



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (CDFA)  
CALIFORNIA CITRUS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CCAC)  
November 10, 2015 Meeting Minutes  
1001 South Mount Vernon Ave, Bakersfield, CA**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Gus Gunderson, Chairman  
Keeley Bramer, Vice Chair  
John Gless  
Mark Golden  
Seth Wollenman  
Curtis Holmes  
Scott Woods  
Michael Stark

**INTERESTED PARTIES**

Scotti Walker, Fresno County  
PK Kumar, Fresno County  
Steve Schweizer, Kings County  
Manuel Villicana, Kern County  
Jennifer Stilwill, Kern County  
Scott Cornett, Tulare County  
Chris Stambach, CCM  
Bob Blakely CCM

**CDFA**

Steve Patton  
Marcee Yount  
Stacey Hughes  
Karrie Batchelor  
Andrea Todd  
Laurel Rudolph

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Al Bates

**ITEM 1: ROLL CALL**

The Committee was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Mr. Gus Gunderson, Chairman. Roll was called and a quorum was established.

**ITEM 2: PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments

**ITEM 3: COMMITTEE VACANCIES AND TERMS**

Ms. Laurel Rudolph reported on committee terms and current vacancies. Currently, there are two handler member vacancies, one from any citrus category and one handler of lemons in Ventura County. Members whose terms will end on September 30, 2016, are: Mr. John Gless, and Mr. Gus Gunderson.

**ITEM 4: ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Mr. Gus Gunderson asked for nominations for Chair and Vice Chair.

**MOTION:** Mr. Mark Golden nominated Mr. Gus Gunderson for Chairman. Mr. Keeley Bramer second the motion. The motion passed unanimously, with no abstentions.

**MOTION:** Mr. John Gless nominated Mr. Keeley Bramer for Vice-Chair. Mr. Curtis Holmes second the motion. The motion passed unanimously, with no abstentions.

**ITEM 5: APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Gus Gunderson asked for a motion to approve the March 17, 2015 Meeting Minutes.

**MOTION:** Mr. Mark Golden moved to approve the March 17, 2015, Meeting Minutes, as submitted. Mr. Gus Gunderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, with no abstentions.

**ITEM 6: FUND CONDITION REPORT**

Ms. Karrie Batchelor provided the Fund Condition Report. As of September 30, 2015, there were \$1,358,515.54 total resources available. The anticipated expenditures for the 2015/16 Fiscal Year (FY) is \$767,769.56, with total resources of \$590,745.98 remaining for the 2015/16 FY.

**ITEM 7: FINAL 2015 COUNTY EXPESNSES SUMMARY**

Ms. Karrie Batchelor presented the county activities and expenses summary, to date:

Fresno County inspected 764 premises, 649 lots, and 690,834 containers, with no lots rejected. The County also conducted 634 maturity tests, with no rejections. They used 51.5 % of their total budget.

Kern County inspected 211 premises and 780 lots, with no lots rejected. The County also inspected 1,698,437 containers, with no rejections, and conducted 964 maturity tests. They used 67% of their total budget.

Riverside County inspected 24 premises, and 42 lots with no lots rejected. The County also inspected 46,888 containers, with no rejections, and conducted 35 maturity tests. They used a little more than 45% of their total budget.

Santa Clara County inspected 12 premises and 63 lots, with no lots rejected. The County inspected 56,275 containers with no rejections, and conducted 63 maturity tests. They used 42% of their total budget.

Tulare County inspected 884 premises and 2,793 lots, with no lots rejected. The County inspected 2,085,057 containers, with no rejections, and conducted 2,793 maturity tests. They used 23% of their total budget.

Ventura County inspected 10 premises and 11 lots, with no lots rejected. The County inspected 11,297 containers, with no rejections, and conducted 11 maturity tests. Their total funds used will be determined once local fruit is harvested.

The cumulative county activity for 2015 was also reported. A total of 1,905 total premises, and 4,338 total lots were inspected, with no lots rejected. The counties also inspected a total of 4,588,788 containers, with no rejections, and conducted a total of 4,500 maturity tests. The counties used 41.1% of the cumulative total county agreements.

### **ITEM 8: CDFA UPDATES**

Mr. Steve Patton discussed the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA). On October 31, 2015, the FSMA rules were released. The rules are expected to establish standards for growing, harvesting, packing, and holding produce on domestic and foreign farms.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has asked multiple State Departments to help implement the new rules. The FDA and CDFA will work together to implement the rules with the resources available.

California is currently in the process of implementing a California Good Agricultural Practices Audit (CGAP), based on the FSMA rule. This Audit will be voluntary.

Mr. Patton discussed the new medicinal marijuana bills. In October, 2015 the Governor signed three different bills that will help regulate the existing Medical Marijuana industry. To comply with the new laws, CDFA will create a new branch under the Division of Inspections Services. Currently \$10 million has been allocated for implementing and enforcement of the new law; some of that funding will go to other state agencies as well. In the long term, state license fees from Medical Cannabis Cultivation will also help fund the new branch.

### **ITEM 9: REGULATION UPDATES**

Ms. Batchelor discussed new regulations that were finalized in September, 2015. These new regulations modified two existing containers and added one new container. Modifications to container 67, previously a lemon container, now allows the packing of oranges; Container 66 allowed all citrus, with the exception of grapefruit, the regulation change now allows for the packing of grapefruit in the container; Container 68 is a new container for packing oranges.

Ms. Batchelor also discussed the new experimental container and pack permits for mandarins. There are currently three new containers experimenting using nonstandard sizes.

California Citrus Mutual (CCM) is currently developing a petition for a regulation change regarding freeze re-inspection procedures. Mr. Bob Blakely with CCM, asked the counties for assistance with the petition. Mr. Blakely also asked the counties to gather quantitative data to show the cost of reconditioning lots multiple times from the 2013 freeze. Discussion followed regarding financial and quality concerns with future freezes.

**ITEM 10: PROGRESS REPORT FROM COUNTIES ON MATURITY INSPECTION PROGRAM**

Counties in attendance reported the following:

Kern County reported their Navel orange harvest started the beginning of October. Orange color was good with soluble solids testing well above the California Standard.

Tulare County reported that they started receiving Navels in their county on October 7<sup>th</sup>. They reported that maturity tests are running well above the minimum requirement.

Fresno County reported their Navel orange harvest started October 15<sup>th</sup>. Color and maturity have been testing well above the California Standard.

Kings County reported that they started their Navel testing in mid-October. They packed less than 50,000 containers, with color and maturity testing well above the California Standard.

Riverside County reported that one packing house was currently running and reported maturity tests are well above the minimum requirement. They requested that maturity tests be extended for the southern counties so that they are able to test local fruit later in the season.

Ms. Batchelor gave the reports for those counties not in attendance:

Ventura County reported that color and maturity have been testing well above the California Standard.

Santa Clara County reported that color and maturity have been testing well above the California Standard.

San Diego reported that three out of their four packing houses were running. They received oranges from Kern County in October, with no color or maturity problems.

It was requested by the committee to end maturity tests on November 16, 2015.

Mr. Gunderson asked for a motion to end maturity testing.

**MOTION:** Mr. Mark Golden moved to stop maturity testing November 16, 2015, allowing the counties discretion to test if needed, and to extend the testing date for the Southern counties to January so that they are able to test local fruit. Mr. Scott Woods seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

**ITEM 11: NEW BUSINESS – DISCUSSION ONLY**

It was requested that the Committee receive an updated fund condition showing final numbers through December, 2015. The program said that they would have it out in mid-January, 2016.

**ITEM 12: NEXT MEETING AND AGENDA ITEM**

The next meeting will be March 10, 2016 at the Tulare County Agricultural Commissioner's Office.

**ITEM 13: ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Gunderson asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**MOTION:** Mr. Mark Golden moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 am. Mr. Michael Stark seconded. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Respectfully submitted by:



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Karrie Batchelor, Agriculture Program Supervisor II  
Inspection and Compliance Branch  
Inspection Services