

MEETING OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
(ALL MEETINGS OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC)

Location: CA Department of Food and Agriculture
1220 N Street – Main Auditorium
Sacramento, CA 95814

Contact: Joshua Eddy, Executive Director
Office: (916) 654-0462

MEETING MINUTES APRIL 3, 2012

Item
No.

(1) CALL TO ORDER

- (a) The meeting was called to order on Tuesday, April 3, 2012 at approximately 10:10 a.m. Craig McNamara, President of the State Board of Food and Agriculture presiding.
- (b) Welcoming remarks provided by President McNamara.
- (c) Pledge of Allegiance.

(2) ROLL CALL

Roll call taken by Joshua Eddy, Executive Director.

Present:

| | | |
|----------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Craig McNamara | Ben Drake | Daniel Dooley |
| Kerry Tucker | Donald Bransford | Marvin Meyers |
| Kiran Black | Ashley Boren | Nancy Casady |
| Mike Gallo | Charles Boyer | Miles Reiter |
| Sean McNally | Luawanna Hallstrom | |

Absent:

No absences.

(3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 6, 2012

Board member Dan Dooley moved to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2012 meeting. Board member Don Bransford seconded the motion and a unanimous vote carried the motion.

(4) BOARD UPDATE

President McNamara opened the meeting by welcoming three new appointments to the California State Board of Food and Agriculture.

Ms. Nancy Casady, Ocean Beach People’s Organic Food Market, a public member of the board representing the consumer; Mr. Charles Boyer, Dean of the Jordan College of Agricultural Sciences and Technology at California State University, Fresno – representing a state university or college; and Mike Gallo, Joseph Gallo Farms, an agricultural member of the board.

President McNamara also thanked and recognized the service of past board members – Arlan Van Leeuwen, Adan Ortega and David Wehner.

(5) DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE

Secretary Ross updated the Board on confirmation of citrus greening disease, also called Huanglongbing (HLB), in a lemon/pummelo tree in the Hacienda Heights section of Los Angeles County. The department will be placing an area under quarantine and is making preparations to remove and dispose of the infected tree.

Secretary Ross also introduced Jim Houston, Deputy Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture, who updated the board on the CDFA's involvement in the Health in All Policies Task Force of the Strategic Growth Council.

(6) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – School Lunch Programs (Overview)

The Board heard from one speaker regarding school lunch programs and the importance of linking the education of our children with nutrition, health, and agriculture. The presentation outlined that health must be married to educational achievement and that California must fundamentally change education to change the health of our population.

Speaker:

- Delaine Eastin, former California Superintendent of Public Instruction

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

(7) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – School Lunch Programs (Opportunities/Challenges)

The Board heard from one speaker regarding opportunities and challenges within school lunch programs. The presentation focused on the programs at the Los Angeles Unified School District, which facilitates the 2nd largest school lunch program in the nation.

Speaker:

- David Binkle, Los Angeles Unified School District

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

(8) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – Farm to School Programs

The Board heard from one speaker who has been instrumental in developing successful farm to school programs within California. The presentation focused on the farm to school program within the Riverside Unified School District.

Speaker:

- Rodney Taylor, Riverside Unified School District

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

(9) PANEL DISCUSSION – Agriculture and School Lunch Programs

The Board heard from two speakers focusing on how the agriculture community is becoming more involved in academic education and participation in school lunch programs.

Speakers included:

- Barbara Grimm-Marshall, Grimmway Academy and the Edible Schoolyard at Buena Vista School
- John Young, Yolo County Agricultural Commissioner and Sealer

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

(10) BREAK

(11) PANEL DISCUSSION– School Lunch Programs

The Board heard from two speakers representing the food and agricultural sector discussing opportunities for farmers and ranchers to participate in school lunch programs.

Speakers included:

- Sean Leer, Gold Star Foods
- Bob Knight, Old Grove Orange

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

(12) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – Edible Education

The Board heard from author, chef and activist Alice Waters who is founder of the Edible Schoolyard Project, proprietor of Chez Panisse in Berkeley, and is an American pioneer of culinary philosophy that maintains that cooking should be based on the finest and freshest seasonal ingredients. Ms. Waters’s presentation focused on the importance of creating an edible education within the core curriculum of schools.

Speaker:

- Alice Waters, The Edible Schoolyard Project

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

(13) OTHER BUSINESS

The following business was conducted:

Water Update

Board member Marvin Meyers provided an updated to the Board on water allocations. Based on current allocations, agricultural water users in sections of the Central Valley will be operating under a drought scenario sometime this year.

The board is scheduled to address California’s water situation in Jul and the discussion concluded without formal action by the Board.

Food Donations

Board member Kerry Tucker provided an orientation to new board members on the Board’s goal of doubling food donations within the next five years and suggested that the California Association of Food Banks provide an update to the Board at its next meeting.

The discussion concluded without formal action by the Board and no further business was discussed

(14) PUBLIC COMMENT

One individual provided public comment.

Kory Grant Clift, Freedom Farms, thanked the Board and Secretary Ross for their commitment to school lunch programs and the opportunities to connect new and beginning farmers to these programs.

(15) CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:10 p.m.