

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

Location: Video Conference - GoToWebinar

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MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2021
Video Conference/Hybrid Meeting

Item
No.

(1) CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order on September 7, 2021 at approximately 10:05 a.m., President Don Cameron presiding.

(2) ROLL CALL

Roll call taken by Joshua Eddy, Executive Director.

Present:

Don Cameron	Nancy Casady	Mike Gallo
Bryce Lundberg	Donald Bransford	Jeff Huckaby
Helene Dillard	Eric Holst	Andrew Thulin
Martha Montoya	Ashley Boren	

Absent:

Christopher Valadez	Rachelle Arizmendi	Joy Sterling
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(3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board member Mike Gallo moved to approve the minutes of the August 3, 2021 meeting. Board member Andy Thulin seconded the motion and a unanimous vote (11-0) carried the motion.

(4) DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE

Secretary Karen Ross provided a brief update to the Board. The update was provided following Item #7.

The update focused on the current CDFA budget and potential summer “budget package” investments focusing on: sustainable agriculture, water resiliency, healthy food systems, high road job growth, fairs and biodiversity/plant health.

Other updates included acknowledging September 7th as California Biodiversity Day, the important role of fairgrounds as emergency support locations in wildfires, and recent speaking engagements (CalPoly, Press Club and Western Growers).

The Secretary concluded remarks by mentioning the confirmation and swearing in of Jenny Lester Moffitt as the Under Secretary of Marketing and Regulatory Programs at USDA.

The update concluded without formal action by the Board.

(5) WATER UPDATE

The Board heard a water update from a representative of the State Water Resources Control Board concerning recent curtailments and drought conditions.

Speaker:

- Erik Ekdahl, State Water Resources Control Board

The update concluded without formal action by the Board.

- (6) **PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD: Groundwater Trading**
The Board heard presentation from a representative of California Water Commission related to the organizations work to develop policies/programs related to groundwater trading .

Speaker:

- Laura Jensen, California Water Commission

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

- (7) **PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD: Water Resilience Portfolio/Water Storage Investment Program Update**

The Board heard a presentation related to implementation of the California Water Resilience Portfolio as well as an update in the Water Storage Investment Program.

Speaker:

- Nancy Vogel, California Natural Resources Agency

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

- (8) **BREAK**

- (9) **PANEL DISCUSSION: Animal and Plant Issue Updates**

The Board heard presentations from a representation of CDFA Division Directors related to important updates concerning plant and animal issues

Speakers included:

- Dr. Annette Jones, CDFA (Prop 12)
- Amelia Hicks, CDFA (Huanlongbing)
- Mark McLoughlin, CDFA (Spotted Lanternfly)

The panel discussion concluded without formal action by the Board.

- (10) **PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD: Ag Vision**

The Board heard a presentation on the current status of the Ag Vision process.

Speaker:

- Teresa Siles – Nuffer, Smith, Tucker Public Relations

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

- (11) **BOARD DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATIONS**

The following issues were discussed:

- Executive Director Report
 - Trucking – The Board was informed by staff that Caltrans had extended the COVID-19 special transportation permit for perishable agricultural commodities until December 31, 2021. Permits are valid for up to 60 days.

No further discussion or recommendations occurred.

- (12) **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments were received.

- (13) **CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT**

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