

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

**Location:** California Department of Food and Agriculture      **Contact:** Joshua Eddy, Executive Director  
1220 N Street – Main Auditorium      **Office:** (916) 654-0462  
Sacramento, CA 9584

**MEETING MINUTES MARCH 5, 2013**

Item  
No.

**(1) CALL TO ORDER**

- (a) The meeting was called to order on Tuesday, March 5, 2013 at approximately 10:05 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	Ashley Boren	Bryce Lundberg
Eric Holst	Donald Bransford	Daniel Dooley
Mike Gallo	Miles Reiter	Ben Drake
Kiran Black		

**Absent:**

Sean McNally	Charles Boyer	Nancy Casady
Luawanna Hallstrom	Rodney Taylor	

**(3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 5, 2013**

Board member Mike Gallo moved to approve the minutes of the February 5th meeting. Board member Miles Reiter seconded the motion and a unanimous vote carried the motion.

**(4) DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE**

Executive Director Josh Eddy introduced the Growing California video series – a partnership between California Department of Food and Agriculture and the Buy California Marketing Agreement to promote the state’s specialty crop sector. The featured video – “Farm to Family” highlighted the California Association of Food Banks’ Farm to Family program, which works with growers to provide donations to food banks statewide.

**(5) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – Food Waste: An Overview**

The Board heard from a representative of the Natural Resources Defense Council on the issue of Food Waste – specifically an overview of the recent report *Wasted: How America is Losing up to 40 percent of its Food from Farm to Fork to Landfill*

Speaker:

- Dana Gunders, Natural Resources Defense Council

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

**(6) PANEL DISCUSSION –Addressing Food Loss on the Farm**

The Board heard from four representatives who provided an overview on some innovations occurring at the farm level to address food loss.

Speakers included:

- Lindsay Coate, Ag Against Hunger
- Helena Beckett, Tanimura and Antle
- Mike Bradley, California Farm Bureau Federation
- Robert Gore, The Gualco Group, Inc.

The discussion concluded without formal action by the Board.

**(7) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – Sustainability and the Food System**

The Board heard from a representative of the Branham Group concerning actions within the food system addressing food waste. The speaker provided an overview of the Agricultural Surplus Rescue Program and general policy considerations that the Board should consider.

Speaker:

- Robert Branham, The Branham Group (via Skype)

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

**(8) BREAK**

**(9) PANEL DISCUSSION – Farm to Table Perspectives**

The Board heard from three representatives who discussed actions taken by private companies and trade associations in addressing food waste.

Speakers included:

- Laura Abshire, National Restaurant Association (via Skype)
- Cherie Chastain, Sierra Nevada Brewing Company
- Daniel Morash, California Safe Soil

The discussion concluded without formal action by the Board.

**(10) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD– Combating Hunger**

The Board heard from a representative of community food banks who discussed local partnership programs addressing hunger in communities.

Speakers:

- Bonnie Weigel, Food Share Inc.

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

**(11) OTHER BUSINESS**

Following the presentations on food waste/food loss the board discussed the following opportunities for further action: 1.) Explore the opportunity to develop an award for projects addressing hunger issues at the state level – similar to the Governor’s Environmental and Economic Leadership Awards (GEELA) 2.) Develop a resource manual/publication on programs that exist within the state for farmers to access and 3) Develop a series of forums across the state to address hunger/food waste and further encourage a statewide effort.

**(12) PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment was provided.

**(13) CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT**

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