



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

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Agricultural Advisory Board

MINUTES

August 27, 2012
Stanislaus County Agricultural Center
Conference Room H/I
10:00 a.m.

Board Members Present:

Sherman Boone	Tracy Miller
Roger Duncan	Tom Orvis
Carlos Estacio III	Ed Perry
Arby Hoobyar	Wayne Zipser

Board Members Absent:

John Herlihy
Lisa Funk

Ex-Officio Board Members:

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

Others Present:

Susan Azevedo, Ag Commissioner’s Office	Debbie Liebersbach, TID
Keith Boggs, County CEO	Mitzi Lucas, TID
Tom Boze, County Counsel	Dan Madden, City of Turlock
Barbara Brenner, Stoel Rives	Raul Mendez, County CEO
Michael Cooke, City of Turlock	Monica Nino, County CEO
Nicole Damin, DER	Milton O’Haire, Ag. Commissioner’s Office
John B. Davids, OID	Peter Rietkerk, Patterson Irrigation District
Horacio Ferriz, DER	Monica Sandoval, City of Patterson
Angela Freitas, Stanislaus County Planning	Rich Ulm, City of Modesto
Arthur Godwin, TID/SJTA	Walt Ward, MID
Anthea Hansen, Del Puerto Water	Chris White, CCID
Stacy Henderson, Law Office-Thomas Terpstra	Carlos Yamzon, Stanislaus Council of Govt

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There was no public comment.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE July 16, 2012 MEETING

It was M/S/P (unanimous), to approve the July 16, 2012 minutes.

IV. SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY-PRESENTATION

Jaylen French from the Stanislaus Council of Governments (StanCOG) provided a presentation on Sustainable Communities Strategies (SCS) which included an introduction to SCS, the SCS process, and a vision results survey. SCS sets forth a vision of growth taking into account transportation, housing, and land use planning to meet greenhouse gas reduction targets. Public workshops will be held frequently to gather public and elected official input into the process. SCS is trying to broaden representation to this committee as input from the agricultural community is important. A brief question and answer period closed this presentation.

A copy of the PowerPoint presentation provided at the meeting will be attached to these minutes.

V. GROUNDWATER ORDINANCE UPDATE

Milton O'Haire from the Agricultural Commissioner's office summarized all the comments received regarding the draft groundwater ordinance. There were a total of 73 comments received during the public comment period and copies of all comments and a summary sheet were provided at the meeting. Chairman Orvis opened the floor for public comments and many were received. Comments included the timeline of the ordinance, those affected are not in favor of the ordinance, this is an unnecessary over site that would cause an undue burden on agencies, the Irrigation Districts and Cities can handle and have successfully handled water transfers so there is no need for over site, what is the Ag Advisory Board's role in this process.

There was mention of holding a Stakeholders meeting at the Stanislaus Farm Bureau and a possible water summit to discuss the issues/concerns raised during this meeting to help move from comments to proactive recommendations. County Counsel anticipates another draft based on these comments will be presented at a future date. It was suggested to cancel the September meeting as more time would be needed to review all comments.

Chairman Orvis thanked everyone for their comments and participation.

VI. NEXT MEETING

A. Meeting Date/Time:

A motion was made to cancel the September 2012 meeting and was M/S/P. The next meeting is scheduled for **Monday, October 1, 2012, at 10:00 a.m.** at the Stanislaus County Ag Center, Conference Room H/I.

B. Agenda Items

- ✓ Groundwater Ordinance Update

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

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Orvis adjourned the meeting.