



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (CDFA)
STANDARDIZATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (STDZ)
March 11, 2021 Meeting Minutes
Teleconference**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Marko Zaninovich – Chair
Jeff Simonian

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ed Williams
David Silva

INTERESTED PARTIES

Cathy Roache – Alameda Co.
Amanda Zito - Fresno Co.
Victor Rabinovich – San
Francisco Co.
Christopher Greer – Tulare Co.
Steve Schweizer – Kings Co.
Milton O’Haire – Stanislaus Co.
Katherine Takata – Los
Angeles Co.
Carrie Mitchell – Merced Co.

CDFA

Steve Patton
Marcee Yount
Stacey Hughes
Karrie Batchelor
Andrea Todd
Anna Carrasquillo
Mitchell King

ITEM 1: CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Marko Zaninovich at 10:03 a.m.

ITEM 2: ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS

Roll was called by Mitchell King. A quorum was established, and introductions were made.

ITEM 3: PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ITEM 4: REVIEW OF OCTOBER 29, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

Chair Zaninovich requested a motion to approve the October 29, 2020 Meeting Minutes as presented.

MOTION: Jeff Simonian moved to approve the October 29, 2020 Meeting Minutes as presented. Chair Zaninovich seconded the motion. A vote by roll call was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 5: COMMITTEE VACANCY AND TERMS REPORT

King provided the Committee Vacancy and Terms Report. Chair Zaninovich encouraged those present to help with recruiting efforts for the committee to fill vacant seats and asked that they work with King to get application information to prospective members.

ITEM 6: REVIEW OF PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2021/22 COUNTY COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

Stacey Hughes provided the Review of Proposed Fiscal Year (FY) 2021/22 County Cooperative Agreements. Hughes clarified that the current proposed agreements do include a 10 percent increase for counties and that Imperial County now has an agreement. Hughes stated that Los Angeles, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tulare counties all submitted requests for additional funding in FY 2021/22. Hughes provided a brief summary of these requests.

The total amount for the Proposed FY 2021/22 County Cooperative Agreements was \$845,891.

ITEM 7: REVIEW OF PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2021/22 PROGRAM BUDGET

Hughes presented the Proposed FY 2021/22 Program Budget. Hughes also gave an update on the money that was saved during FY 2019/20. There was discussion regarding the impact on the COVID-19 pandemic on expenditures and savings. Hughes noted that there were significant savings due to decreased travel, but that revenue was negatively impacted.

The proposed budget included \$731,213 for personal services; \$1,063,171 for operating expenses and equipment; \$346,719 for departmental services; with a total program cost of \$2,141,013; a gas tax credit of \$36,170; and a pro rata cash adjustment of \$126,726 for a total proposed budget of \$2,231,569.

MOTION: Jeff Simonian moved to approve the Proposed Fiscal Year 2021/22 Program Budget as presented. Chair Zaninovich seconded the motion. A vote by roll call was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 8: STANDARDIZATION REGULATION TASK FORCE REPORT

Karrie Batchelor provided an update on the work of the Standardization Regulation Task Force (Task Force). The Task Force has investigated the regulations involved in food donations to food banks and charities to identify possible improvements to make it easier for food to be donated to charity. Batchelor gave an overview of the various ways food might be donated and also discussed the process for food that does not meet standardization regulations to be donated.

The Task Force found that if food is donated to a charity there are little to no costs associated with the donation to charity, but that there is a cost associated with food donated under a disposal order. Though donations under disposal orders were found to be rare, some counties charge charities for the enforcement costs related to disposal orders. Batchelor stated that in most cases the charges are sent to the Standardization Program.

The Task Force proposed allowing counties to charge the Standardization Program for costs related to charitable food donations. Batchelor stated that the counties would be responsible for maintaining records of costs related to donations that have been

charged to the Standardization Program and would need to report these costs to the Standardization Advisory Committee each year. There was discussion between the committee and county staff present regarding this report.

Hughes reiterated that the objective was to prevent charitable organizations from having to pay for donated products.

MOTION: Jeff Simonian moved to approve the task force proposal as read. Chair Zaninovich seconded the motion. A vote by roll call was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 9: PROGRAM UPDATES

Steve Patton informed the committee that the Produce Safety Program will be continuing for another five year period using federal funding.

ITEM 10: NEXT MEETING/AGENDA ITEMS

The next meeting will be held on October 26, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

Chair Zaninovich asked that Ed Williams provide an update on wholesaler registration at the next meeting. Chair Zaninovich also asked that those present reach out to people who may be interested in joining the committee.

ITEM 11: ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m. by Chair Zaninovich.

Respectfully submitted by:



for
Stacey Hughes, Program Supervisor
Standardization Program