

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
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MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 4, 2014

Item
No.

(1) CALL TO ORDER

- (a) The meeting was called to order on Tuesday, November 4, 2014 at approximately 10:05 a.m., President Craig McNamara 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	Bryce Lundberg	Nancy Casady
Ashley Boren	Joy Sterling	Eric Holst
Rodney Taylor	Martha Montoya	Don Cameron
Donald Bransford	Ben Drake	Miles Reiter
Daniel Dooley		

Absent:

Charles Boyer	Mike Gallo
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(3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 7, 2014

Board member Bryce Lundberg moved to approve the minutes of the October 7th meeting. Board member Don Cameron seconded the motion and a unanimous vote carried the motion.

(4) DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE

Secretary Ross provided a brief update to the Board. The secretary attended the San Joaquin Valley Regional Supervisors Association Conference in Coalinga and also the California Agriculture in the Classroom Conference in Santa Cruz. Both events highlighted strong cooperation and initiatives surrounding agricultural issues at the local level. Secretary Ross also met with the Secretary of Agriculture from Mexico at the Produce Marketing Association tradeshow in Anaheim as a follow-up to the Governors Trade Mission to Mexico. Other topics included budget planning for 2015-16 and the PEIR public comment period deadline for the Statewide Plant Pest Prevention and Management Program. A final PEIR is anticipated before the end of the year.

(5) PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – Drought Update

The Board heard a presentation from representatives of the University of California, Davis concerning the impact of the drought on California agriculture

Speakers included:

- Richard Howitt, University of California, Davis
- Jay Lund, University of California, Davis

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

(6) **PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – Future Drought Planning**

The Board heard a presentation from the California Natural Resources Agency on planning for future drought years.

Speaker:

- Karla Nemeth, California Natural Resources Agency

The presentations concluded without formal action by the Board.

(7) **PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – Groundwater Planning**

The Board heard a presentation from the California Environmental Protection Agency on the planning, actions and timeline associated with groundwater management.

Speaker:

- Gordon Burns, California Environmental Protection Agency

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

(8) **BREAK**

(9) **BOARD DISCUSSION – California Water Commission: Planning for 2015**

The Board had a discussion with representatives from the California Water Commission on drought planning and other water issues. The California Water Commission will have a significant role in allocating funding associated with water storage contained within Proposition 1.

Participants included:

- Joe Del Bosque, California Water Commission
- Kimberly Delfino, California Water Commission
- David Orth, California Water Commission

The discussion concluded without formal action by the Board.

(10) **BOARD DISCUSSION – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA): Planning for 2015**

The Board had a discussion with representatives from various agencies of the USDA related to drought planning and federal program availability in 2015.

Participants included:

- Glenda Humiston, USDA Rural Development
- Luana Kiger, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Jeff Yasui, USDA Risk Management Agency
- Jacque Johnson, USDA Farm Service Agency

The discussion concluded without formal action by the Board.

(11) **PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD – Farm to Food Bank**

The Board heard a presentation by a public relations firm working with the California Association of Food Banks concerning the Farm to Family Program.

Speakers included:

- Kerry Tucker, Nuffer, Smith, Tucker Public Relations
- Teresa Siles, Nuffer, Smith, Tucker Public Relations
- Sue Sigler, California Association of Food Banks

The presentation concluded without formal action by the Board.

(12) OTHER BUSINESS

One item of business was presented to the Board:

- Reconsideration of the draft letter to the California Air Resources Board concerning offset protocols for Rice Cultivation.

Board member Eric Holst asked for the Board to reconsider and approve a draft letter to the California Air Resources Board concerning offset protocols for rice cultivation. The Board previously considered the letter in August 2014, but postponed action on the issue until a later date. The draft letter was developed following an approved motion at the July 1st Board Meeting.

MOTION: Board member Nancy Casady moved that the Board approve the draft letter to the California Air Resources Board concerning rice cultivation projects. Board member Ashley Boren seconded the motion a unanimous vote carried the motion.

(13) PUBLIC COMMENT

The Board heard one public comment:

Gene Beley, Stockton resident, commented on the need to address water hyacinth in the Delta region. During the meeting a variety of water issues were discussed but the subject of invasive weeds and the problems it is generating for local communities was not addressed.

No further comments were provided.

(14) CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:20 p.m.