



## Meeting Minutes

### Agricultural Advisory Council Meeting

**Held on  
Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.  
Cal Expo Boardroom, Administration Building**

John Chiles, Chair  
Chris Zanobini, Vice Chair

### Attendees

#### Council Members

Terry Bressler  
Sara Curtis  
Lesia Eidman  
Robert Gore  
Gail Kautz  
Sharon Lynch  
Lloyd McCabe

Michelle Leinfelder-Miles  
Harold Peterson  
Len Richardson  
Mary Richardson  
Ron Schuler  
Walt Shaw  
Terry Wetzler

#### Board, Staff and Volunteers

Rick Pickering, CEO  
Tom Martinez, Chief Deputy General Manager  
Samantha Brown, Deputy General Manager, Administration  
Rachelle Weir, Programs Manager  
Jay Carlson, AG Programs Manager  
Allison Finkes  
Page Galvan  
Sue O'Brien  
Emily Reed  
Michelle Solorzano

**1. Call to order and Introductions**

Chair Chiles called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. Introductions were made around the room.

**2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from December 13, 2016**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councilmember Kautz and seconded by Councilmember Shaw to approve meeting minutes from December 13, 2016. **All in favor, motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion:**

It was moved by Councilmember Peterson and seconded by Councilmember Zanobini to approve the meeting Agenda for February 21, 2017. **All in favor, motion carried unanimously**

**3. Committee Discussions/Reports**

**a. Executive Report**

The Executive Committee met and discussed the nominating process and Council Officers seats and the Agriculturalist of the Year.

**b. Ag Heritage Committee**

Committee Chair of the AG Heritage Committee is out of state. It was reported that State Fair will be mailing "Save the Date" cards for the AG Heritage Breakfast soon.

**c. California Recognition and Celebration Committee**

Chair Lynch stated her report would be given in Item #4.

**d. Farm and Food Committee**

Chair Zanobini stated that the committee had not met. AG Programs Manager Carlson reported that all Farm Tour spaces had been booked for Spring of 2017.

**e. The Equine Program Committee**

Reported that they were busy planning the program for State Fair 2017.

**f. Livestock and Animal Welfare Care Committee**

Committee Chair not in attendance. CEO Pickering stated that ALDF had filed a lawsuit against Cal Expo, UC Davis and the UC Board of Regents for the use of farrowing crates.

**g. Youth Development and Recognition Committee**

Committee Chair McCabe reported that the committee had not met. Scholarship applications are being accepted until March 2, 2017. Applications will be reviewed beginning in March and interviews will be held in May.

**4. Agriculturalist of the Year Election**

Committee Chair Lynch stated that because the full council had received information on the 3 nominees 5 days prior to this meeting should there be a special meeting called to vote on Agriculturalist of the Year. After a discussion Chair Lynch made a motion to: Postpone the vote today; that Cal Expo staff send the 3 nominee information out to the full council and reconvene on Tuesday, March 21, 2017 to vote on our 2017

Agriculturalist of the year. Motion was seconded by Chris Zanobini. **All in favor, motion carried unanimously.**

5. Nomination Committee Report & Election of Officers  
Councilmember Schuler reported that his researched found that for the past 8 years the Chair usually sat as chair for one year. Councilmember Schuler made a motion to nominate Chris Zanobini for Chair and Robert Gore for Vice Chair for 2017. Motion was seconded by Lesa Eidman. **All in favor, motion carried unanimously.**
  
6. Cal Expo and 2017 State Fair Report  
CEO Pickering gave updates on numerous departments and areas of Cal Expo and State Fair. CEO Pickering gave status reports on Department of Emergency Services activating Cal Expo for emergency sheltering, Regional Distribution Center for Red Cross and sever storm damage received at Cal Expo. CEO Picking reported on spot legislative bills and along with current actives of fair horseracing.  
AG Programs Manager Carlson explained the changes in the Olive Oil, Cheese, Craft Beet and Commercial Wine competitions. He announced that there will be 2 new shows, the Western Region Dorper Show and the National Nigerian Dwarf Goat Show. Programs Manager Weir shared information regarding moving of the Whale Tail exhibit and expanding the education of Agricultural and Spirits, Wine and Beer. CEO Pickering gave details about cannabis and what to expect in the future. There was a discussion regarding the County exhibits and how they were notified to participate.

### **Adjournment**

Chair Chiles called for a motion to adjourn. It was moved by Vice Chair Zanobini and seconded by Councilmember Petersen. **All in favor, motion carried unanimously.**

The Agricultural Advisory Council Meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.