

MEETING OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
(ALL MEETINGS OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC)

Location: California Department of Food and Agriculture
1220 N Street – Room 410
Sacramento, CA 95814

Contact: Joshua Eddy, Exec. Director
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BOARD MEETING
MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 5, 2024

Item
No.

(1) CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at approximately 10:05 a.m., President Don Cameron presiding.

(2) ROLL CALL

Roll call taken by Joshua Eddy, Executive Director.

Present:

Don Cameron
Michelle Passero
Mike Gallo
Julia Jackson

David Mancera
Patricia Stock
Jenet DeCosta
Doria Robinson

Joy Sterling
Chris Valadez
Rachelle Arizmendi

Absent:

Eric Holst
Bryce Lundberg

Glenda Humiston

Frank Salazar

(3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Agenda Item occurred after the Departmental Update. Board member Joy Sterling moved to approve the minutes from the February 13, 2024 meeting. Board member Chris Valadez seconded the motion and a vote of (11-0) carried the motion.

(4) DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE

Secretary Karen Ross provided a brief update to the Board. The updated included celebrations related to Black History Month and Women's History Month; updates on CDFA's Farm to School grant programs as well as participation in the White House Challenge to End Hunger and Build Healthy Communities in Washington, D.C. Other updates included the announcement of Kevin Schnepf as the director of CDFA's Division of Measurement Standards and CDFA's participation in the Strategic Growth Council's Land Equity Taskforce.

In addition to the Secretary's remarks, CDFA's Plant Health and Pest Prevention Services Division (Joshua Kress) provided the Board an update on various fruit fly outbreaks.

The update concluded without formal action by the Board.

(5) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD

Resilient Food System Infrastructure (RFSI) Program

The Board heard presentations from partner organizations related to the RFSI Program and the USDA's Regional Food Business Centers Program. The two federal programs support food system development, infrastructure and technical assistance to benefit local economies through investments within the agricultural supply chain.

PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD (Continued)
Resilient Food System Infrastructure (RFSI) Program

Speakers Included:

- Lauren McCawley, CA Department of Food and Agriculture
- Trish Kelly, Valley Vision
- Tracy Celio, UC Agriculture and Natural Resources

The presentation concluded without Board Action.

(6) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD
Alliance for Renewable Clean Hydrogen Energy Systems (ARCHES)

The Board heard presentations from ARCHES and the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development related to the development of clean hydrogen energy systems and markets to meet California's 2045 carbon neutrality goal.

Speakers Included:

- Angelina Galiteva, ARCHES
- Tyson Eckerle, Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development

The presentation concluded without Board Action.

(7) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD
BEAM Circular

The Board heard an overview presentation on BEAM Circular which aims to create a circular bioeconomy within California's Central Valley. The cornerstone of the initiative is collaborating and catalyzing action through the bioeconomy, agriculture, and manufacturing.

Speakers Included:

- Karen Warner, BEAM Circular
- Rachele Antinetti, BEAM Circular

The presentation concluded without Board Action.

(8) BREAK

(9) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD
Renewable Energy Production and California Dairies

The Board heard a presentation from Bar 20 Dairy on renewable energy production within the dairy sector.

Speakers Included:

- Steve Shehadey, Bar 20 Dairy
- Neil Black, California Bioenergy LLC

The presentation concluded without Board Action.

Following the presentation, one individual provided public comment on the agenda item.

- Brian Kolodji, Kolodji Corp.

No further public comments were received on this agenda item. Public comments can be viewed at: <http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/LiveMediaStream.html>

(10) BOARD DISCUSSION

(11) PUBLIC COMMENT

Two individuals provided public comments for items not included on the agenda.

- Brian Kolodji, Kolodji Corp.
- Craig Gordon, Gordon Hay Inc.

No further public comments were received. Public comments can be viewed at:

<http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/LiveMediaStream.html>

(12) CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

The public meeting concluded at approximately 2:05 p.m.