

**COUNTY OF VENTURA
AGRICULTURAL POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES- FEBRUARY 12, 2014**

1. 1:00 P.M. – MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL AND ATTENDANCE

Committee: Scott Deardorff, District 1 (arrived at 1:01 pm)
Sanger Hedrick, District 2, Vice Chair
Bob Pinkerton, District 3, Chairman
Patty Waters, District 4
Will Doyle, District 5 (Absent)

Ex-officio: Henry Gonzales, Agricultural Commissioner
(non-voting) Christopher M. Smith, PhD/Director, UC Cooperative Extension (Absent)

3. Staff/Others Present: Korinne Bell, Ryan Casey, Rudy Martel, and Luz Villavicencio from the Ventura County Agricultural Commissioner's Office (VCAC); Eric Walts from the County Counsel's office; and David Hare, President, from Farm Share; Others may have been present and did not sign in.

4. COMMENTS BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

None.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Approve agenda as shown.

By Hedrick; seconded by Doyle

Vote: 4-0

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

David Hare shared concerns that had been voiced at a Ventura County Cattlemen's Association (VCCA) regarding illegal haulers. He also expressed that, due to the fierce competition amongst the current legal haulers, there was great concern that the Board of Supervisors could possibly approve another hauler in the county.

7. CONSENT ITEM

A. Approve Minutes of November 13, 2013

Motion: Approve November minutes as written

By Doyle; seconded by Deardorff

Vote: 5-0

8. PRESENTATION

A. Eric Walts, Assistant County Counsel provided a review of the Brown Act. Mr. Walts welcomed and answered questions from the committee members.

9. COMMUNICATIONS

A. APAC Members:

None

B. Staff:

Korinne Bell reminded the committee members to bring issues they want to talk about and the Ag. Commissioner's Office would put them on the agenda.

Commissioner Gonzales also reminded the committee members that although the committee has no jurisdiction, they have a voice to raise issues of concern and bring them to the Board of Supervisors. The Board of supervisors does have the authority to take action through ordinances and address these issues by bringing them to the attention of the public in the form of resolutions.

The Committee discussed how APAC can be more proactive instead of reactive to raise concerns to the Board of Supervisors on hot topics.

At this time, Ms. Bell provided updates on the drought disaster declaration. She also updated the committee on the presentation that was offered to the VCCA about cull feeding and the nuisance complaints it can generate. A draft of Best Management Practices created by VCCA in partnership with the Ag. Commissioner's Office is in the works.

An update on the current freeze and freeze damage on citrus was also provided by Ms. Bell.

Commissioner Gonzales shared information about the upcoming outreach event to take place at the Ag. Commissioner's office in Camarillo. This event is being organized by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to provide information about available drought assistance programs and resources to local farmers and ranchers.

C. Confirm future meeting dates:

March 12, 2014
April 9, 2014

10. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment at 2:00 pm by Bob Pinkerton.