

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

**Location:** World Ag Expo  
International Agri-Center  
4500 S. Laspina St. (Theater)  
Tulare, CA 93274

**Contact:** Joshua Eddy, Executive Director  
**Office:** (916) 654-0462

**MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 11, 2020**

Item  
No.

**(1) CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order on Tuesday, February 11<sup>th</sup> at approximately 10:10 a.m., President Don Cameron presiding.

**(2) ROLL CALL**

Roll call taken by Joshua Eddy, Executive Director.

**Present:**

Don Cameron	Nancy Casady	Rachelle Arizmendi
Bryce Lundberg	Joy Sterling	Martha Montoya
Ashley Boren	Mike Gallo	Jeff Huckaby
Christopher Valadez	Andrew Thulin	Eric Holst

**Absent:**

Crystal Hayling	Donald Bransford	Helene Dillard
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**(3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 7<sup>th</sup>**

Board member Mike Gallo moved to approve the minutes of the January 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. Board member Rachelle Arizmendi seconded the motion and a unanimous vote (10-0) carried the motion. Board member Martha Montoya and Andy Thulin were not present for the vote.

**(4) DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE**

Secretary Karen Ross provided a brief update to the Board. The update focused on the Draft Water Resilience Portfolio (public comment closed on February 7<sup>th</sup>), the Administration's commitment to Voluntary Agreements for habitat and flow in the Delta and its watersheds; as well as the release of the Voluntary Agreement Framework and proposed governance structure.

The Secretary also provided updates on Virulent Newcastle disease (VND), food safety meetings within the leafy green industry, and the designation of the spotted lanternfly pest as a research priority by CDFA's Pierce's Disease Control Program. The Secretary also updated the Board on the California Food for California Kids program which aims to incorporate more California produced food in school lunches.

The update concluded without formal action by the Board.

**(5) BOARD DISCUSSION – California Water Commission**

The Board held a water policy discussion/update with a member of the California Water Commission.

Speaker:

- Matthew Swanson, Commission Member

The discussion concluded without formal action by the Board.

**(6) PANEL DISCUSSION – Central Valley Agricultural Updates**

The Board heard remarks from regional stakeholders on key issues impacting the agricultural sector.

Speakers included:

- Tricia Stever Blattler, Tulare County Farm Bureau
- Roger Isom, Western Agricultural Processors Association
- Casey Creamer, California Citrus Mutual

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

**(7) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – Fresno Drive Initiative**

The Board heard remarks from stakeholders and leadership involved within the Fresno Drive Initiative – a 10-year community investment plan for the greater Fresno Region.

Speakers included:

- Ashley Swearengin, Central Valley Community Foundation
- Ram Nunna, California State University, Fresno
- Joshua Viers, University of California, Merced

**(8) PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The following individuals provided public comment:

- Dr. Glenda Humiston, vice president of UC ANR, commented on the partnership and collaboration potential with University of California in the Central Valley related to the Fresno Drive Initiative and the Fresno-Merced Food Innovation Corridor. The UC is excited to work on this project, leveraging public and private partnerships.
- Josh Viers, UC Merced, commented on the importance of a UC campus in the San Joaquin Valley and the connection to future workforce needs.
- Michael Harris, California Black Farmers, commented on the work to create a Pan-Africa Pavilion at the next World Ag Expo.

**(9) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – Farm to School**

The Board heard a presentation from a representative of the Edible Schoolyard Kern County – providing hands-on learning and sensory experiences to students through garden and kitchen classrooms instruction.

Speaker:

- Dylan Wilson, Edible Schoolyard Kern County

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board

**(10) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – Ag Workforce**

The Board heard a presentation from a representative of the California Farmworker Foundation on the programs and services provided to agricultural workers through collaboration with agricultural companies, foundations and stakeholders.

Speaker:

- Hernan Hernandez, California Farmworker Foundation

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

**(11) BOARD DISCUSSION – Dairy**

The Board held a discussion with a representative from the dairy industry on the current status within the industry.

Speaker:

- Anja Raudabaugh, Western United Dairies

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

**(12) OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business was discussed.

**(13) BOARD DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Board took no further action.

**(14) PUBLIC COMMENT**

No additional public comments were provided.

**(15) CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting concluded at approximately 1:25 p.m.