



Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC)

ACTION MINUTES

Location:	<i>Held via Zoom</i>	
Date:	March 25, 2021	
Time:	2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.	
Present:	<i>Committee Members</i>	<i>Staff and Guests</i>
	Sherwood Darrington Alex Eastman Michael Ferguson Erik Heacox Nick Huntington Kevin Piearcy Matt Shea Scott Violini Kirk Williams	Henry Gonzales, Agricultural Commissioner Jose Chang, Assistant Ag Commissioner Nadia Garcia, Ag Programs Manager Jennifer Fahselt, Admin. Secretary-CNF Crystal Valdez, Office Assistant II Mary Grace Perry, Deputy County Counsel Kayla Nelson, Assistant Planner Shawn Archbold, Assistant Planner Son Pham-Gallardo, Associate Planner
-Absent:	Kurt Gollnick, Tony Marci, Scott Storm	

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Huntington at 2:42 p.m.

II. Additions and Corrections *

At the meeting, staff asked the Committee to add a late addition to the agenda (Item C to the Mo. Co. Housing and Community Development – Planning Section, *Miramonte*).

MOTION: Committee Member Violini asked that the minutes reflect the fact that this agenda item was added less than 72 hours before the meeting and that Committee Member Sherwood Darrington, affiliated with the Ag Land Trust, abstained from both voting on the motion to add this item to the agenda as well as voting on added item VI. C (*Miramonte*). It was moved and seconded by Committee Members Violini and Eastman to approve the addition of the item to the agenda and Item II passed by the following vote:

AYES: Eastman, Ferguson, Heacox, Huntington, Piearcy, Shea and Violini

NOES: None

ABSENT: Gollnick, Marci, Storm and Williams (although Williams was in attendance, there may have been technical difficulties that did not enable him to vote).

ABSTAIN: Darrington

**Item II was added at the meeting, changing the sequence of subsequent item numbers.*

III. Consent- Committee Business

1. Approval of minutes from February 25, 2021

MOTION: It was moved and seconded by Committee Members Shea and Darrington with a noted correction by Nadia Garcia, Item III passed by the following vote:

AYES: Darrington, Eastman, Ferguson, Heacox, Huntington, Piearcy, Shea, Violini and Williams

NOES: None

ABSENT: Gollnick, Marci and Storm

ABSTAIN: None

IV. Public Comment

No Public Comment.

V. Agricultural Commissioner's Update

Henry S. Gonzales, Agricultural Commissioner

- Introduced new Administrative Secretary Jennifer Fahselt.
- Announced efforts to protect agricultural workers continue with two personal protective equipment distribution events for farm labor contractors.
 - So far, we have distributed:
 - over 50,000 bottles of hand sanitizer,
 - 1,148,000 disposable surgical masks,
 - 12,000 reusable cloth masks for children of farmworkers from MedShare, and
 - 209,000 N95 respirators.
- This year, we will be surveying/trapping for the European Corn Borer because Cannabis and Hemp are potential hosts.
- Held our annual Ag Expo last Friday via Zoom. Annual Spanish workshop focusing on pesticide, INSV, and strawberry pest pressure topics.
- Impatiens Necrotic Spot Virus is getting interest from other parts of the state.
- Greenfield resolution regarding notices of intent to be posted on the Ag. Office website
- I continue to work with Ag trade associations, BoS, Health Dept. and the Public Health Officer on farmworker vaccination efforts. One recent question I keep getting is about how we are coordinating the 2nd vaccination for workers receiving their 1st vaccination while working down south.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Norm Groot commended the Ag Commissioner for standing firm on the NOI issue and that it's clear that with what's going on in Kern County that the only intent is to weaponize this information and use it against the Ag industry.

VI. Mo.Co. Housing and Community Development- Planning

A. Burmeister Mark & Jeanne S. Trust

- Project Planner: Kayla Nelson, *Assistant Planner*
- Project Title: Burmeister Mark & Jeanne S. Trust
- Planning File No.: PLN200299
- APN: 423-331-035-000

- Project Location: 67155 Lockwood-San Ardo Road, Lockwood, South County Area Plan
- Zoning: Rural Grazing, 40-acre minimum (RG/40) and Permanent Grazing, 40-acre minimum (PG/40)
- Project Description: Use Permit to allow establishment of a 1,200 square foot artisan winery within an existing 2,400 square foot metal barn. Maximum production will be 1,000 cases per year. The property is not within an Agricultural & Winery Corridor Plan.

ACTION REQUESTED: Make a recommendation to the Monterey County Zoning Administrator

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MOTION: It was moved and seconded by Committee Members Shea and Violini and passed by the following vote to recommend approval.

AYES: Darrington, Eastman, Ferguson, Heacox, Huntington, Pearcey, Shea, Violini and Williams
NOES: None
ABSENT: Gollnick, Marci and Storm
ABSTAIN: None

B. Copperhead Creek Ranch

- Project Planner: *Shawn Archbold, Assistant Planner*
Son Pham-Gallardo, Associate Planner
- Project Title: Copperhead Creek Ranch
- Planning File No.: PLN200185
- APN: 424-061-040-000
- Project Location: 73550 Pleyto Cemetery Road, Bradley, South County Area Plan
- Zoning: Permanent Grazing, 40-acre minimum (PG/40)
- Project Description: Administrative Permit for the construction of the second and third single family dwellings, accessory to the agricultural use of the property.

ACTION REQUESTED: Make a recommendation to the Monterey County Zoning Administrator.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MOTION: It was moved and seconded by Committee Members Pearcey and Violini and passed by the following vote to recommend approval:

AYES: Eastman, Ferguson, Heacox, Huntington, Pearcey, Shea, Violini and Williams
NOES: Darrington
ABSENT: Gollnick, Marci, and Storm
ABSTAIN: None

C. Miramonte Agricultural Buffer Easement Deed (Montana Skies-City of Greenfield)

- Project Planner: *Son Pham-Gallardo, Associate Planner*
- Project Title: Miramonte Agricultural Buffer Easement Deed
- Planning File No.: REF210008
- APN: 109-232-001-000
- Project Location: Agricultural lands surrounding the area annexed by the City of Greenfield
- Project Description: Agricultural Buffer Easement Deed establishing an agricultural buffer on lands owned by Montana Skies LLC (Grantor) to protect agricultural lands surrounding the area annexed to the City of Greenfield (Miramonte; LAFCO Resolution No. 19-8)

ACTION REQUESTED: Make a recommendation to the Monterey County Board of Supervisors.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MOTION: It was moved and seconded by Committee Members Huntington and Eastman and passed by the following vote to recommend approval:

AYES: Eastman, Ferguson, Heacox, Huntington, Piearcy, Shea, Violini and Williams
NOES: None
ABSENT: Gollnick, Marci, and Storm
ABSTAIN: Darington

VII. Administrative Matters

- Nadia Garcia informed the Committee that Jennifer Fahselt will be taking over AAC Coordination duties including ethics training reminders. Jennifer will be sending reminders and links to those AAC members that are due to complete their training again.

VIII. Agricultural Advisory Committee Comments

Committee Member Piearcy mentioned that he also sits on the Water Resources Agency (WRA) Reservoir Operations Advisory Committee (ROAC). Mr. Piearcy told the Committee he has a continual conflict sitting on both committees because the committees overlap at the same time and asked if the AAC Committee could adjust the start time. Mary Grace Perry, Deputy County Counsel suggested that Nadia Garcia reach out to WRA-ROAC to see if there is a possibility to reschedule their meetings to 1:00pm (or a time before noon, instead of 1:30pm), and that would allow him to join the AAC meetings at 2:30pm. Mr. Piearcy also reported that on the same 4th Thursday of the month, he also has a Fair Board meeting that begins at 5:30pm. Staff will report back at next meeting.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:14 p.m.