SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD
2101 E. Earhart Avenue, Suite 100, Stockton, CA 95206

MINUTES

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD
Monday, May 13, 2019


Excused: Brent Holtz

Absent: Greg Arnaudo, Joseph Bacchetti, George Biagi, Bruce Blodgett, Jennifer Terpstra, Jeff Torres, Charles Winn

I. Call to Order – Chair Scott Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes – February 4, 2019 and March 4, 2019 minutes postponed no quorum.

III. Correspondence – None.

IV. Old Business
   a. Delta/BDCP Issues:
      i. National Heritage Areas, was approved in the Delta.
      ii. June 6, 2019 Walnut Grove hosting Delta Heritage event.
      iii. Meeting with Karen Ross about California water action plan Newsom released last week that’s going to be in collaboration between California Environmental Protection Agency, California Department of Food and Agriculture, and Department of Pesticide Regulation, and it’s going to be a broad scope looking at different ways to provide new fresh water needs including ground water recharge. They are looking at new water and conservation methods, also include single tunnel plan.
   b. Ag Commissioner’s Report:
      i. Hemp Update: San Joaquin County Emergency Ordinance was passed on March 26, 2019 and extended on April 23, 2019 to remain in effect until September 22, 2019. State released regulations for registration, still no regulation in place for testing or abatement. Once it is complete and the federal package is complete it has to pass the feds in terms of what their program is going to look like, the state program can be more restrictive but can’t be less restrictive than the feds.
      ii. Department of Pesticide Regulation is going to pull the registration for
chlorpyrifos, this will start the two year process of canceling the registration. As part of the governor’s budget, 5.7 million dollars is to be added to come up with alternatives, as part of that they will come up with a working group to come up with less potent pesticide to use, this will include a wide variety of people. It would be a good idea to get growers in that group, as it will include Environmental Justice, Regulatory Agencies and University California.

iii. It was announced at our meeting that California Environmental Protection Agency will be integrated as one agency and one voice that will include Department of Pesticide Regulation.

iv. Virulent Newcastle Disease they become very aggressive down south making sure they are controlling all birds that could be caring the disease. The individual case up here, CDFA decided was a one-time thing. Low-path avian influenza found in Monterey in a flock of domestic ducks.

v. Met back in March with Merced, Stanislaus County and Resource Conservation District regarding weed management. Now that monies are available we decided to get together to try and come up with a work plan however, grants were released last week and San Joaquin County was not on that list. We are looking at trying to get some funding from other sources so we can come up with a work plan.

V. Legislative Updates - None

VI. New Business
a. Supervisor Elliott discussed the annual One Voice Trip to Washington, D.C. that included Representatives of the County, each City in the County, Stockton East Water District, Port of Stockton, and the Airport. The primary focus was to visit various branches of government associated with transportation infrastructure to advocate for projects in those areas. There was a whole bunch of different departments and organizations that we visited. One of interest was with a guy name Stanley Burgio, PHD with National Invasive Species Council, we talked with him about Nutria, and the problem here and how we are looking for support to eradicate that pest before it was able to take hold, and he is willing to try to assist coordinating with the various agencies that would be involve with something like that. He was familiar with the efforts that had taken place in other parts of the country. Other folks we talked with were EPA, Director of Inner Governmental Affairs connected with the White House, Department of Commerce, Veterans Affairs, Senate Finance Committee, Environment of Public Works, HUD, and Department of Transportation, and then our elected representatives as well to tell them what we felt some of the key infrastructure projects were here in San Joaquin County.

VII. Announcements
a. Congratulations to Tim Pelican, Agricultural Commissioner is the new President of the California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association (CACASA).

VIII. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m., next meeting date Monday, July 1, 2019.

Submitted By: Annette Lovato, Administrative Secretary