

**MEETING OF THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
BIPOC ADVISORY COMMITTEE- California Block Grant Processes Accountability  
Subcommittee**

**(ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC)**

**Location:** Virtual via Zoom

**Contact:** Thea Rittenhouse, Farm Equity  
Advisor

[Thea.Rittenhouse@cdfa.ca.gov](mailto:Thea.Rittenhouse@cdfa.ca.gov)

1220 N Street, Sacramento, CA 95814

**Office:** (916) 202-9415

**MEETING MINUTES OF June 5, 2025**

Item  
No.

**(1) WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Farm Equity Advisor Thea Rittenhouse welcomed all participants to the meeting.

**(2) ROLL CALL**

**Present**

Hung K. Doan, Qi Zhou, Arshdeep Singh, Tania Zuniga Moreno

**Absent**

Kenneth Sparks, Minkah Taharkah, Emily Burgueno, Lena Ortega

**(3) CALL TO ORDER**

Thea Rittenhouse called the meeting to order at 11:09 AM.

**(4) ACTION ITEM-** Approval of April 24, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Due to a lack of quorum, the approval of the Meeting Minutes did not occur.

**(5) DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**ACTION ITEM:** Election of Subcommittee Chair/Co-chair

Due to a lack of quorum, the election of a sub-committee chair did not occur.

A) Priority recommendations for CDFA block-grant model program processes

Thea Rittenhouse reiterated to the group the purpose of the subcommittee, which is to provide recommendations to enhance CDFA block grant programs. Thea referred to the draft recommendations document that CDFA's Farm Equity Office created, based on feedback received by the subcommittee during the April 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The subcommittee reviewed each section of the recommendations document and provided input and questions on each item.

Thea mentioned that it is important for the group to finalize and approve the recommendations prior to the next meeting of CDFA's Environmental Farming Act-Scientific Advisory Panel (EFA SAP) in August, when the Panel will discuss changes to their block grant processes.

The subcommittee discussed recommendations, and the meeting concluded with a review of the proposed recommendations. Those recommendations would be sent out to members who were absent. A final meeting to approve the recommendations and memo to CDFA leadership and staff will be scheduled in the upcoming weeks based on availability of members.

**(6) TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Approval of the final recommendations document.

**(7) SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING**

Carmen Carrasco will send a Doodle Poll to find a date for the next meeting.

**(8) PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments were made.

**(9) CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:21 PM.