

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, Main Auditorium
Sacramento, CA 95814

Contact: Joshua Eddy, Exec. Director
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MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 7, 2023

Item
No.

(1) CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at approximately 10:05 a.m., President Don Cameron presiding.

(2) ROLL CALL

Roll call taken by Joshua Eddy, Executive Director.

Present:

Don Cameron
Bryce Lundberg
Mike Gallo
Frank Salazar

David Mancera
Glenda Humiston
Joy Sterling

Jenet DeCosta
Michelle Passero
Patricia Stock

Absent:

Rachelle Arizmendi
Julia Jackson

Chris Valadez
Doria Robinson

Eric Holst

(3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board member Mike Gallo moved to approve the minutes of the April 7, 2023, meeting. Board member Joy Sterling seconded the motion and a vote of (9-0) carried the motion. Board member Michelle Passero was not present for the vote.

(4) DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE

Undersecretary Christine Birdsong provided a brief update to the Board. Secretary Karen Ross was attending an Assembly Committee Hearing. The update included an announcement on the release of California's Farm Bill Recommendations, the recognition of National Weights & Measures Week and an overview of a transportation dialogue held with USDA Secretary Vilsack and agricultural stakeholders. Other updates included agricultural impacts from winter storms/snowpack and SGMA notifications related to local Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs).

The update concluded without formal action by the Board.

(5) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD: California Energy Commission

The Board heard a presentation from the California Energy Commission on state energy programs of interest to the agricultural sector.

Speakers, included:

- Rhetta DeMesa – Microgrids
- Kadir Bedir – Load Management
- Virginia Lew – Food Production Investment Programs and Dairy Cooling

The Presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

- (6) **PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD: Agricultural Energy Consumers Association**
The Board heard a presentation from the Agricultural Energy Consumers Association concerning needs of the agricultural sector in relation to statewide energy goals.

Speaker:

- Michael Boccadoro, Agricultural Energy Consumers Association

The Presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

- (7) **PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD: Federal Energy Opportunities**
The Board heard a presentation from the U.S. Department of Energy on federal programs available to the agricultural sector and local communities.

Speaker:

- Michael Rinker, U.S. Department of Energy

The Presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

- (8) **BOARD DISCUSSION**
The Board discussed the following issues:

Committee Reports

- Regenerative Agriculture – Staff reported on current administrative process/contracting related to supporting the committee’s efforts in defining regenerative agriculture.
- Ag Vision – Committee Chair Jenet DeCosta provided an update. The Board is scheduled for media and messaging training on March 7, 2023.
- Water – Committee Chair Bryce Lundberg reported on the committee meeting of February 17, 2023, which focused on groundwater recharge. The Committee Chair also identified priorities that the Committee will be focusing on for future meetings.

The Board Discussion concluded without formal action by the Board.

- (9) **PUBLIC COMMENT**
No Public Comment was provided

- (10) **CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT**
The public meeting concluded at approximately 12:20pm

- (11) **BOARD TRAINING**
The Board participated in a messaging and media training program focusing on Ag Vision for the Next Decade. Training concluded at approximately 2:30pm