

**Seed Advisory Board (SAB)
Nominating Committee
California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)**

Webinar

**November 4, 2021
10:00AM- 11:00AM**

Committee Members:
Bill White
Greg Cassel
John McShane
Greg Orsetti

CDFA:
Brenda Lanini
Erica Moore

1. Roll Call and Opening Remarks

Brenda Lanini called the meeting to order at 10:00 am

2. Discussion of applicants for board member vacancies.

Lanini advised the committee that Joe Baglietto has resigned. Greg Cassel and Scott Emanuelli have terms expiring, both members asked to be reappointed to the board. Mr. Kelly Keithly, has passed away, and his board seat needs to be filled.

This results in two board vacancies. One vacancy for an agricultural seed labeler and the other vacancy for a vegetable seed labeler.

Lanini opens discussion for the following applicants:

Tom Hearne- Agricultural Seed

Mr. Hearne graduated in Agriculture Business from Cal Poly. He later worked in sales for Gallo Wine and then as a Produce Broker in San Francisco for 6 years. Mr. Hearne has managed L.A. Hearne Company's seed division for the last 22 years and during this time the company experienced great growth and continually strives to be the leader in their product offerings. His involvement with key organizations within the state also provide additional qualifications. Mr. Hearne has been an active member of the California Seed Association since 2003 and served as CSA President (2013-2014). He has been on the Board of Directors for California Crop Improvement Association since 2005, has been on the executive committee for over 10 years, and has served as President for 3 years (2011-2014).

Justin Davis- Vegetable Seed

Mr. Davis has been with Sakata Seed America, Inc. for 10 years. He currently holds the position of the Director of Vegetable Sales and Marketing. Previously, Mr. Davis

served as Senior Manager, Vegetable Sales and Marketing, Production Manager for North America, Domestic Production Planning Manager, and Production Field Manager. He graduated from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo with a degree in Agronomy and Crop Science.

Jon Nickerson- Mr. Nickerson is the owner of GreenGo Seed, a vegetable breeding company located in Arizona. He has been in the seed industry since 2015.

The committee discussed the qualifications of each candidate. The committee determined that Tom Hearne and Justin Davis had the qualifications most closely aligned to the vacant positions. The committee will present the recommendations at the November 10th Seed Advisory Board conference call.

The committee moved to recommend Tom Hearne and Justin Davis to the Seed Advisory Board to fill the vacant board positions.

Yes:	John McShane, Greg Orsetti, Greg Cassel, Bill White
No:	None
Abstained	None
Absent:	None

3. Adjournment

McShane adjourned the meeting at 10:15 am

Respectfully submitted by:

Erica Moore
Associate Governmental Program Analysts
CDFA Nursery, Seed and Cotton Program