



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (CDFA)
AVOCADO INSPECTION COMMITTEE (AIC)**

**Meeting Minutes
March 3, 2010**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Rob Wedin, Chairman
Reuben Hofshi
Mark Wollam
Bob Bednar
Phil Gilligan
Chris Varvel
Ralph Gonzales
Ohannes Karaoghlanian

CDFA REPRESENTATIVES

Donella Boreham

Guests

Tom Bellamore
Aria Lukman
Jonathan Dixon
Will Carleton
Peter Changala

ITEM 1: ROLL CALL

Mr. Rob Wedin called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. with a quorum present.

ITEM 2: APPROVAL OCTOBER 28, 2009 MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Mr. Chris Varvel moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Mr. Bob Bednar seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

A copy of the October 28, 2009 Meeting Minutes are attached as EXHIBIT A.

ITEM 3: RECOMMENDATION AND NOMINATION OF MEMBERS TO SEND TO THE CALIFORNIA AVOCADO COMMISSION BOARD

Mr. Rob Wedin informed the committee that Bob Bednar (Grower) and Mark Wollam (Grower) terms expire May 27, 2010 and having served four consecutive terms are not eligible for another term. Mr. Reuben Hofshi (Handler) and Mr. Ohannes Karaoghlanian (Alternate Grower) have terms expiring on May 27, 2010 and are eligible to serve another term.

Mr. Reuben Hofshi, Handler, was nominated to fill the vacant handler member position.

MOTION: Mr. Bob Bednar moved to approve Reuben Hofshi as handler member. Mr. Chris Varvel seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Ohannes Karaoghlanian, Alternate Grower, was nominated to fill the vacant grower member position.

MOTION: Mr. Phil Gilligan moved to approve Mr. Ohannes Karaoghlanian as a grower member. Mr. Reuben Hofshi seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Rob Wedin stated that there is a grower position and alternate grower position now vacant. Mr. Wedin introduced the interested candidates: Mr. Peter Changala and Mr. Will Carleton. Mr. Ohannes Karaoghlanian stated that Mr. Gary Woodworth was interested but could not attend.

Mr. Peter Changala was nominated to fill the vacant grower member position.

MOTION: Mr. Reuben Hofshi moved to approve Mr. Peter Changala to fill the vacant grower member position. Mr. Mark Wollam seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Will Carleton and Mr. Gary Woodworth were nominated to fill the vacant alternate grower member position.

The Committee voted. Mr. Will Carleton received four votes from the Avocado Inspection Committee (AIC) members and Mr. Gary Woodworth received one vote.

MOTION: Mr. Reuben Hofshi moved to approve Mr. Will Carleton to fill the vacant alternate grower member position. Mr. Chris Varvel seconded.

The following individuals have been nominated to serve two-year terms on the AIC from 2010-2012 and will be recommended to the California Avocado Commission (CAC) Board:

Reuben Hofshi, Handler
Ohannes Karaoghlanian, Grower
Peter Changala, Grower
Will Carleton, Alternate Grower

MOTION: Mr. Bob Bednar moved to approve the nominations for the two-year terms commencing on May 27, 2010 and to recommend nominations to the California Avocado Commission (CAC) Board and the CDFA Secretary. Mr. Phil Gilligan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 4: PROPOSED CDFA BUDGET 2009/10

Ms. Donella Boreham presented members with the proposed CDFA budget of \$176,750 for fiscal year (FY) 2010/11 beginning on July 1, 2010. This portion of the Avocado Inspection Program budget covers overhead at CDFA and remains on the CDFA fiscal year basis of July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011.

MOTION: Mr. Bob Bednar moved to approve the FY 2010/11 CDFA portion of the Avocado Inspection Program budget in the amount of \$176,750. Mr. Chris Varvel seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

A copy of the CDFA Budget is attached as EXHIBIT B.

ITEM 5: AVOCADO INSPECTION UPDATE

Donella Boreham reviewed with the committee the AIP/CDFA budgets and inspection program. The Avocado Inspection program (AIP) inspects avocados at the point of packing to ensure compliance with maturity, quality, size/count, weights and marking requirements. AIP also performs maturity testing spot checks on imported fruit at cold storage houses, terminal markets and packing houses.

ITEM 6: NEW BUSINESS

The committee discussed Quality Assurance, Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and third party certifiers. This issue will be on agenda at the next California Avocado Commission board meeting in March, 2010.

ITEM 7: NEXT MEETING

Next meeting tentatively set for June 2, 2010.

ITEM 8: ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Bob Bednar moved to adjourn. Mr. Mark Wollam seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Rob Wedin adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donella Boreham, Program Supervisor
Avocado Inspection Program
Inspection and Compliance
Inspection Services