

AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FY 2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT



County of Monterey
Agricultural Commissioner's Office
1428 Abbott Street • Salinas, CA 93901

Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Agricultural Advisory Committee is to advise and recommend to the Monterey County Board of Supervisors and other county boards, commissioners and department on matters affecting or of interest to the agricultural industry.

The Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) consists of 13 members who are residents of the County of Monterey and represent agricultural interests. Each member can serve up to three, three-year terms.

During FY 2015-2016 Committee Officers were: *Scott Violini, Chair* and *Bill Lipe, Vice Chair*.

Supervisors' Appointees

Kurt Gollnick ~ District 1
Stephen de Lorimier ~ District 2
Kirk Williams ~ District 3
Steve Ray ~ District 4
Matt Shea ~ District 5

Agricultural Association Representatives

David Costa ~ Grower-Shipper Association of Central California
Allen Davis ~ California Strawberry Commission
William (Bill) Lipe ~ Monterey County Farm Bureau
Scott Storm ~ Monterey County Vintners and Growers Association
Scott Violini ~ Monterey County Cattlemen's Association

At-Large Members

Jocelyn Bridson
Alexandra Eastman, DVM
Nick Huntington

Month / Subject	Speaker	Action / Recommendation
July 23, 2015 (meeting cancelled)		
August 27, 2015 (meeting cancelled)		
September 24, 2015		
Public Comment	Matt Shea Casey Lucius	No action required.
Agricultural Commissioner's Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pesticides and schools continues to be a top issue • Attended Safe Strawberry meeting with DPR, EPA Region 9, and staff • Farm Worker Advisory Committee • Asian Citrus Psyllid • Animal Legal Defense Fund lawsuit in Mendocino County of Monterey Salinas River Habitat Restoration 	Eric Lauritzen Agricultural Commissioner	The Committee will be provided with the Ag Commissioner's letter of response to the Notice of Preparation for an EIR of an annexation in Greenfield in regard to their concern over lack of direct communication between the appropriate parties.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bi-monthly erosion task force meetings • Invasive Weed Symposium • Salad bars in schools 	Christina McGinnis Ag Resources and Policy Manager	No action required.
Resource Management Agency <i>Williamson Act Non-Renewals</i>	Steve Mason Associate Planner	Motion carried to support staff's recommendation of non-renewals.
Administrative Matters <p>A. Appointments Recommend reappointment of Dr. Alex Eastman as an At-Large Member of the AAC.</p> <p>B. Annual Report FY2014-15 Approve the 2014-2015 annual report for submission to the Board of Supervisors.</p>	Committee	<p>Motion carried to recommend reappointment of Dr. Alex Eastman.</p> <p>Motion carried to approve the report for submission to the Board of Supervisors.</p>

Month / Subject	Speaker	Action / Recommendation
October 22, 2015		
Agricultural Commissioner's Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm Worker Advisory Committee • Posting regulations • Pesticides and Schools • Washington, DC, Delegation • Medical Marijuana 	Eric Lauritzen Agricultural Commissioner	No action required.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments on the Notice of Preparation on the Draft EIR for a proposed middle school submitted to Salinas Union High School District. • Met with California Department of Education's School Facilities Division regarding the DEIR. 	Christina McGinnis Ag Resources and Policy Manager	Committee provided with a copy of the comment letter.
Resource Management Agency Farm Land Security Zone Application Requirements and the Williamson Act	Nadia Amador Associate Planner	Following public comment, the Committee recommended supporting staff recommendations with the addition that the AAC recommended approval of 2016-011.
Public Comment	Randy Meyenberg	No action required.
Administrative Matters Due to changes in Committee appointments, reappointment of subcommittee members became necessary.	Committee	Appointment of new subcommittee members will be placed on the agenda for a future Committee meeting.
November 2015 (no meeting scheduled)		
December 3, 2015 (meeting cancelled)		
January 28, 2016		
Public Comment	Norm Groot Monterey County Farm Bureau	No action required

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Agricultural Commissioner's Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CHAMACOS respiratory study released • Pesticides and Schools • CCOF efforts to revise state organic program 	Eric Lauritzen Agricultural Commissioner	No action required.
Ad hoc committee formed by the Board of Supervisors to work on ordinance regulating marijuana.	Bob Roach Assistant Agricultural Commissioner	No action required.
World Heritage Animal Genomic Repository & Veterinary Institute	Christina McGinnis Agricultural Resources and Policy Manager	WHAGRVI will be placed on the agenda for a future meeting.
Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control District Improve communication with the ag community about fugitive dust and how to minimize dust emissions.	Mike Gilroy Deputy Air Pollution Control Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee asked about installation of another monitoring station between Salinas and King City. The MBUAPCD will research this item. • Committee requested Mr. Gilroy return in June or July for an update.
Public Comment	Norm Groot Monterey County Farm Bureau	No action required.
Agricultural Burning Receive information on concerns of agricultural burning and human health and recommend modification(s) to the ag burn permit notification process.	Jaclyne Stratmen Central Coast Health & Safety Advocacy	The MBUAPCD, the Farm Bureau, and other groups will work together to develop a notification system, i.e., email or text.
Resource Management Agency Solar panel installation on agricultural lands. Consider hierarchy of required steps to install panels Include ag-related information in the solar panel ordinance.	Nadia Amador Associate Planner, Long Range Planning Team	This item will be referred to the AAC Special Ad Hoc Subcommittee for further development.

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Public Comment	Norm Groot Monterey County Farm Bureau	No action required.
Administrative Matters Appoint AAC Special Ad Hoc Subcommittee members.	Committee	The Committee appointed Bill Lipe, Scott Storm, and Scott Violini to the subcommittee. The Committee requested Norm Groot participate in the subcommittee meetings related to the solar panel ordinance.
2016 Meeting Calendar	Committee	The Committee voted to adopt the 2016 meeting calendar.
February 25, 2016 (meeting cancelled)		
March 24, 2016 (meeting cancelled)		
April 28, 2016		
Public Comment	Lorna Moffatt	No action required.
Agricultural Commissioner's Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pesticide use around schools • Farm Worker Advisory Committee • Legislation SB313 – Zoning ordinances and school districts • AB1826 – State's organic program 	Eric Lauritzen Agricultural Commissioner	No action required.
AAC Special Ad Hoc Subcommittee	Scott Violini, Chair Christina McGinnis Ag Resources and Policy Manager	Provided informational update of the subcommittee's meeting regarding the ag portion of the draft solar panel ordinance.

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Resource Management Agency – Planning Dept. RCT Lands, LP (Franscioni)	Bob Schubert, AICP Senior Planner	Committee recommended approval to the Board of Supervisors of the tentative parcel map and petition to cancel Williamson Act contract.
AAC Comments	Committee	Committee requested Norm Groot provide an update on SGMA at the next meeting.
May 26, 2016 (meeting cancelled)		
June 23, 2016 (meeting cancelled)		

End of report