

AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FY 2018-19 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, commissions, and departments 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.

During FY 2018-19 Committee Officers were: *Bill Lipe, Chair* and *Dr. Alex Eastman, Vice Chair*.

Supervisors' Appointees

Kurt Gollnick ~ District 1
Dennis Sites ~ District 2
Kirk Williams ~ District 3
Sherwood Darington ~ District 4
Matt Shea ~ District 5

At-Large Members

Jocelyn Bridson
Alexandra Eastman, DVM
Nick Huntington

Agricultural Association Representatives

Erik Heacox ~ Grower-Shipper Association of Central California
Vacant ~ 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

Month / Subject	Speaker	Action / Recommendation						
September 27, 2018								
<u>New Committee Member</u>	<i>Bill Lipe, Chair</i>	Welcomed new committee member Dennis Sites, representing District 2.						
<u>Consent</u> May 24, 2018, meeting minutes	<i>Committee</i>	Approved as distributed.						
<u>Agricultural Commissioner's Update</u> Introduced himself.	<i>Henry Gonzales Agricultural Commissioner</i>	No action necessary.						
<u>Cannabis Update</u> (Informational)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Bob Roach, Assistant Agricultural Commissioner;</i> • <i>Joann Iwamoto, Cannabis Coordinator;</i> • <i>Brandon Swanson, Resource Management Agency Services Manager;</i> • <i>John Dugan, Deputy Director of Land Use & Development</i> 	No action necessary.						
<u>Industrial Hemp Update</u> (Informational)	<i>Bob Roach Assistant Agricultural Commissioner</i>	No action necessary.						
<u>Public Comment</u>	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"><i>Norm Groot</i></td> <td style="width: 50%;"><i>Richard D'Andrade</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Wayne Richman</i></td> <td><i>Josh Chase</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Keston Giudici</i></td> <td><i>Michelle House</i></td> </tr> </table>	<i>Norm Groot</i>	<i>Richard D'Andrade</i>	<i>Wayne Richman</i>	<i>Josh Chase</i>	<i>Keston Giudici</i>	<i>Michelle House</i>	No action necessary.
<i>Norm Groot</i>	<i>Richard D'Andrade</i>							
<i>Wayne Richman</i>	<i>Josh Chase</i>							
<i>Keston Giudici</i>	<i>Michelle House</i>							
<u>Administrative Matters</u> A. FY 2017-18 Annual Report B. Vacancies C. Bylaws	<i>Bob Roach Assistant Agricultural Commissioner</i>	A. Committee reviewed and approved the report, directing staff to submit the report to the Board of Supervisors. B. Vacancies exist for District 4 and the California Strawberry Commission. C. Approved by the Board of Supervisors.						

Month / Subject	Speaker	Action / Recommendation
<p><u>Agricultural Advisory Committee Comments</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comment made on the agricultural community’s responsibility to clean up debris that falls off the farming vehicles. • Thank you to Bob Roach for all he did as Acting Agricultural Commissioner. 	<p><i>Scott Violini</i> <i>Monterey County Cattlemen’s Association</i></p>	<p>No action necessary.</p>
October 25, 2018		
<p><u>Consent</u> September 27, 2018, meeting minutes</p>	<p><i>Committee</i></p>	<p>Approved as distributed.</p>
<p><u>Public Comment</u></p>	<p><i>None</i></p>	<p>No action necessary.</p>
<p><u>Agricultural Commissioner’s Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Gonzales is attending the CACASA Conference in Sacramento this week. • Sherwood Darington, representing District 4, will be appointed on November 6, 2018. 	<p><i>Bob Roach</i> <i>Assistant Agricultural Commissioner</i></p>	<p>No action necessary.</p>
<p><u>2019 Williamson Act Applications</u> Staff requested the AAC consider each of the 12 applications and provide their recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.</p>	<p><i>Nadia Garcia</i> <i>Associate Planner</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee recommended continuance of applications 2019-007 through -009 and 2019-012. • The Committee recommended approval of applications 2019-001 through -006, 2019-010 and -011.
<p><u>Administrative Matters</u> Reappointment of John Baillie as the AAC representative to the Water Resources Agency Board of Supervisors for a three-year term.</p>	<p><i>Committee</i></p>	<p>As required, the Committee voted to provide two names, John Baillie and Benny Jefferson, for consideration by the Board of Supervisors.</p>
<p><u>Agricultural Advisory Committee Comments</u> Mention of an article in a local newspaper on cannabis regarding staff.</p>	<p><i>Scott Violini</i> <i>Committee Member</i></p>	<p>Bob Roach advised the AAC that the Board of Supervisors had provided County departments with additional staff and funding to help regulate the cannabis industry.</p>

Month / Subject	Speaker	Action / Recommendation
February 28, 2019		
<p><u>Consent</u> 1. Approve October 25, 2018, meeting minutes. 2. Approve 2019 Ag Advisory Committee meeting schedule. 3. Approve 2019 Special Ad Hoc Subcommittee meeting schedule.</p>	<i>Committee</i>	Items 1 through 3 were approved as distributed.
<u>Public Comment</u>	<i>None</i>	No action necessary.
<p><u>Agricultural Commissioner's Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personnel – Bob Roach retired in December 2018 • Pajaro office construction • Environmental Justice Workshop • Asian Citrus Psyllid resurgence • Lettuce Program ordinance repeal 	<i>Henry Gonzales Agricultural Commissioner</i>	No action necessary.
<u>Public Comment</u>	<i>Norm Groot</i>	No action necessary.
<p><u>Resource Management Agency</u> Scheid Vineyards Minor Subdivision Tentative Map</p>	<i>Nadia Garcia Associate Planner</i>	The Committee voted to recommend approval of the minor subdivision tentative map.
<p><u>Administrative Matters</u> Lack of items referred to the AAC by RMA-Planning.</p>	<i>Committee</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee asked Nadia Garcia to determine how many items might be brought to the AAC in a year. • Topic to be placed on the agenda for a future meeting.
March 28, 2019		
<p><u>Consent</u> Approve the February 28, 2019, meeting minutes.</p>	<i>Committee</i>	Approved as distributed.
<u>Public Comment</u>	<i>None</i>	No action necessary.

Month / Subject	Speaker	Action / Recommendation
<p><u>Agricultural Commissioner’s Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personnel Update – Rob Milner promoted to deputy ag commissioner for the North County office. • Environmental Justice Workshop. • Asian Citrus Psyllid update. 	<p><i>Henry Gonzales</i> <i>Agricultural Commissioner</i></p>	<p>No action necessary.</p>
<p><u>Head Lettuce and Salad Products Inspection Program</u></p> <p>Review and discuss ordinance repeal; make recommendation(s) to the Board of Supervisors.</p>	<p><i>Henry Gonzales</i> <i>Agricultural Commissioner</i></p>	<p>The Committee voted to recommend repeal of the ordinance to the Board of Supervisors.</p>
<p><u>Administrative Matters</u></p> <p>Discuss RMA referrals to the AAC and make recommendations to RMA.</p>	<p><i>Staff and Committee</i></p>	<p>The Committee voted to have all discretionary permits pursuant to Policy No. AG-1.8 reviewed by the AAC.</p>
<p><u>Public Comment</u></p>	<p><i>Norm Groot</i></p>	<p>No action necessary.</p>
<p><u>Agricultural Advisory Committee Comments</u></p>	<p><i>Committee</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee requested a status update from the agricultural commissioner of DPR-approved materials for cannabis growers. • The Committee requested of Brandon Swanson an update of the outdoor cannabis pilot program.
<p><u>Public Comment</u></p>	<p><i>Mark McLaughlin</i></p>	<p>No action necessary.</p>
<p>April 16, 2019 – Special Meeting</p>		
<p><u>California American (CAL-AM) Water Company Desalination Plant Proposal</u></p>	<p><i>Brandon Swanson</i> <i>Interim RMA Chief of Planning</i></p>	<p>The Committee voted to recommend approval to the Monterey County Planning Commission with additional mitigation measures.</p>
<p><u>Public Comment</u></p>	<p><i>Tony Lombardo</i> <i>Norm Groot</i> <i>Kathy Biala</i></p> <p><i>Melodie Chrislock</i> <i>Eric Tynan</i></p>	<p>No action necessary.</p>

Month / Subject	Speaker	Action / Recommendation
April 25, 2019		
<p><u>Consent</u> A. Approve the March 28, 2019, meeting minutes. B. Approve the April 16, 2019, special meeting minutes.</p>	<i>Committee</i>	Items A and B were approved as distributed.
<p><u>Agricultural Commissioner's Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salinas Valley Fair MOU • Repeal of Monterey County Code of Ordinances 10.16 to be presented to the Board of Supervisors on May 14, 2019. • New ag programs manager has been hired. 	<i>Henry Gonzales Agricultural Commissioner</i>	No action necessary.
<p><u>Resource Management Agency</u> A. Cahoon lot line adjustment B. Echenique Ranch lot line adjustment</p> <p>C. Outdoor Cannabis Cultivation Pilot Program</p>	<i>Nadia Garcia Associate Planner</i> <i>Brandon Swanson RMA Interim Chief of Planning</i>	The Committee voted to recommend approval of items A and B. The Committee voted to recommend approval to the Planning Commission of the pilot program's draft ordinances with mitigations.
<u>Administrative Matters</u>	<i>None</i>	No action necessary.
<u>Agricultural Advisory Committee Comments</u>	<i>None</i>	No action necessary.
June 27, 2019		
<p><u>Consent</u> A. April 25, 2019, meeting minutes B. Resource Management Agency Supplemental Sheet</p>	<i>Committee</i>	The Committee approved Items A and B as distributed.
<u>Public Comment</u>	<i>None</i>	No action necessary.

Month / Subject	Speaker	Action / Recommendation
<p><u>Agricultural Commissioner’s Update</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduced new Assistant Agricultural Commissioner Jose Chang and new Ag Resource and Policy Manager Shandy Carroll. • 2018 Crop Report was released. • Authorized to perform regulatory work of the new hemp cultivation program. • Hemp pilot program approved. • Hemp cultivation pilot project community meeting held. • Asian Citrus Psyllid update. 	<p><i>Henry Gonzales</i> <i>Agricultural Commissioner</i></p>	<p>No action necessary.</p>
<p><u>South of Salinas US 101 Traffic Safety Alliance</u> Informational</p>	<p><i>Laura Giudici-Mills</i> <i>W. B. “Butch” Lindley</i></p>	<p>No action necessary.</p>
<p><u>Resource Management Agency - Planning</u> Chapin (Cabrera) discretionary permit amendment.</p>	<p><i>Jacquelyn Nickerson, Project Planner</i> <i>Nadia Garcia, Associate Planner</i></p>	<p>The Committee voted to support staff’s recommendation of denial.</p>
<p><u>Public Comment</u></p>	<p><i>Don Chapin, Applicant</i> <i>Sergio Sanchez</i> <i>Christian Snyder</i> <i>David Bunn</i> <i>Barry Kinman</i> <i>Chris Bunn</i></p>	<p>No action necessary.</p>
<p><u>Administrative Matters</u></p>	<p><i>None</i></p>	<p>No action necessary.</p>
<p><u>Agricultural Advisory Committee Comments</u></p>	<p><i>None</i></p>	<p>No action necessary.</p>

Canceled Meetings:

July 26, 2018 January 24, 2019
 August 23, 2018 May 23, 2019
 December 6, 2018

There were no Special Ad Hoc Subcommittee meetings held in FY 2018-19.

End of report