



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

**April 15, 2014 Meeting Minutes
750 East Main Street
Santa Paula, CA 93060**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mike Browne, Handler – Chairman
Gus Gunderson, Grower
Will Carleton, Alternate Grower
Ohannes Karaoghlian, Grower

CDFA REPRESENTATIVES

Steve Patton
Kathie Yniguez

MEMBERS ABSENT

Peter Changala, Grower – Vice Chair
Jim Donovan, Handler

INTERESTED PARTIES

Sam Santander, CA Avocado Commission
April Aymami, CA Avocado Commission
Monica Luton, CA Avocado Commission
Dana Thomas, Index Management Team

ITEM 1: ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS

The Committee was called to order at 11:09 a.m. by Mr. Mike Browne, Chairperson. Roll was called, a quorum was established, and introductions were made.

ITEM 2: APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2013 MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Mr. Gus Gunderson moved to approve the September 18, 2013 meeting minutes as submitted. Mr. Will Carleton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 3: AVOCADO INSPECTION UPDATE

Mr. Browne asked that we move to Item 6 the Regulatory Review in the interest of time for Mr. Dana Thomas. This item was moved to make time for a presentation on Item 6.

Ms. Kathie Yniguez provided the Committee with numbers of pounds packed and certified, weight and size counts taken, non-compliances, cartons rejected, and maturity tests performed. The Committee was informed about personnel changes and our involvement with County Agricultural Inspectors.

ITEM 4: COMMITTEE VACANCIES AND TERMS REPORT

Vacancies include an Alternate Handler Member, a Handler Member and a Grower Member whose terms will expire on May 27, 2014. The members eligible for reappointment to the Committee are Mr. Jim Donovan, Mr. Peter Changala, and Mr. Will Carleton.

ITEM 5: CDFA AVOCADO INSPECTION PROGRAM FY 2014/15 BUDGET APPROVAL

Mr. Browne asked for a motion to approve the CDFA Avocado Inspection Program (AIP) proposed budget for fiscal year (FY) 2014/15.

MOTION: Mr. Ohannes Karaoghlian moved to recommend the CDFA Secretary approve the AIP FY 2014/15 Proposed Budget as submitted. Mr. Gus Gunderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 6: REGULATORY REVIEW

Mr. Browne informed the Committee about a California Avocado Development Organization (CADO) meeting about updating of the California Code of Regulations (CCR). Mr. Thomas (Chairman of a Regulations sub-committee of CADO) presented an update of the discussions in regards to the current CCR and explained that they suggested the elimination of "Irregular Containers" 1408.1, keep size ranges and possibly modify size specifications, eliminate weight requirements for loose avocados, and eliminate requirements for consumer pack 1408.11. He also explained that data he accumulated was submitted to a researcher at CAL State Fresno, and he proposed a study. There was some discussion within the AIC Committee. Mr. Steve Patton explained the process of eliminating/making revisions to the regulations.

ITEM 7: PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ITEM 8: NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Patton suggested that the Committee take a look at Assembly Bill 1990. This bill defines community producer and provides an allowance for agricultural sales in areas that may not be in an agricultural zone.

ITEM 9: NEXT MEETING

The next AIC meeting will be held in September 2014.

ITEM 10: ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Browne adjourned the meeting at 12:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by:



Kathie Yniguez, F&VQC Supervisor II
Avocado Inspection Program
Inspection and Compliance Branch
Inspection Services