

**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 – Auditorium  
Sacramento, CA 95814

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

**MEETING MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 17, 2010**

Item  
No.

**(1) CALL TO ORDER**

- (a) The meeting was called to order Wednesday, February 17, 2010, at approximately 10:13 a.m. Al Montna, President of the State Board of Food and Agriculture presiding.
- (b) Welcoming remarks provided by President Montna.
- (c) Pledge of Allegiance.

**(2) ROLL CALL**

Roll call taken by Joshua Eddy, Executive Director.

**Present:**

Al Montna	Craig McNamara	Luawanna Hallstrom
Donald Bransford	Ashley Boren	Michael Darnell
Kerry Tucker	Marvin Meyers	

**Absent:**

Daniel Dooley	Adan Ortega, Jr.	David Wehner
Arlan Van Leeuwen		

**(3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 27, 2010**

Board member Marvin Meyers moved to approve the minutes of the January meeting. Board member Ashley Boren seconded the motion and a unanimous vote carried the motion.

**(4) AG VISION UPDATE**

Board member Luawanna Hallstrom provided an update on the Ag Vision. American Farmland Trust has identified four to six priority issues and is working with stakeholders to finalize recommendations. An Ag Vision Advisory Committee is also being developed by American Farmland Trust to assist in finalizing a report to the Board.

**(5) OTHER BUSINESS**

The Board discussed the current water situation in California and potential federal legislative action to provide flexibility within system. Board member Marvin Meyers asked for the Board to support efforts by Senator Dianne Feinstein on the issue. Board action was postponed to close of meeting.

**(6) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – California Drought**

The Board heard from the State Water Resource Control Board concerning California's drought and the regulatory role of the agency.

Speaker:

- Victoria Whitney, State Water Resource Control Board

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

**(7) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – California Drought**

The Board heard from the California Air Resources Board concerning California’s drought and the regulatory role of agency.

Speaker:

- Robert Fletcher, California Air Resources Board

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

**(8) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – California Drought**

The Board heard from the Delta Stewardship Council concerning California’s drought and the future role of the council.

Speaker:

- Joe Grindstaff, Delta Stewardship Council

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

**(9) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – California Drought**

The Board heard from the California Emergency Management Agency regarding emergency declarations and reporting infrastructure

Speaker:

- Secretary Bettenhausen, California Emergency Management Agency

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

**(10) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – Local Impacts**

The Board heard from the California Association of Food Banks regarding the impact of the drought and the challenges in reporting the numbers of individuals needing food assistance.

Speaker:

- Sue Sigler, California Association of Food Banks

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

**(11) OTHER BUSINESS**

The Board continued its discussion on support of federal legislative efforts concerning water delivery limitations. Staff drafted a press release for approval by the Board relating to Senator Feinstein’s legislative efforts.

**MOTION:** Board member Marvin Meyers moved to approve the press release. Board member Craig McNamara seconded the motion and a unanimous vote carried the motion.

A copy of the State Board press release is attached.

No further action was taken by the Board.

**(12) DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE:**

Secretary Kawamura provided a departmental update to the State Board. Topics included: Governor's tour of World Ag Expo in Tulare, the Memorandum of Understanding with the Merced Irrigation District on dairy digesters, and meeting of the California Irrigation Association.

**(13) COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no public comments.

**(14) CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:35 p.m.

# News Release

Release #SB10-001

CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

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## **STATE BOARD OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE SUPPORTS FEINSTEIN'S WATER EFFORTS**

SACRAMENTO, February 22, 2010 – The California State Board of Food and Agriculture today expressed support for Senator Dianne Feinstein's current efforts to address California's ongoing drought. Al Montna, President of the California State Board of Food and Agriculture made the following statement.

“We are pleased that Senator Dianne Feinstein is engaged on this issue and we would be happy to help her in anyway possible. California farmers, ranchers and rural communities are facing significant challenges as a result of the ongoing drought - jobs are being impacted and communities are in need. Allowing drought impacted farmers flexibility within the water system to hire, plant and harvest with 30-40 percent of water allocations is a positive step forward. Addressing California's water challenge, while balancing ecosystem needs, is vital for our Central Valley communities.”

The California State Board of Food and Agriculture advises the governor and secretary of food and agriculture of findings as they impact agriculture and consumer needs. The board conducts forums that bring together local, state and federal government officials, agricultural representatives, and citizens to discuss current issues of concern to California agriculture.