



VENTURA COUNTY

Agricultural Policy Advisory Committee

Sanger Hedrick, Chair, District 2; Scott Deardorff, District 1; Gordon Kimball, District 3; Patty Waters, District 4; Bobby Jones, District 5

MEETING MINUTES February 8th, 2023

1. 9:12 a.m. – MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL AND ATTENDANCE

Committee: Sanger Hedrick, District 2, Chair
Scott Deardorff, District 1
Gordon Kimball, District 3 - absent
Patty Waters, District 4
Bobby Jones, District 5 - absent

Staff/Others Present: Ed Williams, Korinne Bell, Alec Thille, & Sarah Snow from the County of Ventura were present; committee members, presenters, members of the public, and representatives of interested parties participated via Zoom.

3. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

4. COMMENTS BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Patty Waters – Expressed concern over the draft RALI produced by SALC grant consultants, encouraged fellow committee members to read and weigh in as growers/agricultural stakeholders

Sanger Hedrick – Informed the meeting that Farm Bureau of Ventura County would have a venue for grower feedback on the RALI the next day

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Approve agenda as presented.

By Deardorff, seconded by Waters

Vote: 3-0

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Louise Lampara – Informed the Committee that VC CoLAB had reached a settlement with the County regarding their litigation of the 2040 General Plan.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion: Table the June and Special January meeting minutes and approve for archival the regular January minutes as presented

By Deardorff, seconded by Waters

Vote: 3-0

8. PRESENTATION/ACTION

A. Representatives from Somis Community Church presented a landscape plan for committee review as to whether the plan would be equivalent mitigation to the requirements of the Ventura County Agricultural/Urban Buffer policy.

- No public comments.
- Motion: Recommend the VC Department of Agriculture/Weights & Measures find the proposed landscape plan sufficient mitigation to satisfy the requirements of the project's condition and the VC Agricultural/Urban Buffer policy so long as:
 - The children's play area is relocated as presented,
 - Slats are installed in the westerly boundary fence as presented,
 - The vegetative screen presented is comprised of species that will form a continuous hedgerow and reach a mature height of 15 feet, and
 - A barrier preventing access to the parcel's open space south of the permitted use is erected.

By Waters, seconded by Deardorff

Vote: 3-0

B. Maureen McGuire, Chief Executive Officer with the Farm Bureau of Ventura County, presented an update on Farm Bureau activities and programs.

- No public comments.
- No action taken.

C. Annemiek Schilder, Director of the Ventura County UC Cooperative Extension, presented an update on UCCE activities and programs.

- No public comments.
- No action taken.

D. Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer Ed Williams presented a department update on activities and programs important to Ventura County agriculture.

- No public comments.
- No action.

9. COMMUNICATIONS

A. APAC Members

Proposals for future agenda items:

None.

B. Staff

Proposals for future agenda items:

- Presentation by RMA-PD staff to solicit input of process improvements to permitting
- Presentation by the Cultivate Team updating the APAC on their Ventura County SALC grant activities

10. Meeting adjourned by Sanger Hedrick at 11:39 a.m.