

# County of San Luis Obispo Agricultural Liaison Advisory Board



2156 Serra Way, Suite A  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401  
(805) 781-5914

## Positions/Members/Terms

CHAIR: Dee Lacey  
VICE CHAIR: Jean-Pierre Wolff

District One: Mecham Appt.  
Dee Lacey (1/13)

District Two: Gibson Appt.  
Lisen Bonnier (1/11)

District Three: Hill Appt.  
Tom Ikeda (1/13)

District Four: Achadjian Appt.  
Bill Struble (1/11)

District Five: Patterson Appt.  
Noah Small (1/13)

Ag. Finance Rep.  
Mark Pearce (8/10)

Cattlemen Rep.  
Dick Nock

Coastal San Luis RCD Rep.  
Jean-Pierre Wolff (8/11)

Direct Marketing/Organic Rep.  
Eric Michielssen (4/12)

Environmental Rep.  
Debra Garrison (1/11)

Farm Bureau Rep.  
R. Don Warden

Nursery Rep.  
David Pruitt (4/12)

Upper Salinas-Las Tablas RCD Rep.  
Charles Pritchard (1/14)

Vegetable Rep.  
Richard Quandt (4/12)

Wine Grape Rep.  
Neil Roberts (4/12)

County Agricultural Commissioner  
Bob Lilley  
*Ex-Officio*

U.C. Coop. Extension Farm Advisor  
Mary Bianchi  
*Ex-Officio*

**DATE:** May 6, 2010

**TO:** Frank Mecham, Chair  
County Board of Supervisors

**SUBJECT:** Williamson Act Subvention Funding Restoration and  
Continued Support of the Local Program

Members of the Agricultural Liaison Advisory Board wish to express their support of your April 24, 2010 letter to the Governor of California seeking to restore the \$38 million in Williamson Act subvention funding and urge your Board to continue its local support of the Williamson Act Program.

The Williamson Act program continues to be a very important tool to conserve and support the agricultural industry in San Luis Obispo County. Local agriculture is a significant economic power, with crops valued at \$623,095,000 in 2009. Nearly 66% of the county's agriculture-zoned land and 37% of all county land are under land conservation contracts through the Williamson Act program.

Many local property owners have been able to retain ownership of important agricultural land and remain in production for many years as a result of the benefits of the program. The ability of farmers to hold onto their land and continue their commitment to conserving the land for agriculture should remain a priority for this county. By continuing your support of this very successful conservation program you can help ensure agricultural land will be preserved.

Please demonstrate your commitment and the importance of the agricultural industry in San Luis Obispo County by continuing your local support of the Williamson Act program.

Sincerely,

Dee T. Lacey  
Chair, Agricultural Liaison Advisory Board

cc: Jm Grant, CAO, County of San Luis Obispo  
Warren Hoag, Dept of Planning and Building