

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

**Location:** Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds  
2601 East Lake Avenue  
Watsonville, CA 95076

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

**MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 7, 2012**

Item  
No.

**(1) CALL TO ORDER**

- (a) The meeting was called to order on Tuesday, August 7, 2012 at approximately 9:15 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	Donald Bransford
Kerry Tucker	Kiran Black	Sean McNally
Mike Gallo	Daniel Dooley	Charles Boyer
Luawanna Hallstrom	Miles Reiter	

**Absent:**

Nancy Casady	Marvin Meyers	Ashley Boren
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**(3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 10, 2012**

Board member Dan Dooley moved to approve the minutes of the July 10, 2012 meeting. Board member Don Bransford seconded the motion and a unanimous vote carried the motion.

**(4) DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE**

Secretary Ross provided a brief update to the Board on the Farm-to-Fork office and the current economic situation within the California dairy industry.

**(5) PANEL DISCUSSION–Changes in the Current Legal System**

The Board heard from five speakers regarding national immigration issues concerning agricultural labor.

Speakers included:

- Philip Martin, University of California
- Arturo Rodriguez, United Farm Workers
- Jeanne Malitz, American Immigration Lawyers Association
- Guadalupe Sandoval, California Farm Labor Contractors Association
- Manuel Cunha, Nisei Farmers League

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

- (6) **PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – Agricultural Labor Research Project**  
The Board heard from a representative of the National Academies of Science discussing the results of a research study conducted among farm labor employers about the H-2A program.

Speaker:

- Carol House, National Academies of Science

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

- (7) **PANEL DISCUSSION – State Actions**  
The Board heard from three speakers who discussed the variety of state actions that have occurred across the nation concerning immigration issues and agricultural labor.

Speakers included:

- Monte Lake, CJ Lake, LLC
- Bryan Little, California Farm bureau Federation
- Michele Waslin, Immigration Policy Center

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

- (8) **BREAK**

- (9) **PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – Federal Perspective**  
The Board heard from a representative from the Agricultural Coalition for Immigration Reform detailing the federal constraints related to immigration reform focusing on agricultural labor.

Speaker:

- Craig Regelbrugge, Agricultural Coalition for Immigration Reform

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

- (10) **PANEL DISCUSSION – Transportation and Housing**  
The Board held a panel discussion with four speakers related to transportation and housing issues for agricultural labor.

Speakers included:

- Tom Collishaw, Self-Help Enterprises
- Ellen Brokaw, Brokaw Nursery, LLC
- Sam Turner, T and M Agricultural Services, LLC
- Cesar Hernandez, Reiter Affiliated Companies

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

**(11) OTHER BUSINESS**

Following the presentations and discussions, the Board took the following actions:

**MOTION:** Board member Dan Dooley moved that the Board authorize President McNamara to write a letter on behalf of the Board to the Governor with the following recommendations:

- Drivers License/Permits – Allow undocumented residents to apply for either a drivers license or permit to facilitate transportation to/from work locations
- Farm Worker Housing and Transportation Taskforce – Convene an interagency taskforce to address housing and transportation issues related to farm workers

Board member Ben Drake seconded the motion and a unanimous vote carried the motion.

**MOTION:** Board member Dan Dooley moved that the Board authorize President McNamara to write a letter on behalf of the Board to the California Congressional Delegation concerning the pending ineligibility of 103 communities in California for federal rural housing programs. Board member Don Bransford seconded the motion and a unanimous vote carried the motion.

Other Business addressed by the Board:

**MOTION:** Board member Don Bransford moved that the Board approve the draft ‘Board Findings’ (as amended) related to the July 10, 2012 meeting on agricultural land preservation. Amendments were provided clarifying language within the local government land use decisions section. Board member Charles Boyer seconded the motion and a unanimous vote carried the motion.

No further action was taken by the Board.

**(12) PUBLIC COMMENT**

One individual provided public comment:

Mayor John Huerta, Jr., City of Greenfield, commented that any assistance the Board can provide to addressing immigration reform is helpful and highly recommended.

**(13) CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:30 p.m.