

ALAB MEETING MINUTES

Monday, June 3, 2019

Members and Alternates Present: Lisen Bonnier, Dan Rodrigues, Dick Nock, Krista Burke, Tom Ikeda, Don Warden, George Kendall, and Jackie Crabb.

Staff Present: Marc Lea and Lynda Auchinachie – San Luis Obispo County Department of Agriculture; Megan Martin – San Luis Obispo County Department of Planning and Building

Absent Members: Jean Pierre-Wolff, David Pruitt, Mark Pearce, Claire Wineman, Mark Battany, Craig Pritchard, and Jutta Thoerner.

Guests Present: Patricia Wilmore – Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance, James Green – San Luis Obispo County Farm Bureau

1. **Call to Order:** 5:02 pm Vice Chair Rodrigues
2. **ALAB Members – Organizational Updates**
 - The Farm Bureau will be holding a “Hemp 101 Session” for growers June 21, 2019, at the SLO County Farm Bureau Office. The session will be held from 9.30 am to 1 pm. The event is free for members and there is a \$75 for non-members.
3. **Updates from County Agriculture Department staff – Marc Lea**
 - On April 8, 2019, CAL EPA cancelled registration of chlorpyrifos because it is considered a toxic air contaminant. The cancellation process is likely to take two years or more. San Luis Obispo County had very little application of chlorpyrifos products in recent years. Disposal of unused product can occur at a facility accepting hazardous waste.
 - Paraquat label changes are being required at the Federal level. The label changes are intended to address concerns associated with poisoning incidents that have occurred in recent years. Growers should review labels carefully, since it’s unclear exactly when those label changes will be made, and subsequent purchases of the same product could have different requirements if the label directions are changed.
 - 2018 crop report statistics will be presented at the July 16, 2019, Board of Supervisors (BOS) hearing. The subsequent economic study highlighting the multiplier effect will be released during August or September.
4. **Previous Minutes – April 2019**

Motion: Kendall Approve April 2019 minutes.
Motion 2nd: Bonnier
Approved: Unanimous by all voting members.
5. **ALAB Governance:** Marc Lea
 - Marc Lea indicated that there are not any membership expirations until 2020 and that he will be updating bylaws to reflect conference call capabilities.

- 6. Presentation:** Proposed Amendments to County Code Applicable to Cannabis Activities, including the potential expansion of Cannabis Manufacturing in Agricultural Lands - Megan Martin – San Luis Obispo County Department of Planning & Building
- Megan Martin provided an overview of proposed Land Use Ordinance (LUO) changes relative to cannabis activities. Megan indicated that the proposal was going to be presented to the BOS the following day and the primary changes included allowing infusion manufacturing on land within the Agriculture land use category; a revised definition of cannabis canopy; more flexible fencing and screening requirements; and minor changes reconciling language within Titles 22 and 23. See attached link for specifics. <https://agenda.slocounty.ca.gov/IIP/sanluisobispo/agendaitem/details/10336>
 - Megan clarified that the current effort was considered Phase 2 and there will be a subsequent Phase 3 of cannabis activity LUO revisions that will be shared with ALAB members once draft documents are available.
 - ALAB members raised concerns about manufacturing on agricultural lands and the amount of labor that may be associated with so many proposed projects in one area such as Los Osos Valley Road.
- 7. Presentation:** Potential Industrial Hemp Urgency Ordinance – Board of Supervisors Hearing scheduled for June 18, 2019 – Marc Lea – San Luis Obispo County Department of Agriculture
- Marc Lea stated that the BOS will be having a hearing on June 18, 2019, to discuss an urgency ordinance to prohibit the cultivation of industrial hemp. Marc explained regulations that allow for registration and subsequent cultivation of industrial hemp went into effect in April. Additional regulations should be in place soon for preharvest testing to ensure the industrial hemp does not exceed the allowed .3% THC levels.
 - Concerns were raised that hemp could be prohibited because of cross pollination issues with cannabis and hemp would lose out to cannabis because there is no tax on hemp.
 - George Kendall indicated that pesticide applicators are concerned about applying pesticides proximate to cannabis.
- 8. Future Agenda Items: Energy related issues**

Next meeting – July 1, 2019

Meeting Adjourned 6.31 pm

Respectfully submitted by Lynda Auchinachie, San Luis Obispo County Department of Agriculture