



# Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC)

## ACTION MINUTES

<b>Location:</b>	<i>Held at Cayenne Room, 1441 Schilling Rd. Salinas, CA. 93901</i>	
<b>Date:</b>	January 27, 2022	
<b>Time:</b>	2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.	
<b>Present:</b>	<i>Committee Members</i>	<i>Staff and Guests</i>
	Sherwood Darington Alex Eastman Michael Ferguson Kurt Gollnick Nick Huntington Scott Violini	Jose Chang, Assistant Ag. Commissioner Crystal Valdez, Office Assistant III Mary Grace Perry, Deputy County Counsel Craig Spencer, Chief of Planning Anna Quenga, Principal Planner
<b>Absent:</b>	Eric Heacox, Kevin Piearcy, Toni Marci, Matt Shea and Scott Storm	

### I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Eastman at 2:48 p.m.

### II. Additions and Corrections

Requested by Deputy County Counsel Mary Grace Perry to change the language on the agenda item nos. VI. A, B, and C (HCD items) under “Action Requested” from “Make a recommendation for approval to the Monterey County Planning commission” to “Support approval by the Monterey County Planning Commission” (Item VI.A) and “Support approval by the Housing and Community Development (HCD) Chief of Planning” (Items VI. B and C) as this is the appropriate action when considering projects without the benefit of having reviewed project-associated environmental documents.

### III. Consent- Committee Business

- Approval of minutes from October 28, 2021

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded by Committee Members Gollnick and Violini and passed by the following vote:

**AYES:** Darington, Eastman, Ferguson, Gollnick, Huntington and Violini

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** Heacox, Piearcy, Marci, Shea, and Storm

**ABSTAIN:** None

#### **IV. Public Comment- On items not on the agenda.**

- *Public Comment made by Daniel Hernandez (or Fernandez)*

#### **V. Agricultural Commissioner's Update**

*Jose Chang, Assistant Agricultural Commissioner*

- Crop Report Surveys were sent out and online data submission will be an option again this year for farmers, producers, ranchers, and others.
- LBAM has been deregulated, however due to export requirements the Agricultural Commissioner's Office is still issuing compliance agreements and conducting trapping
- On December 6, 2021, an Asian citrus psyllid, (ACP), *Diaphorina citri* was collected by one of our staff in a yellow sticky trap in an orange tree at a residence near Laurelwood Elementary School. The ACP was positively identified by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) on December 30, 2021. The lone specimen, an adult was dead. ACP is a vector of Huanglongbing (HLB) bacteria which is deadly to citrus. In 2020, Monterey County recorded 1,360 acres of lemons valued at \$36,720,000. The lemon orchards are in the foothills southwest of the City of Gonzales. Monterey County is already in state and federal bulk citrus regional quarantine zone 3 for ACP due to detections in Salinas in 2016 and 2017, and Soledad in 2018.
- In late March or early April of 2022, we will hold our annual Agricultural Exposition (Ag Expo). This is a Spanish language event, and typically we have around 200 attendees, mostly berry growers. The venue this year may be via Zoom depending on conditions in the county.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

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

##### **A. Susan Street in Pajaro- Agricultural Employee Housing (Rio Vista Group LLC) Project**

- Planner: Craig Spencer, Chief of Planning presented for Shawn Archbold, Associate Planner
- Project Title: Susan Street Agricultural Employee Housing (Rio Vista Group LLC)
- Planning File No.: PLN210152
- APNs: 117-361-016-000
- Project Location: End of Susan Street, Pajaro, North County Area Plan
- Zoning: Farmlands, 40-acre minimum (F/40) primarily with portions in High Density Zoning District, 20 units an acre (HDR/20) and Resource Conservation Zoning District, 40-acre minimum (RC/40).
- Project Description: Combined Development Permit consisting of: 1) Use Permit for the construction of four (4), two-story 16,286 square foot apartment buildings totaling 60 units for agricultural workforce housing, one (1) manager unit, two (2) laundry facilities, one (1) recreation room, open space and informal recreation area; and 2) Variance to exceed the 5 percent Farmlands Zoning District lot coverage limitation.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Support approval by the Monterey County Planning Commission.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Christine Shaw, Daniel Hernandez (or Fernandez) and Bob Roach

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded by Committee Members Gollnick and Violini and **passed** by the following vote to support approval by the Monterey County Planning Commission, subject to an appropriate agricultural vegetative screening.

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

**B. Cardenas (Commercial Cannabis Operation- Existing Structures)**

- Project Planner: Anna Quenga, Principal Planner presented for Son Pham-Gallardo, Senior Planner
- Project Title: Cardenas
- Planning File No.: PLN170302
- APN: 137-111-031-000
- Project Location: 25600 Encinal Rd, Salinas, Central Salinas Valley Area Plan
- Zoning: Farmlands, 40-acre minimum (F/40)
- Project Description: Administrative Permit to allow cannabis operations including cultivation totaling approximately 57,000 square, processing totaling approximately 2,530 square feet and distribution.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Support approval by the Housing and Community Development (HCD) Chief of Planning.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded by Committee Members Ferguson and Eastman and **passed** by the following vote to support approval by the Housing and Community Development (HCD) Chief of Planning.

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

**C. KDM Salinas LLC (Commercial Cannabis Operation- Existing Structures)**

- Project Planner: Anna Quenga, Principal Planner presented for Jaime Scott Guthrie, Senior Planner
- Project Title: KDM Salinas LLC
- Planning File No.: PLN170287
- APN: 137-121-005-000
- Project Location: 20200 Spence Road, Salinas, Greater Salinas Area Plan
- Zoning: Farmlands, 40-acre minimum (F/40)

- **Project Description:** Administrative Permit to allow for cannabis cultivation, nursery, processing, and distribution. Cultivation, nursery, and processing is proposed within 272,670 square feet of greenhouse and 12,294 square feet of buildings that include two ancillary ag barns, a residential structure, a security kiosk, and two water storage tanks. Cultivation and nursery activities would be located in the greenhouses while processing and distribution would take place onsite in the barns. The residence would be housing for security personnel.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Support approval by the Housing and Community Development (HCD) Chief of Planning.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Bob Roach

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded by Committee Members Gollnick and Ferguson and **passed** by the following vote to support approval by the Housing and Community Development (HCD) Chief of Planning.

**AYES:** Darington, Eastman, Ferguson, Gollnick, Huntington, and Violini

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** Heacox, Piearcy, Marci, Shea and Storm

**ABSTAIN:** None

## **VII. Administrative Matters/Agricultural Advisory Committee Comments**

- For February AAC agenda, add under Administrative/ AAC Comments item for the AAC to consider returning to meet virtually. The item should be accompanied by a County Counsel memo summarizing options and AB361 findings.
- Committee Member Violini asked that the item of the County's CAO's Office- Climate Action Plan greenhouse gas emissions inventory calculations be presented to the AAC, similarly as what is being presented to the County's Alternative Energy and Environment (AEE) Committee in February. Ag Commissioner's staff will coordinate with CAO's office to bring the requested presentation to February's AAC meeting.

## **VIII. Adjournment**

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.