



COUNTY OF PLACER  
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

JOSHUA P. HUNTSINGER  
Agricultural Commissioner  
Sealer of Weights & Measures

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION MEMBERS

Tony Aguilar	Larry Jordan
Patricia Beard	William Morebeck
James Brenner	John Nitta
Dan Macon	Stewart Perry
Wayne Vineyard	

11477 E AVENUE  
AUBURN, CALIFORNIA 95603  
TELEPHONE: (530) 889-7372  
FAX: (530) 823-1698  
www.placer.ca.gov

MINUTES

PLACER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION MEETING

January 10, 2011

**Members Present:** Tony Aguilar, Patricia Beard, James Brenner, Larry Jordan, Dan Macon, William Morebeck, John Nitta, Stewart Perry

**Members Absent:** Wayne Vineyard

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- I. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR JANUARY 10, 2011 AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 8, 2010.** – Approval of January 10, 2011 agenda with change to recipient of recommendation in item number III ***Perry/Jordan/MPUV***. Approval of November 8, 2010 minutes ***Jordan/Aguilar/MPUV***.
  - II. **PUBLIC COMMENT**  
Individuals may address the Commission on items under the jurisdiction of the Agricultural Commission not included on this agenda for no longer than five (5) minutes. ***No action can be taken on items addressed under Public Comment.***
  - III. **PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION TO SIERRA COLLEGE PRESIDENT** – Michelle McFarland, Chair Sierra College Agriculture Department

During the 2009/2010 school year the Agriculture Program was identified to go through the Program Vitality Process. The Program Vitality Process evaluated community needs, way to market program, industry creds, and college needs. It was decided at the beginning of the fall semester of 2010/2011 to revamp the curriculum, keeping the core courses, adding marketing and sustainable production agriculture courses. The program will be reevaluated in three years. In the next six to nine months, courses need to be written, determine who will iteach courses, and develop an internship program.

At the conclusion of public input and Commission discussion, the following action was taken:  
**To appoint Perry and Macon to an ad hoc committee to write a letter to Sierra College recommending continuing the Agriculture Program. *Aguilar/Macon/MPUV***

#### IV. REPORTS

##### A. **Agricultural Marketing Program** – Josh Huntsinger

- The agriculture community's input shows they value the Agricultural Marketing Program,
- Teach individual farmers to market themselves.
- Focus county efforts on marketing at a county wide level.
- Will focus on marketing to the local region.
- The program will be focusing on an online version of Ag guide instead of traditional printed version.
- Sending out Ag survey in conjunction with PlacerGrown.

##### B. **Economic Development Board** - Lyndell Grey

- The Economic Development Board attempting to move on road map to improve business in Placer County.
- Working on building a new business plan for agriculture. Current structure of ordinances and permits is based on large scale agriculture.

##### C. **Livestock and Natural Resources Farm Advisor** - Roger Ingram

- 2011 Food and Farm Conference will be held on Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Ag Marketing Program is sponsoring a scholarship program for the PlacerGROWN Food and Farm Conference.
- Farm Business Planning workshop will begin Thursday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, for six weeks.

##### D. **Horticultural and Small Farms Advisor** - Cindy Fake

- New website called Foothill Farming. Vanessa Reed, returning intern, has been working on the website.
- An Agritourism Workshop will be held January 19<sup>th</sup> in Merced.
- Sierra Craft Marketing Workshop will be held January 28<sup>th</sup> at the Auburn Vet Hall.

##### E. **Municipal Advisory Council (MAC) Agendas** - Patti Beard – No report

##### F. **Placer Parkway Meeting Update** - William Morebeck – No report

##### G. **Agricultural Water Supply Issues** - Josh Huntsinger

- Water issues on hold, waiting for direction from new governor and budget.
- Department of Pesticide Regulation and Regional Water Quality Control Board discussing duplication of pesticide regulations
- Next PNSSNS meeting February 16, 2011.

#### V. **AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER'S REPORT** - Josh Huntsinger

- Have received input for possible changes to the Directional Signs ordinance.
- Fowl and Poultry Ordinance before the Board of Supervisors February 8, 2011.
- Planning has received comments from various MACs regarding the Temporary Ag Event Zoning text.
- Air Pollution Control proposing a significant overhaul of burn rules.
- CDFA to eliminate all general funds to state fair.
- Williamson Act funding cut.
- Jack Duran is the new supervisor for District 1 and Eric Goldman is his aide.
- Linda Brown is the aide for Kirk Uhler.

#### VI. **NEW BUSINESS (NON-ACTION ITEM) –** VII. **ADJOURNMENT**