

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**California Department of Food and Agriculture  
Integrated Pest Control Branch**

**APIARY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING (AAB)**

August 17, 2023

1220 N Street, Auditorium

Sacramento, CA 95814

| <b><u>Members Present</u></b>  | <b><u>Members Absent</u></b> | <b><u>CDFA Personnel</u></b>  |
|--|------------------------------|---|
| Trevor Tauzer, Chair<br>Brad Pankratz via Zoom<br>Valeri Severson via Zoom | None                         | Michelle Dennis<br>Robert James<br>Jennifer Berger<br>Jennifer Gordon |

**Agency and Industry Representatives**

Rick Gurrola, Shasta County Agricultural Commissioner, CACASA Apiary Subcommittee  
Deputy Jay Freeman, Rural Crimes Task Force, Butte County Sheriff's Department  
Liz Herbert, Sutter County Agricultural Commissioner, CACASA President  
Marcie Skelton, Glenn County Agricultural Commissioner; Chair, Nursery, Seed & Apiary  
Glenn Fankhauser, Kern County Agricultural Commissioner  
Bonnie Wheeler, Supervising Agricultural Standards Inspector, San Diego County

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Trevor Tauzer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:13 a.m. and conducted roll call. A quorum was not present for the Board since a majority were not present in person or at a previously noticed location accessible to the public.

The meeting was held in compliance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, pursuant to Government Code Sections 11120-11132.

**WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS**

Mr. Tauzer welcomed everyone.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES**

No minutes were presented to the board.

### **APIARY BOARD PUBLIC MEMBER VACANCY**

Public member vacancy candidates were listed by name. Seven applicants submitted their interest packages, and their information is posted at: <https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/plant/pollinators/ApiaryProtection.html> under Advisory Board. Nominations are expected at next Board meeting.

### **RURAL CRIMES TASK FORCE UPDATE**

Deputy Freeman provided the Rural Crimes Task Force update, asking for more participation in reporting hive theft. He would like the Apiary Protection Program to be more involved with this issue. Accessibility to brand number information was requested for investigations.

### **APIARY SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Rick Gurrola, Chair, Apiary Subcommittee, reported on changes proposed with BeeWhere and concerns voiced by industry about confidentiality of hive locations.

### **BRIEF PROGRAM UPDATES**

The Apiary Fee Regulation package is moving forward and is being reviewed by the Regulations unit.

CDFA will provide a presentation at the September Board meeting to the Board about county work that will be supported by registration fees.

Secretary approval of Tropi mite motion from April 5, 2023, was shared and an update was provided that CDFA will provide comments to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency on their risk assessment for package bees.

Public meetings and listening sessions will be held in Fall and Spring to discuss apiary hobbyist concerns and possible fees for those with 1-9 hives after January 1, 2025.

The Lyris listserv system is providing notifications for Apiary Advisory Board updates. To streamline our websites, Board information is now found on the Apiary Protection Program website under the Advisory Board tab.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Mr. Tauzer asked for public comment. No comments were given.

## **NEXT MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS.**

Monthly Board meetings are planned to be held at 10:00 a.m., on the third Thursday of each month in 2023. However, the September 21, 2023, meeting will be changed to accommodate the CAC's as they have a meeting the same day and will not be in attendance. The meeting is planned for September 19<sup>th</sup>.

Specifics will be provided here:

[CDFA - Plant Health - Apiary Protection Program \(ca.gov\)](https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/plant/Meetings/)  
<https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/plant/Meetings/>

### **Future Agenda Items**

1. CDFA Program – Update
2. Apiary Board Vacancy
3. Apiary Sub-committee - Update
4. Rural Crimes Task Force - Update
5. Apiary Brand Program Information
6. County Contracts

### **Adjourn**

Mr. Tauzer adjourned the meeting at 11:11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jennifer Berger  
Secretary to the Apiary Advisory Board  
California Department of Food & Agriculture