

Kings County Agricultural Advisory Committee Minutes

January 11, 2006

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jim Gregory at 1:30 p.m. in the Agricultural Multi-Purpose Room, in the Agricultural Center of the Kings County Government Center, Hanford, CA.

Members Present:

Jim Gregory, Ryan Bertao, Don Mills, Charles Draxler and Bill Tos

Ex-Officio Members Present:

Larry Spikes and Bill Zumwalt,

Auxiliary Members Present:

Peggy Gregory, Kerry Arroues and Jeff Tyner

County Staff Present:

Mark Sherman

Visitors Present:

Joan Vernon, Kings County Ag Commissioner's Officer
Colin Nugent, NRCS

Unscheduled Comments:

None

Minutes: June 8, 2005

A Motion was made and seconded (Draxler/Mills) to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2005 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes: October 12, 2005

A Motion was made and seconded (Draxler/Mills) to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2005 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

New Members:

Chairperson Gregory invited members to provide nominations of new members to fill vacant positions on the committee. No new members were nominated at this meeting.

Agriculture Advisory Committee Proposed Bylaw Changes:

Chairperson Gregory summarized the proposed Agricultural Advisory Committee bylaw changes and Secretary Zumwalt explained the special meeting provisions of the bylaws. After a discussion, Chairperson Gregory called for a vote to adopt the changes to the bylaws of the Agricultural Advisory Committee. A motion was made and seconded (Mills/Draxler) to approve the adoption of the bylaws. Motion carried unanimously.

Amendment to Resolution No. 01-106, Kings County Agricultural Advisory Committee:

Chairperson Gregory summarized the Amendment to Resolution No. 106, Kings County Agricultural Advisory Committee, which changes the annual organization meeting from March to January of each year. After a discussion, Chairperson Gregory called for a vote to adopt the amendment to Resolution No. 106. A motion was made and seconded (Mills/Draxler) to approve adoption of the bylaws. Motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Revision of Kings County Dairy Element:

Mr. Zumwalt updated the committee on the progress of the proposed changes to the *Dairy Element* of the *Kings County General Plan*. He spoke about revisions to the *Dairy Development Overlay Zone* (DDOZ) and the proposal to allow dairy development within the 500 year flood zone. Mr. Zumwalt also provided an explanation of several other areas of the *Dairy Element* where changes are being proposed and stated that he is working with County Counsel to finalize those changes. The Committee also discussed issues concerning air quality as they pertain to dairy development. Mr. Zumwalt discussed how SB-18, which requires cities and counties to consult with Native American tribes when adopting and amending their general plans or specific plans, might affect dairy development in the County. Committee member Ryan Bertao asked if the Committee would be able to review the final *Dairy Element* changes before they are forwarded to the Board of Supervisors and Mr. Zumwalt stated that he would ensure that this item will be kept on the Agricultural Advisory Committee agenda and that the Committee would continue to receive updates.

Election of Officers and Nomination of New Members

Chairperson Gregory asked Secretary Zumwalt to open the nominations for Committee Chairperson. A motion was made and seconded (Mills/Tos) to nominate Jim Gregory for another term as Chairperson. The motion was unanimously approved. Mr. Zumwalt then opened the nominations for Committee Vice Chairperson. A motion was made and seconded (Bertao/Tos) to nominate Don Mills for another term as Vice Chairperson. The motion was unanimously approved.

Committee Member Bill Tos asked if the members could be provided with a list of Committee members and vacancies. He also asked if the information could be posted on a County website. Secretary Zumwalt stated that staff would take his request for action.

Miscellaneous:

a. Correspondence: None

b. Member Comments:

(1) Committee members Bill Tos and Don Mills discussed the problem of illegal dumping in the County, particularly in the agricultural zone districts, and asked what could be done to help alleviate the problem. The Committee discussed the problem and Larry Spikes, County Administrative Officer, said that he will work with Kings Waste and Recycling Authority, Kings County Environmental Health and Public Works Departments to look for ways to help resolve this issue and will advise the Committee.

(2) Chairperson Gregory asked if the Committee would be interested in a presentation on the spheres of influence in the County. Bill Zumwalt, as Secretary of LAFCO, provided a briefing on the spheres of influence to the Committee.

Adjournment

With no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m. The next scheduled meeting is April 12, 2006.

Respectfully Submitted,

William R. Zumwalt, Secretary