joaquin in terms on how to put this together. The county has also been working on doing mobile testing.
- ii. Moses Zapian shared information regarding housing for harvest. It's to provide voluntary quarantine opportunity for essential farm workers and other cannery workers who are either COVID-19 positive or suspect to be COVID-19 positive. It functions similar to the states Project Room Key in that the state will pay for the direct housing cost and the county, partners and community base organizations are expected to provide the wrap around services for the folks who are voluntarily quarantining themselves. The time frame of the quarantine is up to 14 days. Local administrator Community Foundation of San Joaquin in partnership with Catholic Charities and the county clinics are the local administrator for this program. From the medical testing on health care side the county clinics will be in charge of organizing and administering testing. From the community based wrap around services side Community Foundation is facilitating that work in partnership with Catholic Charities we will be establishing a hot line by which we will be able to liaison with participants, businesses and other entities that might be able to refer participants into this program. In conjunction with Catholic Charities will provide the wrap around services being able to coordinate vendors for meals, which will be provided three times a day for the participants and other wrap around services for their families.
- b. Farm Worker Testing for COVID-19:
 - i. Dr. Parks COVID-19 testing is a state wide issue with slow turn around time and the more there is demand for testing the slower these commercial lab get because they have samples sitting in the refrigerator waiting to be tested. Perhaps the Public Health Lab could help with this because we do run samples here in our lab in our Stockton site on Hazelton Avenue we are not a huge commercial lab we can't do A thousand test per day but we can do a couple of hundred. If were talking 50-75 I think we can prioritize and we can get those lab test done here in our lab and get results out in a day at the most two days. San Joaquin General is being tasked to do farm worker testing. Isolation is for a person who is positive and will have to isolate at home for 10 days from onset of symptoms and fever free for 24 hours. Quarantine is for someone that has been exposed to a positive person and will have to quarantine at home for 14 days.
 - ii. Joan Singson Coordination of scheduling testing will be critical. We have worked with Morada Produce sometimes the test we do come up to 100 individuals in one day. We have already been doing a lot of testing with the migrant farm workers groups and some of the churches as well and were looking at going to the two major housing centers in town.

VI. Announcements - None

VII. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 11:03 a.m., next meeting date TBD.

Submitted By: Annette Lovato, Administrative Secretary