



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (CDFA)
STANDARDIZATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (STDZ)
March 28, 2012 Meeting Minutes
Teleconference**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mark Perez, Chair
Dennis Johnston, Vice Chair
Christopher Crivelli
John Eliot, Jr.
Louis Pandol

INTERESTED PARTIES

Nick Oliver, Sutter County
Ron Bray, Riverside County
Dennis Bray, Alameda County
Fred Crowder, San Mateo County

CDFA

Steve Patton
Brian Cote
Susan Shelton
Sarah Cardoni

MEMBERS ABSENT

Eric Lauritzen
S. Garrett Patricio
Ruben Arroyo

ITEM 1: ROLL CALL

The Committee was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Mr. Mark Perez, Chairperson. Roll was called, introductions were made, and a quorum was established.

ITEM 2: APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 7, 2012 MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Mr. Dennis Johnston motioned and Mr. Christopher Crivelli seconded to approve the February 7, 2012 Meeting Minutes as submitted. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 3: BUDGET APPROVAL

Mr. Steve Patton discussed the Fiscal Year (FY) 2012/13 Proposed Budget. Included in the proposed budget under line item *Interdept Other/Prof/OAH Hearings* is money for the new database. Currently, the program is in the process of putting together a request for offer to find a vendor.

MOTION: Mr. John Eliot, Jr. moved to recommend the CDFA Secretary approve the FY 2012/13 Proposed Budget as submitted. Mr. Crivelli seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 4: COUNTY GRANTS

Mr. Patton stated that current county grants were reduced by 15 percent and that the remaining funding was utilized to expand to additional counties. San Diego, Tulare, Sutter, San Francisco, and Ventura counties have been added and will now receive funding to conduct standardization work.

Discussion ensued regarding county grants. Current counties are receiving less funding from the Standardization Program than before even though their program expenditures exceed county grants. Because general funding that was once being used to supplement funding from CDFA is no longer available, counties face difficult times carrying out their standardization work. Mr. Patton stated that the assessment rates are set in statue and have a maximum assessment set at 3 and 6 mills. Current assessment rates are 1.5 and 1 mills. Assessment rates could be increased to allow for more county funding.

ITEM 5: DIRECT MARKETING AD HOC ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE

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. The committee will complete their work in July 2012.

ITEM 6: OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business discussed.

ITEM 7: PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

ITEM 8: NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at Harris Ranch Inn in October 2012.

ITEM 9: ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m. by Mr. Perez, Chairperson.

Respectfully submitted by:



Steve Patton, Chief
Inspection and Compliance Branch
Inspection Services