



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (CDFA)
CERTIFIED FARMERS' MARKET ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CFMAC)
February 21, 2019 Meeting Minutes
2800 Gateway Oaks Drive, Sacramento, CA 95833**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Joyce Chan – Chair
Ben Palazzolo – Vice Chair
Amelia Moore
Dave Runsten
James Murez
Jonathan Davis
Kurt Floren
Oscar de Leon
Phillip Rhodes
Ronald Phillips
Suzanne Jester
Tyler Thayer

MEMBERS ABSENT

Casey Anderson
Dale Kuil
Ed Williams
Karen Wetzelschott
Kimberly Hawthorne
Susan Hutchinson

INTERESTED PARTIES

Allen Harthorn – Harpos Organics
Bonnie Wheeler – San Diego County
David Will – Chino Valley Ranchers
Jeremy Dutra – CUESA
Kaliko Orian – Kaliko Farms
Mary Alice Ponder
Paul Stonebarger – G&S Farms

CDFA

Brandi Alston
Jenna Celigija
Jennifer Leidolf
Marcee Yount
Maria Tenorio Alfred
Thomas Osborn
Steve Patton
Tony Herrera

ITEM 1: ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Joyce Chan, Chairperson. Roll was called, a quorum was established, and self-introductions were made.

ITEM 2: PUBLIC COMMENT

James Murez informed those in attendance that the California Small Farm Conference will be held on February 22 and 23, 2019 in Davis.

ITEM 3: APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 2, 2018 MEETING MINUTES

Chan requested a motion to approve the October 2, 2018 meeting minutes.

MOTION: Ronald Phillips moved to approve the October 2, 2018 meeting minutes as submitted. Suzanne Jester seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, with no abstentions.

ITEM 4: PROPOSED FY 2019/2020 BUDGET

Maria Tenorio Alfred provided the proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2019/2020 Budget. For the 2019/2020 FY projections, personnel services expenses are \$738,687; operating expenses and equipment are \$984,700; total departmental expenses are \$370,174;

bringing the total projected program budget to \$2,074,256. Revenue is projected to remain stable at \$1,505,495, which is an average of the prior three years of revenue.

The Committee asked how much funding has been proposed for database development. Tenorio Alfred stated that for the 2019-2020 FY, \$300,000 has been allocated.

A period of discussion pertaining to Proposed Budget funding level allocations and revenue sources ensued.

Chan requested a motion to approve the proposed FY 2019/2020 Budget as submitted.

MOTION: Murez moved to approve the proposed FY 2019/2020 Budget as submitted. Ben Palazzolo seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, with no abstentions.

Ben Palazzolo thanked CDFA staff for compiling the budget data for the Committee's review.

ITEM 5: PROPOSED REGULATIONS UPDATE

Tenorio Alfred provided an update on the Direct Marketing Program's proposed regulations. Tenorio Alfred explained that the rulemaking packet, which incorporates clarifying language to definitions, amendments to the administrative civil penalties, and additional clean-up language has been reviewed by the Committee and the California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association. Tenorio Alfred further stated that the packet is currently under review by CDFA's Legal Office.

Tenorio Alfred informed those in attendance that the Committee and interested parties will be notified when the proposed regulations are published by the Office of Administrative Law in the California Regulatory Notice Register. Once the proposed regulations are published, there will be a 45-day public comment period.

ITEM 6: DATABASE UPDATES

Tenorio Alfred provided the Committee with a database update. She explained that the Direct Marketing Program is coordinating with CDFA's Office of Information Technology Services (OITS) to progress the database project. Tenorio Alfred further explained that a Stage One Business Analysis has been reviewed and approved by the CFMAC Database Subcommittee, and is now undergoing review by OITS. Tenorio Alfred informed the Committee that the Direct Marketing Program is concurrently drafting an As-Is Business Analysis, which outlines current Program operations methodology.

ITEM 7: SHELL EGG ENFORCEMENT STANDARDS

Tenorio Alfred explained to the Committee that the Direct Marketing Program and the Egg Safety and Quality Management Program (ESQM) are exploring the opportunity to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This proposed MOU would grant Direct Marketing Program staff the ability to engage in additional enforcement of shell egg standards, while conducting inspections of certified farmers' markets.

Tony Herrera and Jenna Celigija, ESQM, provided the Committee with an overview of metrics and methodology used by the ESQM to verify compliance. A handout was distributed to all in attendance, outlining the relevant Food and Agricultural Code Sections, as well as information pertaining to ESQM authority and duties. Information on shell egg registration, grading, size, container marking, and other pertinent requirements were also provided.

Herrera and Celigija proceeded to answer questions from the Committee. They encouraged certified farmers' market managers to contact them for additional information, or to report suspected shell egg violations.

MOTION: Amelia Moore moved to recommend, to the Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture, that the Direct Marketing Program continue to engage with the Egg Safety and Quality Management Program, to develop a Memorandum of Understanding. Murez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, with no abstentions.

A period of discussion pertaining to shell egg container marking requirements ensued.

ITEM 8: FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chan asked if any of the Committee members had items to be considered for inclusion on the next meeting agenda.

Chan then requested CDFA staff provide an update on the progress of the MOU between the Direct Marketing Program and the ESQM Program at the next meeting.

Tyler Thayer requested that a discussion on certified producers selling on behalf of another certified producer be included on the next meeting agenda.

Palazzolo requested that CDFA staff provide a brief presentation, on the history and background of certified producers selling on behalf of other certified producers, at the next meeting.

Moore requested that certifiable agricultural products be included on the agenda for the next meeting.

Thayer requested that a discussion on regulations pertaining to fish and meat sold at certified farmers' markets be included on the next meeting agenda.

Steve Patton recommended a that discussion of the Food Safety Modernization Act's Produce Safety Rule be included on the next meeting agenda.

ITEM 9: NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, September 30, 2019, in Torrance, CA.

ITEM 10: ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m. by Chan, Chairperson.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Maria Tenorio Alfred', written over a horizontal line.

Maria Tenorio Alfred, Program Supervisor
Direct Marketing Program
Inspection and Compliance Branch
Inspection Services