



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (CDFA)
STANDARDIZATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (STDZ)
February 23, 2017 Meeting Minutes
4437 S. Laspina Street, Tulare, CA 93901**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Louis Pandol - Chair
Tom Casas
David Silva

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ruben Arroyo

INTERESTED PARTIES

Steve Schweizer, Kings County
Rob Milner, Monterey County
Christopher Greer, Tulare County
Dean Gottlieb, San Joaquin
County
Teo Gijon, Fresno County
Scotti Walker, Fresno County
Ed Williams, Los Angeles County
Jonathan Bixler, Tulare County
Ian LeMay- California Fresh Fruit
Association
Marko Zaninovich, Sunview

CDFA

Steve Patton
Marcee Yount
Stacey Hughes
Karrie Batchelor
Laurel Rudolph

ITEM 1: ROLL CALL

The Committee was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Mr. Louis Pandol, Chair. Roll was called, and a quorum was established.

ITEM 2: COMMITTEE VACANCIES AND TERMS UPDATE

Ms. Laurel Rudolph discussed the committee vacancies. Current vacancies include: one fresh fruit members from oranges, table grapes, and other citrus fruit; one other fresh fruit member from cantaloupe and melon; one other fresh fruit member from a commodity subject to standardization assessments; three fresh vegetable members from broccoli, tomatoes, and/or lettuce; two other fresh vegetable members from any fresh vegetable commodity subject to standardization assessments; and one member from any other commodity.

Mr. Steve Patton asked committee members and county officials in attendance, to reach out to members of industry to help fill the current committee vacancies.

ITEM 3: APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 20, 2016 MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Pandol asked for a motion to approve the October 20, 2016 Meeting Minutes as submitted.

Ms. Stacey Hughes had a few changes to the Meeting Minutes. Add Karen Melvin of San Diego County and David Singh of San Joaquin County to the interested parties list,

and replace Dean Gottlieb with Dave Singh under the enforcement activities update for San Joaquin County.

Mr. Pandol asked for a motion to approve the October 20, 2016 Meeting Minutes with corrections.

MOTION: Mr. David Silva moved to approve the October 20, 2016, Meeting Minutes with corrections. Mr. Tom Casas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

ITEM 4: FY 2017/18 PROPOSED COUNTY COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

Ms. Stacey Hughes discussed the 2017/18 Fiscal Year (FY) County Agreements. She gave a brief history of the County Agreements and how they were established. Ms. Hughes stated that Standardization Contracts were first introduced in 2004 after use of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), was no longer allowed. In 2011, Cooperative Agreements replaced the County Contracts and additional Counties were granted agreements at that time as well.

When entering into a Cooperative Agreement, the Program requires each county to submit an application that includes: a work plan proposal, and fiscal display.

Ms. Hughes went on to mention that some of the 2017/18 FY Cooperative Agreement funds were reallocated. Monterey County and Riverside County funding amounts were reduced while Los Angeles County and San Diego County received some additional funding. Overall, the proposed funding reflects a reduction of 5% for the 2017/18 FY.

County representatives in attendance reported on current enforcement activities and their proposed 2017/18 FY cooperative agreement work plans. The total proposed for the 2017/18 FY County Cooperative Agreements is \$971,980.

There was a discussion regarding the Product Traceability Initiative (PTI) stickers. Mr. Rob Milner from Monterey County, explained that the lettuce industry wants to have all of the required information included in the PTI sticker, instead of on the container. Currently, the PTI sticker is too small to allow all of the required information. To resolve the size issue, the lettuce industry would like to remove the total pounds requirement for the PTI sticker. At this year's National Institute of Standards and Technology's Western Conference, representatives from Monterey County presented possible changes to the quantity statement regulations. Particularly regarding the marking requirements for Multi-Unit Packages. No decision regarding the proposed regulation changes were made during the conference.

ITEM 6: PROGRAM BUDGET

a. FY 2016/17 FY Fund Condition

The 2016/17 FY, Fund Condition was presented. As of December 31, 2016, the beginning fund balance was \$2,673,853, and the total revenue was \$1,061,530. The total expenditures were \$1,100,065, with an ending balance of \$2,635,318.

b. FY 2017/18 FY Proposed Budget

The 2017/18 FY Proposed Budget was presented. The total proposed program cost for the 2017/18 FY is \$2,296,018. With projected gas tax credit, the total projected program budget is \$2,267,018.

The projected revenue for the 2017/18 FY is \$1,777,339.

Mr. Pandol asked for a motion to approve the 2017/18 FY Budget.

MOTION: Mr. Derek Vaughn moved to approve the proposed 2017/18 Fiscal Year budget as presented. Mr. Tom Casas seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, with no abstentions.

ITEM 7: PROGRAM UPDATES

Ms. Hughes mentioned that the changes to the avocado regulations were adopted December, 2016. These regulatory changes repealed standard container requirements, container weight requirements, and amended labeling requirements.

Ms. Hughes also mentioned that the Department received a petition from the California Fresh Fruit Association. The petition asked for a regulatory change that would repeal the varietal marking requirement when packing apricots. In 2006 the tree fruit industry repealed their varietal marking requirement section in the regulations. When the regulations were written, apricots were omitted from the changes. The newly proposed regulatory change will align the marking and labeling requirements for apricots with the rest of the tree fruit industry.

Mr. Steve Patton gave an update on the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA). On October 31, 2015, the FSMA rules were released. The rules establish standards for growing, harvesting, packing, and holding produce on domestic and foreign farms. CDFA received \$11 million in grant money, to be spread over five years. This grant money will allow the Department to create the Environmental Audit Unit (EAU). The EAU will help educate and enforce the FSMA produce safety rules. One of the projects the EAU will be working on is creating a master list of all farms in California, and assessing the food safety risks for each farm.

ITEM 8: PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments

ITEM 9: NEXT MEETING/AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Patton presented Mr. Pandol with a Resolution, thanking him for his years of service as a member of the committee.

The next meeting will be held in October, 2017 in Monterey County.

ITEM 9: ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m. by Mr. Louis Pandol, Chair.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stacey Hughes".

Stacey Hughes, Program Supervisor
Standardization Program