



# Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC)

## ACTION MINUTES

|                  |   |               |   |
|------------------|---|---------------|---|
| <b>Location:</b> | Monterey County Government Center<br>Ag Center Conference Room<br>1432 Abbott Street<br>Salinas, CA 93901 |               |   |
| <b>Date:</b>     | January 23, 2020  |               |   |
| <b>Time:</b>     | 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.  |               |   |
| <b>Present:</b>  | <i>Committee Members</i>  |               | <i>Staff</i>                                  |
|                  | Jocelyn Bridson   | Bill Lipe     | Craig Spencer, Supervising Planner            |
|                  | Sherwood Darington  | Tony Marci    | Mary Perry, Deputy County Counsel             |
|                  | Alex Eastman  | Dennis Sites  | Henry Gonzales, Agricultural Commissioner     |
|                  | Kurt Gollnick   | Scott Storm   | Shandy Carroll, Ag Resources & Policy Manager |
|                  | Erik Heacox   | Scott Violini | Kathy Nielsen, Administrative Secretary       |
|                  | Nick Huntington   | Kirk Williams |   |
| <b>Absent:</b>   | Matt Shea   |               |   |

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Lipe at 2:30 p.m.

**II. Consent**

Approval of minutes from December 5, 2019.

Correction to minutes: Committee Member Heacox’s name was left off the minutes for Items V. B and V. C. His name will be added to the Ayes for these two items.

**Motion:** It was moved and seconded by Committee Members Eastman and Violini and passed by the following vote to approve the December 5, 2019, meeting minutes with the above correction.

**AYES:** Bridson, Darington, Eastman, Gollnick, Heacox, Huntington, Lipe, Marci, Sites, Storm, Violini and Williams

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** Shea

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**IV. AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER’S UPDATE**

*Henry Gonzales, Agricultural Commissioner*

- Monitoring for the Asian Citrus Psyllid continues in the Soledad area; numbers have gone down, but it is still an active infestation;

- We received an information request from the Sacramento Bee regarding pesticide investigations, reports, and District Attorney referrals. Other California Agricultural Commissioners have received the same request;
- [AB 1919](#) proposes to give the California Department of Pesticide Regulation authority to levy civil penalties up to \$25,000 for each violation occurring on or after January 1, 2021.

**V. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY – PLANNING**

*Craig Spencer, Supervising Planner*

**A. Berkshire Lot Line Adjustment and Ag Support Facility**

*Project Planner: Son Pham-Gallardo*

*Planning File No.: PLN190197*

*Project Location: Off of San Miguel Canyon and Vega Roads, Salinas (North County Area Plan)*

*APNs: 267-044-015-000 and 267-044-016-000*

*Project Description: Combined Development Permit consisting of a: 1) Lot Line Adjustment between two legal lots of approximately 30.526 acres and 20.116 acres, resulting in two lots of 31.206 acres (Lot 1) and 19.436 acres (Lot 2) respectively; and 2) Use Permit for an Agricultural Support Facility consisting of a 3,777 square foot warehouse, an 893 square foot office, a 15,279 square foot covered storage, a 3,585 square foot dock canopy and installation of eight (8) fertilizer tanks (5,000 gallons).*

**Action Requested:** Recommend approval to the Monterey County Zoning Administrator.

**Motion:** It was moved and seconded by Committee Members Gollnick and Darington and passed by the following vote to recommend approval to the Monterey County Zoning Administrator.

**AYES:** Bridson, Darington, Eastman, Gollnick, Heacox, Huntington, Lipe, Marci, Sites, Storm, Violini and Williams

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** Shea

**B. Emerald Valley Administrative Permit Cannabis Cultivation**

*Project Planner:* Son Pham-Gallardo

*Project Title:* Emerald Valley Administrative Permit Cannabis Cultivation, Manufacturing and Distribution Project

*Planning File No.:* PLN170249

*Project Location:* 20220 Spence Road, Salinas (Greater Salinas Area Plan)

APN: 137-121-004-000

*Project Description:* Administrative Permit to allow: 1) Demolition of two mobile homes and six greenhouses (101,000 square feet total) and construction of two new greenhouses (97,554 square feet total) and two new warehouses (8,800 square feet each); and 2) Use of the existing proposed greenhouses for up to 140,800 square feet of canopy for commercial cannabis cultivation and nursery and use of the existing and proposed warehouses for commercial cannabis processing, non-volatile manufacturing and self-distribution.

**Action Requested:** Recommend approval to the RMA-Chief of Planning.

**Motion:** It was moved and seconded by Committee Members Bridson and Heacox and passed by the following vote to recommend approval to the RMA-Chief of Planning.

**AYES:** Bridson, Darington, Eastman, Gollnick, Heacox, Huntington, Lipe, Marci, Sites, Storm, Violini and Williams

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** Shea

**VI. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

Terms Expiring on June 30, 2020:

- Jocelyn Bridson, At-Large Member
  - Committee Member Bridson advised that she will be relocating out of the area and resigning from the Committee.
- Kurt Gollnick, District 1
- Erik Heacox, Grower-Shipper Association
- Nick Huntington, At-Large Member
- Matt Shea, District 5

Members were advised to contact their respective district or organization regarding reappointment to the AAC. Members will receive an email reminder approximately 30 days in advance.

One position of At-Large member on the AAC will be vacant. An application form is available through the County's website at:  
<https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/government/departments-a-h/clerk-of-the-board/boards-committees-and-commissions/agriculture-advisory-committee>.

**Motion:** It was moved and seconded by Committee Members Violini and Williams and passed by the following vote to reappoint At-Large member Nick Huntington to the Agricultural Advisory Committee for another three-year term.

**AYES:** Bridson, Darington, Eastman, Gollnick, Heacox, Huntington, Lipe, Marci, Sites, Storm, Violini and Williams

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** Shea

## **VII. AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

Consistent with the Committee's bylaws and as requested by the Committee at a previous meeting, all planning items impacting ag lands will be brought before the AAC.

Chair Lipe requested an update on AB1234 (Ethics) training. Committee members with training certificates expiring in 2020 will be sent an email as soon as possible as well as approximately 30 days before the actual expiration date.

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m. by Chair Lipe.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kathleen Nielsen*

Agricultural Commissioner's Office