

MARIPOSA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ACTION MEETING MINUTES -FINAL

DATE: THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 2021
(Approved October 21, 2021)
TIME: 8:30 A.M.
LOCATION: BOARD CHAMBERS, UPPER LEVEL

**GOVERNMENT CENTER
5100 BULLION STREET
MARIPOSA, CALIFORNIA**

1. **Roll call and Introductions:** Members: Tony Toso, Elnora George, David Mecchi, Carla Kelly. County Staff: Tammie Guenthart, Assessors Office; Robyn Smith, National Resource Conservation Services; Monica Nielsen, Agricultural Commissioner's Office and Sarah Williams, Steve Engfer, Katy Casner, Carol Suggs, Skip Strathearn and Alvaro Arias (call in) from the Planning Department.

2. Election of Officers for 2021

Motion made by Kelly, seconded by George, that Tony Toso remain the chair for 2021. Motion Moved.

Ayes: (4) Toso, George, Mecchi, Kelly

Motion made by Mecchi, seconded by Kelly, that John Shimer remain the Vice Chair for 2021. Motion Moved.

Ayes: (4) Toso, George, Mecchi, Kelly

3. **Persons wishing to speak on a matter not on the agenda, but within the jurisdiction of the committee.** None.
4. **Approval of Minutes from August 29, 2019.** Tabled due to lack of quorum of members present at that meeting.

Approval of Minutes from June 25, 2020. Motion made by Mecchi, seconded by Kelly to approve the minutes as presented. Motion Moved.

Ayes: (4) Toso, George, Mecchi, Kelly

5. Action Items - Recommendation Requested

a. General Plan/Zoning Amendment No. 2017-084 for Special Event Facilities. Recommendation will be to Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors. Presentation by Sarah Williams.

Discussion was held by the committee.

Motion made by Kelly, seconded by Mecchi, to recommend: 1) BOS to consider a separate fee per event/per person to cover cost for the county per event 2) text added to be able to revoke 3) text added as it relates to County Fire and CAL Fire regulations to review and condition as appropriate and 4) add text that any on Ag Land has to come to before the Ag Advisory for review prior to action. Motion Moved.

Ayes: (4) Toso, George, Mecchi, Kelly

b. Annual Review of \$3,000 Income Requirement established by Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 10-150. Recommendation will be to Board of Supervisors.

Engfer provided information regarding the \$3000 annual for intensive ag for LCA reporting.

Limited discussion by the committee.

Motion made by Mecchi, seconded by Kelly that the \$3,000 income requirement for intensive agriculture for Williamson Act Contracted lands stay in effect. Motion Moved.

Ayes: (4) Toso, George, Mecchi, Kelly

6. Review, Follow Up and Possible Direction to Staff on the development of a prescribed burning program for Mariposa County.

Williams stated that this is a carry-over from prior meetings, staff doesn't have anything prepared for the committee on this subject today. Toso provided an update to the committee regarding California Cattlemen's Association involvement, the bills that are sitting in Sacramento right now, including the support of several Senators and the Governors 30/30 plan. Engfer added that the county just adopted a county wide fire plan and would provide a link to the committee regarding that plan.

7. Correspondence.

None

8. Informational Items:

a. Planning Department

Williams stated that there is nothing prepared, but we do have some items to talk about.

Arias:

i. **Landing of Small Aircraft on Williamson Act Contracted Lands.**

Arias gave presentation and stated that they had made a determination on this, but wanted to committee to be aware. Williams stated that they are not seeking a recommendation unless there are concerns. Toso stated that he read through it, all was covered, commission agreed.

ii. **2019-2020 LCA Biennial Review Report.**

Update from Casner. Refer to staff report for stats. Casner to report back with final report at the end of summer.

iii. and iv. **Working Lands Riparian Corridors (TerraCount) Grant and Sustainable Ag Lands Conservation (SALC) Program Planning Grant - Award and Work Plan Update.**

Engfer provided updates on the 2 grants. Department of Conservation grant of \$100,000 for TerraCount. Modeling tool to determine carbon sequestration values on ag lands to understand greenhouse gas offsets. There has been a delay due to COVID. Tukman Geospatial is our contractor. Base line has been established based on vegetation types. The next step will be a case site specific analysis. Engfer remarked that there will be a lot of activity on these grants in the next year. The \$245,639 SALC grant will be to gear up to have a long-range conservation agricultural plan in place. Some of the TerraCount data can feed into this. This will have an economic and education component. Currently working on the agreement with Sierra Foothill Conservation and will be presenting to the California Cattlemen's Association in the future.

Toso remarked that this is important and encouraging work.

9. **Set next meeting** (not necessary) and **Adjourn 9:29 a.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

**Carol Suggs
Executive Assistant
Mariposa Planning**