



# Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC)

## ACTION MINUTES

<b>Location:</b>	<i>Held at the Conference Center, 1428 Abbott Street, Salinas, CA. 93901</i>	
<b>Date:</b>	July 28, 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 Nick Huntington Erik Heacox Matt Shea (C) Scott Storm Scott Violini	Jose Chang, Assistant Ag Commissioner Nadia Garcia, Ag Programs Manager Kelly Donlon, Assistant County Counsel Crystal Valdez, Office Assistant III Kayla Nelson, Associate Planner/HCD Liaison Mary Israel, Senior Planner Melanie Beretti, Principal Planner
<b>Absent:</b>	Alex Eastman (VC), Michael Ferguson, Kurt Gollnick, Kevin Piearcy	

C- Chair

VC- Vice Chair

### I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Matt Shea at 2:30 p.m.

### II. Additions and Corrections

*None*

### III. Consent- Committee Business

1. Approval of minutes from May 26, 2022

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded by Committee Members Heacox and Huntington and **passed** by the following vote:

**AYES:** Darington, Huntington, Heacox, Shea, Storm and Violini

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** Eastman, Ferguson, Gollnick, and Piearcy

**ABSTAIN:** None

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

- *None*

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

*Jose Change, Assistant Agricultural Commissioner*

- 2021 Crop Report was released on July 12, 2022. Theme: *Salad Bowl of the World* with short video to accompany the report. Special thanks to Colby Pereira and Dirk Giannini for helping with video. Gross production value of \$4.1 billion, an increase of 4.8% from 2020. Top Five Crops: Strawberries, leaf lettuce, head lettuce, broccoli and wine grapes.
- DPR held three workshops on June 27, 28 and 29 to collect feedback and to inform of the next phase of design and development for the state's pesticide application notification system.
- Santa Cruz County Ag Commissioner's Office launched their notification pilot website. You can take a look by accessing: <https://www.agdept.com/> then clicking the "Pesticide Notification Pilot Project"
- AG Pass- Successful Kick-Off Meeting June 22 with first responders and other key stakeholders where we received feedback on the development of an AG Pass Program in Monterey County. Staff is incorporating suggestions into the development of the AG Pass Program and continuing to work on the administrative steps, including drafting standard operating procedures and application flow chart. Once a draft of the program is completed, staff will present to stakeholders for further feedback before going before the Board of Supervisors for final consideration.
- Farmworker Resource Center: In February, the Board of Sups directed staff to apply for State grant funding under AB941 and appropriated \$250k of County funds for the creation of a Farmworker Resource Center in Greenfield. AB941 program guidelines are being worked on by the State, so the application is still not available to apply for grant funding until end of this year. While the State works on the application guidelines, staff is working on the program development by engaging other County Dept. partners and next week we meet with Community Based Organizations that will provide insight of services that should be rendered at the FRC.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Norm Groot, Monterey County Farm Bureau

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

### A. **Zygmunt, Buena Vista Grange and Tarp/Rodney - Lot Line Adjustment**

- Project Planner: Mary Israel, Senior Planner
- Project Title: Zygmunt, Buena Vista Grange and Tarp/Rodney
- Planning File No.: PLN210265
- APNs: 139-085-008-000; 139-085-009-000; 139-085-027-000
- Project Location: 518, 520 and 524 River Rd, Salinas, Toro Area Plan
- Zoning: Farmlands, 40 acres minimum (F/40)
- Project Description: Lot Line Adjustment of three (3) parcels (Parcel 1 of 0.5 acres, Parcel 2 of 0.5 acres & Parcel 3 of 30.04 acres) into three (3) parcels of the same size with relocated lot lines to correct for structures currently encroaching on to the property line (Parcels A, B & C).

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Recommend approval to the HCD Chief of Planning.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** *None*

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded by Committee Members Huntington and Violini and **passed** by the following vote to recommend approval to the HCD Chief of Planning.

**AYES:** Darington, Huntington, Heacox, Shea, Storm and Violini

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** Eastman, Ferguson, Gollnick, and Piearcy

**ABSTAIN:** None

**B. Workshop- County of Monterey Agricultural Conservation Mitigation Program**

- Project Planner: Melanie Beretti, Principal Planner
- Project Title: County of Monterey Agricultural Conservation Mitigation Program
- Planning File No.: REF220044
- APN: Not Applicable
- Project Location: Inland areas of the unincorporated Monterey County
- Project Description: Conduct a workshop to receive preliminary policy alternatives and provide direction to staff for developing ordinance(s) to mitigate the loss of agricultural lands due to development in the Inland portions of the unincorporated areas of Monterey County.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Provide direction to staff for developing ordinance(s).

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Norm Groot, *Mo. Co. Farm Bureau*

Mike Novo, *Ag Land Trust*

Taven Kinison-Brown, *City of Gonzales*

Adam Secondo

**MOTION:** *None; Provided feedback to staff. Staff to return in August to the AAC to finish workshop.*

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

- Administrative Secretary Confidential- Jennifer Pittenger held this position but recently resigned to take a promotion with another County Dept. We have hired a new person: Julianna De La Paz, Julianna starts with the AG Commissioner's on Monday, August 1<sup>st</sup>.
- AAC Vacancies. We have three vacancies in the AG Advisory Committee we are seeking to fill: District 2 and 3; and a vacancy appointed by the California Strawberry Commission. Staff is working with the respective District offices and with the California Strawberry Commission to fill the vacancies.

**VIII. Adjournment**

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 3:52 p.m.