



**AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AND
SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES**

Gary Caseri
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Agricultural Advisory Board

MINUTES

December 5, 2011
Stanislaus County Farm Bureau
1201 L Street, Modesto, CA
11:00 a.m.

Board Members Present:

Sherman Boone John Herlihy
Roger Duncan Tom Orvis
Carlos Estacio III Ed Perry
Lisa Funk

Board Members Absent:

Arby Hoobyar
Wayne Zipser

Ex-Officio Board Members:

Supervisor Jim DeMartini – Present Diana Waller, USDA-NRCS - Absent
Supervisor Vito Chiesa (Alternate) – Present Rowe Barney, DER & Parks - Present
Gary Caseri, Ag Commissioner – Present

Others Present:

Lisa Alamo, USDA-NRCS Robert Nees, Turlock Irrigation District
Susan Azevedo, Ag Commissioner's Office Milton O'Haire, Ag. Commissioner's Office
John Devine, HDR, Inc. Melissa Williams, Modesto Irrigation District
Horacio Ferriz, DER Debbie Wohld, Ag. Commissioner's Office
Jack Mobley, 21 AD Candidate

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

New Board members Sherman Boone and Carlos Estacio were introduced.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE October 3, 2011 MEETING

It was M/S/P (unanimous), to approve the October 3, 2011 minutes.

IV. PRESENTATION – MID/TID FERC RELICENSING

Melissa Williams (MID), Robert Nees (TID) & John Devine (HDR, Inc.) provided a presentation on the Don Pedro Project Relicensing, Federal Energy Regulatory Commissioner (FERC) Project No. 2299.

The Don Pedro Project is a federally-licensed water storage and hydroelectric generating facility that provides water storage for irrigation and domestic use as well as energy from a renewable resource. Other functions include recreation and flood control. It operates under a 50-year license granted to TID & MID by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commissioner (FERC); the current license will expire on April 30,

2016. The Districts have started the process of relicensing using FERC's Integrated Licensing Process which is an intricate and lengthy undertaking and includes interested parties in the process.

The presentation describes the functions of the project, the licenses as well as the purpose, scope and steps of FERC Relicensing.

Members raised concerns regarding rate payers paying for unnecessary or frivolous studies from opposed groups that are out of bounds from what the project is trying to do. John Devine explained that there are seven criteria areas that must be met when FERC determines what studies are necessary. The question was asked how many studies are currently being conducted and was answered as 35.

A copy of the presentation has been included as an attachment to these minutes.

V. GROUNDWATER ORDINANCE UPDATE

Gary Caseri stated that County Counsel has hired an outside attorney who has reviewed the ordinance. An initial meeting will be set-up with Commissioner Caseri and Supervisor DeMartini to discuss the next steps to be taken.

VI. NEXT MEETING

A. Meeting Date/Time:

The next scheduled meeting is **Monday, January 9, 2012, at 10:00 a.m.**
at the Stanislaus County Ag Center, Conference Room H/I

B. Agenda Items

✓ None

Please contact John Herlihy, Gary Caseri or Susan Azevedo with items you wish placed on the agenda.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman John Herlihy adjourned the meeting.

Minutes Respectfully
Submitted,

Susan Azevedo
Ag Commissioner's Office
Stanislaus County