

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 APRIL 4, 2023

Item
No.

(1) CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order on Tuesday, April 4, 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
Doria Robinson

David Mancera
Glenda Humiston*
Joy Sterling*
Julia Jackson

Jenet DeCosta*
Michelle Passero
Patricia Stock
Rachelle Arizmendi

**Virtual Attendance*

Absent:

Chris Valadez

Eric Holst

Frank Salazar

(3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board member David Mancera moved to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2023, meeting. Board member Bryce Lundberg seconded the motion and a vote of (11-0-1) carried the motion. Board Member Rachelle Arizmendi abstained from the vote.

(4) DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE

Secretary Karen Ross provided a brief update to the Board following Agenda Item #4. The updated focused on budget hearings and adjustments in preparation for the Governor's May Revision. Other items included a report on the National Farmers Union meeting in San Francisco that included a discussion related to transportation concerns with USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack. In addition, the Secretary participated with other western state leaders in a Colorado River Basin meeting on drought hosted by USDA Secretary Vilsack in Denver, CO.

The Secretary concluded the report with a readout of the Lieutenant Governor's Trade Mission to Japan.

The update concluded without formal action by the Board.

(5) FLOOD AND WINTER STORM UPDATED

The Board heard a presentation from CDFA's Emergency Management Coordinator on flood impacts and recent winter storms.

Speaker:

- Asha Raj, CDFA's Emergency Management Coordinator

The Presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

(6) PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD: USDA Disaster Assistance

The Board heard presentations from California-based USDA Agencies on disaster assistance programs for farmers and ranchers impacted by winter storms.

Speakers, included:

- Blong Xiong, USDA Farm Service Agency
- Navdeep Dhillon, USDA Farm Service Agency
- Jeff Yasui, USDA Risk Management Agency

The Presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

(7) PANEL DISCUSSION: Flood and Winter Storm Impacts (Local Conditions)

The Board held a panel discussion on local flood and winter storm impacts within agricultural communities.

Speakers, included:

- Supervisor Tod Kimmelshue, Butte County
- Juan Hidalgo, Monterey County Agricultural Commissioner
- Tricia Stever Blattler, Tulare County Farm Bureau
- Hernan Hernandez, California Farmworker Foundation

The Presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

(8) BREAK

(9) PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD: Health Care Status in California's Central Valley

The Board heard presentations from health care providers, government, and associations related to health care infrastructure within the Central Valley.

Speakers, included:

- Luis Quinonez, Office of Senator Anna M. Caballero, 14th Senate District
- Sherri Bakke, Madera Community Hospital
- Bryan Bucklew, Hospital Council of Northern and Central California

The Presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

(10) BOARD DISCUSSION

The Board discussed the following issues:

Minority and Small-Scale Farm Advisory Committees - The Board had an update by Thea Rittenhouse, CDFA's Farm Equity Advisor on the pending formation of the Minority and Small-Scale Farm Advisory Committees. The formation of these formal advisory committees came at the request of Board.

The Board Discussion concluded without formal action by the Board.

(11) PUBLIC COMMENT

The Board heard public comment from the following individual:

- Michael Harris, Black Agriculture

No further public comments were received. Public comments can be viewed at: <https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/LiveMediaStream.html>

(12) CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

The public meeting concluded at approximately 12:20pm