



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

**Gary Caseri**  
Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer

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**Agricultural Advisory Board**

**MINUTES**

June 4, 2012

Stanislaus County Agricultural Center  
Conference Room H/I  
10:00 a.m.

**Board Members Present:**

Sherman Boone	Ed Perry
Roger Duncan	Wayne Zipser

**Board Members Absent:**

Carlos Estacio III	Arby Hoobyar
Lisa Funk	Tom Orvis
John Herlihy	

**Ex-Officio Board Members:**

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

**Others Present:**

Lisa Alamo, USDA-NRCS	Raul Mendez, CEO
Susan Azevedo, Ag Commissioner's Office	Tracy Miller, Ag Crop Consultant
Horacio Ferriz, DER	Milton O'Haire, Ag. Commissioner's Office

**I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

It was noted that there was not a quorum. In the absence of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, Wayne Zipser presided over the meeting.

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE March 5, 2012 MEETING**

In the absence of a quorum, the minutes could not be approved and will be included on the next meeting's agenda.

**IV. Nominations for Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for July Vote:**

In the absence of a quorum, the nominations did not take place and will be included on the next month's agenda.

**V. GROUNDWATER ORDINANCE UPDATE**

A draft copy of the Groundwater Export Ordinance (Regulation) dated May 25, 2012, was handed out at the meeting. Gary Caseri stated that he would schedule a meeting with the groundwater subcommittee to review the draft. A copy of the draft is attached to these minutes.

**VI. LAFCO Agricultural Preservation Policies**

A copy of the Consideration of Draft Agricultural Preservation Polices was handed out during the meeting. Members stated that there is an immediate need for land preservation and there was some discussion regarding the suggestion of using the Storie Index Rating system to determine soil quality. Members stated that it's important to note that lower quality soil grows great rice and rice grounds grow almonds and walnuts. Salt & water quality is important and irrigation can make a difference. A copy of this handout is attached to these minutes.

**VII. Bylaws/Schedule of Meetings/Membership/Vacancies**

Interest has been shown in filling the District 3 vacancy, but District 4 continues to remain vacant. Rowe Barney has retired from Stanislaus County service, so Jami Aggers will serve as the Department of Environmental Resources representative until she assigns a permanent replacement. The following members' terms will expire 6/30/12: Wayne Zipser, Lisa Funk, Roger Duncan, Carlos Estacio III, John Herlihy, and Tom Orvis. All six members have expressed interest in being considered for re-appointment.

**VIII. NEXT MEETING**

A. Meeting Date/Time:

The next scheduled meeting is tentatively scheduled for **Monday, July 2, 2012, at 10:00 a.m.** at the Stanislaus County Ag Center, Conference Room H/I. Depending on agenda items received and the close proximity of the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday, this date may change.

B. Agenda Items

✓ None

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

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

Wayne Zipser adjourned the meeting.

Minutes Respectfully  
Submitted,

Susan Azevedo  
Ag Commissioner's Office  
Stanislaus County