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# Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC)

## ACTION MINUTES

<b>Location:</b>	<i>Held via Zoom</i>	
<b>Date:</b>	August 26, 2021	
<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 Darrington*	Jose Chang, Assistant Ag Commissioner
	Michael Ferguson	Nadia Garcia, Ag Programs Manager
	Kurt Gollnick	Jennifer Fahselt, Admin. Secretary-CNF
	Erik Heacox	Crystal Valdez, Office Assistant II
	Nick Huntington	Mary Grace Perry, Deputy County Counsel
	Kevin Pearcey	Michelle Huang, Assistant Planner
	Matt Shea	Kayla Nelson, Assistant Planner
	Kirk Williams	Fionna Jensen, Assistant Planner
		Jaime Scott Guthrie, Senior Planner
<b>Absent:</b>	Alex Eastman, Kurt Gollnick, Scott Storm and Scott Violini	

\*Sherwood Darrington had technical difficulties with sound at beginning of meeting

### I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Shea at 2:36 p.m.

### II. Additions and Corrections

No Additions or Corrections

### III. Consent- Committee Business

1. Approval of minutes from July 22, 2021

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

**AYES:** Ferguson, Gollnick, Heacox, Huntington, Pearcey and Shea

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** Eastman, Storm, Williams and Violini (\*Darrington had technical difficulties with sound).

**ABSTAIN:** Marci

### IV. Public Comment- On items not on the agenda. - *None*

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

*Henry Gonzales, Agricultural Commissioner*

- Served as 1 of 5 statewide Ag commissioners to work/participate with C DPR and others discussing DPR Pesticide Application Notification System.
- UC Cooperative Extension is recruiting for a Plant Pathologists. This position will work out of the Santa Cruz UC CE.
- Our PUE staff held 3 Zoom webinars, an annual fumigator meeting to PCA, PCB and growers to address changes in permit conditions, environmental conditions that may influence offsite movement of fumigant, and the role of the DA on priority investigation cases.
- Our website home page has been completely redesigned to simplify the information and provide the ability to change to a mobile format if one desires to access from a cell phone.
- Our quarantine inspectors have been certifying commodities for export. This year, staff have observed high pest pressure on export products, in particular diamondback moth. This month, 36 inspections have been on commodities for exports to Taiwan with a passing rate of 51% (due to pest pressure).
- Board of Supervisors approved a sales agreement and escrow documents have been signed for the purchase of a property in King City to serve as office for Ag commissioner staff. Full staffing and South County presence have been absent since 2010.
- There will be a mobile COVID-19 testing site in the UCCE parking lot starting 9/2/21 thru end of Oct.
- Ag Conference Center in Salinas will start repairs next week and scheduled for completion by the end of September.

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

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

### A. **Sunset Farms Inc (Lot Line Adjustment- Williamson Act land)**

- Project Planner: Michelle Huang, Assistant Planner
- Project Title: Sunset Farms Inc.
- Planning File No.: PLN210077
- APNs: 229-011-009-000; 229-011-016-000; 229-011-042-000; and 229-011-047-000
- Project Location: 301 Neponset Rd, Marina, Greater Monterey Peninsula Area Plan
- Zoning: Farmlands, 40-acre minimum (F/40) and Permanent Grazing, 40-acre minimum (PG/40)
- Project Description: Lot Line Adjustment between four legal lots of record under Williamson Act Contract.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded by Committee Members Gollnick and Heacox and **passed** by the following vote to recommend approval to the Board of Supervisors.

**AYES:** Darington (\*via chat due to technical difficulties), Ferguson, Gollnick, Heacox, Huntington, Pearcy, Marci, Shea, Storm and Williams  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** Eastman, Storm, Williams and Violini  
**ABSTAIN:** None

**B. Rico and Gelda Omictin (Commercial Cannabis Operation-Greenhouses and Building structures)**

- Project Planner: Kayla Nelson, Assistant Planner
- Project Title: Rico and Gelda Omictin
- Planning File No.: PLN200077
- APN: 137-141-012-000
- Project Location: 22745 Fuji Lane, Salinas, Greater Salinas Area Plan
- Zoning: Farmlands, 40-acre minimum (F/40)
- Project Description: Administrative Permit for a commercial cannabis operation including cultivation, nursery, distribution and processing. Demolishing approximately 250,000 square feet of existing greenhouses, reconstruction of approximately 200,000 square feet of greenhouses and construction of a 15,000 square foot metal building.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Make a recommendation to Housing and Community Department (HCD) Chief of Planning.

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

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded by Committee Members Gollnick and Ferguson and **passed** by the following vote to recommend approval to Housing and Community Department (HCD) Chief of Planning.

**AYES:** Darington, Ferguson, Gollnick, Heacox, Huntington, Pearcy, Marci, Shea, Storm and Williams  
**NOES:** None  
**ABSENT:** Eastman, Storm, Williams and Violini  
**ABSTAIN:** None

**C. Yonemitsu Properties LP/Alvarez Bros. LLC (Commercial Cannabis Operation-Greenhouses and Building structures)**

- Project Planner: Fionna Jensen, Assistant Planner
- Project Title: Yonemitsu Properties LP/Alvarez Bros. LLC
- Planning File No.: PLN170106
- APN: 137-061-032-000
- Project Location: 26500 Encinal Rd, Salinas, Greater Salinas Area Plan
- Zoning: Farmlands, 40-acre minimum (F/40)
- Project Description: Use Permit and Administrative Permit for a commercial cannabis operation including cultivation, nursery, distribution and processing. The Use Permit would allow the rebuild of greenhouses and/or buildings which already exceeded the maximum lot coverage limitation of 50 percent.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Make a recommendation to Planning Commission.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded by Committee Members Ferguson and Darrington and passed by the following vote to recommend approval to Planning Commission.

**AYES:** Darrington, Ferguson, Gollnick, Heacox, Huntington, Pearcy, Marci and Shea

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** Eastman, Storm, Williams and Violini

**ABSTAIN:** None

**D. Packard Ranch/ RCD of Monterey Co. (Coastal Development Permit for Ag Run-Off Detention Pond)**

- Project Planner: Jaime Scott Guthrie, Senior Planner
- Project Title: Packard Ranch (RCD of Monterey Co.)
- Planning File No.: PLN200315
- APNs: 413-081-003-000 and 413-081-004-000
- Project Location: No address yet assigned, located next to parcel address 1957 and 1965 Highway 1 at Struve Rd, Moss Landing, North County-Coastal Land Use Plan
- Zoning: Ag Conservation-Coastal zone [AC (CZ)]; Coastal Ag Preserve- Coastal zone [CAP (CZ)]; Resource Conservation- Coastal zone [RC (CZ)]
- Project Description: Coastal Development Permit for improvement of stormwater detention pond to capture agricultural runoff prior to entering Elkhorn Slough.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Make a recommendation to Planning Commission.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded by Committee Members Darrington and Gollnick and passed by the following vote to recommend approval to Planning Commission.

**AYES:** Darrington, Ferguson, Gollnick, Heacox, Huntington, Pearcy, Marci and Shea

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** Eastman, Storm, Williams and Violini

**ABSTAIN:** None

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

- Brown Act in Times of COVID, by Deputy County Counsel Mary Grace Perry.

**ACTION REQUESTED:** Committee Member Pearcy asked County Counsel for copy of Power Point Presentation. County Counsel said she would make edits and send to staff for distribution to committee members.

### **VIII. Adjournment**

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

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