

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

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

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MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 6, 2017

Item
No.

(1) CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order on Tuesday, June 6th at approximately 10:05 a.m., President Craig McNamara presiding.

(2) ROLL CALL

Roll call taken by Joshua Eddy, Executive Director.

Present:

Craig McNamara
Ben Drake
Ashley Boren

Don Cameron
Bryce Lundberg
Helene Dillard

Nancy Casady
Joy Sterling

Absent:

Martha Montoya
Mike Gallo

Eric Holst

Donald Bransford

(3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 2nd

Board member Ben Drake moved to approve the minutes of the May 2nd meeting. Board member Nancy Casady seconded the motion and a unanimous vote (8-0) carried the motion.

(4) DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE

Secretary Karen Ross provided a brief update to the Board. The update included an overview of recent events the Secretary attended (Milken Institute, Grimmway tour, Grower-Shipper meeting, and a Wine Institute economic seminar). The Secretary also mentioned the California-Israel Water Policy Forum that was jointly hosted by the CDFR and the Israeli Government. Secretary Ross and the Israeli Minister of Agriculture signed a Letter of Intent on Climate Smart Agriculture cooperation. Other updates included recent pest eradications (Medfly) and HLB infested citrus tree finds in the San Gabriel Valley.

As part of the departmental update, Carla Sanchez (Inspection Services Division) provided an overview of the recent results of the GMO organic study and next steps in the process.

The update concluded without formal action by the Board.

(5) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – Federal Budget

The Board heard a presentation from a representative of the Governor’s Office concerning the potential impact of the federal budget on a variety of programs and services within California.

Speaker:

- Jeff Le, Office of Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

(6) **PANEL DISCUSSION – Agricultural and Environmental Partnerships**

The Board held a panel discussion with representatives from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (representing the California Roundtable for Agriculture and the Environment) and UC Cooperative Extension on agricultural and environmental partnerships.

Speakers included:

- Carlos Suarez, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Karen Buhr, California Association of Resource Conservation Districts
- Betsy Karle, CDFA's Office of Farm to Fork,

The panel discussion concluded without formal action by the Board.

(7) **BREAK**

(8) **OTHER BUSINESS**

Following the break, the Board took the following actions as part of Other Business.

ACTION: Letter to Governor Brown on Career Technical Education
President McNamara requested the Board consider approval of a 'Staff Draft' letter to Governor Brown on Career Technical Education. Board member Don Cameron moved to approve, the motion was seconded by Joy Sterling and a unanimous vote (8-0) carried the motion.

ACTION: Letter to Secretary Ross on Groundwater Recharge
President McNamara also requested the Board consider the Water Committee recommendation of a letter to Secretary Ross concerning Groundwater Recharge Opportunities. Board member Ben Drake moved to approve, the motion was seconded by Nancy Casady and a unanimous vote (8-0) carried the motion.

ACTION: Letter to the Strategic Growth Council
President McNamara requested the Board to consider the Ag Vision Committee recommendation of a letter to the Strategic Growth Council on agricultural land conservation. Board member Don Cameron moved to approve, the motion was seconded by Ben Drake and a unanimous vote (8-0) carried the motion.

The panel discussion concluded without any further action by the Board.

(9) **BOARD DISCUSSION – Ag Vision**

The Board held a discussion on a variety of Ag Vision issues and strategic priorities. One item of discussion focused on the inclusion of groundwater recharge opportunities within the priorities of 'Resource Preservation & Stewardship' and 'Water.'

The panel discussion concluded without any formal action by the Board.

(10) **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments were provided.

(11) **CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting concluded at approximately 1:30 p.m.