



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (CDFA)
STANDARDIZATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (STDZ)**

October 25, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Coalinga, CA

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chris Crivelli
John Eliot, Jr.
Louis Pandol
Ruben Arroyo

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mark Perez, Chairman
Dennis Johnston, Vice Chair
S. Garrett Patricio
Eric Lauritzen

INTERESTED PARTIES

Dennis Bray, Alameda County
Scott Cornett, Tulare County
Tom Reed, San Joaquin County
Tim Pelican, Stanislaus County
Carol Hafner, Fresno County
Scotti Walker, Fresno County
Rich Ordonez, Monterey County
Ron Bray, Riverside County
Sara Frauenheim, CGTFL

CDFA

Steve Patton
Stacey Hughes
Sarah Cardoni

ITEM 1: ROLL CALL

The Committee was called to order at 9:55 a.m. by Mr. Steve Patton. Roll was called, introductions were made, and a quorum was established.

ITEM 2: COMMITTEE VACANCIES AND TERMS

Ms. Sarah Cardoni provided an overview of Committee vacancies and member terms. Member vacancies include one fresh fruit member, one other fresh fruit member, three fresh vegetable members, and two other vegetable members. Members who will be up for reappointment on September 1, 2013, are Mr. John Eliot, Jr., Mr. Louis Pandol, and Mr. Chris Crivelli. Members who will term out on August 31, 2013, are Mr. Mark Perez and Mr. Dennis Johnston.

ITEM 3: ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mr. Patton opened the floor for nominations.

MOTION: Mr. Pandol nominated Mr. Perez as Chairman. Mr. Eliot seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and Mr. Perez was appointed Chairman of the Standardization Advisory Committee.

MOTION: Mr. Pandol nominated Mr. Johnston as Vice Chair. Mr. Eliot seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and Mr. Johnston was appointed Vice Chair of the Standardization Advisory Committee.

ITEM 4: APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

a) March 13, 2012 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Mr. Pandol motioned to approve the March 13, 2012 Meeting Minutes with the amendment that Mr. Dennis Bray, Alameda County, and Steve Schweizer, Kings County, were in attendance. Mr. Eliot seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

b) March 28, 2012 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Mr. Pandol motioned to approve the March 28, 2012 Meeting Minutes as submitted. Mr. Eliot seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 5: STATE REPORTS

a) Fund Condition

Mr. Steve Patton provided an overview of the Standardization Program fiscal year (FY) 2011/12 Fund Condition. He stated that the program continues to build funds and encouraged the committee to form a subcommittee to come up with a plan to expend funds in order to get the reserve to an appropriate level. The committee agreed that a subcommittee should be formed to review current county contracts and past program expenditures so that a plan to utilize the reserve can be established. Members who volunteered to serve on the Short-Term Reserve Reduction Subcommittee are Mr. Eliot, Mr. Crivelli, and Mr. Ruben Arroyo. In addition to those members, a county representative from both southern and northern California will be asked to assist with the subcommittee.

b) Regulation Update

Mr. Patton provided a regulation update. He stated that currently there is a proposal for an amendment to California Code of Regulations Chapter 3 §1472.8. Tomatoes, Greenhouse Grown Defined, which states: Tomatoes labeled with the term "greenhouse grown" shall be considered mislabeled unless tomatoes are grown in a fixed steel structure using irrigation and climate control, in an artificial medium that substitutes for soil. Mr. Patton stated that CDFA received the petition to tighten up the language in the regulation. He stated that there was a hearing in Ventura and that industry made arguments for and against the proposal. CDFA will update the committee as this petition moves forward.

c) Audit Update

Mr. Patton stated that three companies have been audited so far this year. There will be a total of five companies audited. The Plant Health and Pest Prevention Services Asian Citrus Psyllid Program asked the Standardization Program to audit citrus companies and to share the information with their program. A couple citrus operations were audited to see if the splitting out of assessments was being done correctly. One company that was audited owed over \$50,000 in assessments due to assessment

calculation errors. He stated that the program will continue to conduct these audits. Discussion ensued regarding the issues with the differences in the way citrus and standardization assessments are calculated. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to citrus packers to address the assessment issue.

d) Enforcement Update

Mr. Patton stated there would not be an enforcement report provided from CDFA and that the county enforcement reports would be sufficient. Discussion ensued regarding the Report 8 and its functionality.

ITEM 6: COUNTY ENFORCEMENT REPORTS

Standardization county contract reports for the FY 2011/12 were discussed. Reports were provided from the counties of: Merced; San Mateo; Kern; Fresno; Stanislaus; San Joaquin; Riverside; Monterey; and Alameda. Reports were not provided from San Bernardino County and Yolo County. New contracted counties that will provide reports for the next enforcement reporting period are: San Francisco; Sutter; Tulare; San Diego; and Ventura.

ITEM 7: MILL ASSESSMENT RATES

Mr. Patton stated that recently there has been discussion by this committee regarding raising the mill assessment rates. He stated that before industry would accept an increase in assessments, this committee would need to come up with a plan to utilize the additional funds and that industry would need to know how the funds would be spent. At this time, there will not be a change to the assessment rates.

ITEM 8: PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ITEM 9: OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Patton stated that the Direct Marketing Ad Hoc Advisory Committee is exploring all aspects of direct marketing including certified farmers' markets, community supported agricultural groups, and roadside vendors. Proposals include registering all entities who participate in direct marketing sales and best management practices for food safety related concerns. A report with recommendations will be released in December.

ITEM 10: NEXT MEETING/AGENDA ITEMS

The next meeting will be held at Harris Ranch Inn in March 2013. Agenda items will include approval of the budget.

ITEM 11: ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:48 a.m. by Mr. Patton.

Respectfully submitted by:



Steve Patton, Branch Chief
Inspection and Compliance Branch
Inspection Services