

## **ALAB MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday – October 6, 2025**

**SLO County Farm Bureau Office – 4815 Morabito Place, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401**

**Members and Alternates Present:** Dan Rodrigues, Sarah Kramer (MS Teams), Lisen Bonnier, Tom Ikeda (MS Teams), Ron Harben, Jerry Diefenderfer, Jeff McKee (MS Teams), Hallie Richards (MS Teams), Paul Clark, Claire Wineman (MS Teams)

**Staff Present:** David Aguayo and Ian Landreth –Department of Agriculture/Weights and Measures, Christopher Greer – UC Cooperative Extension, Peter Hague – Department of Environmental Health

**Absent Members:** Craig Pritchard, Dylan Theobald, Daniel Jones

**Guests Present:** Patricia Wineman – Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance (MS Teams)

### **I. Call to Order, introductions, quorum determination**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Rodrigues at 5:02 p.m. There were not enough members present to have a quorum.

### **II. Open Comment**

Members wishing to address the ALAB on matters other than the scheduled items may do so at this time, when recognized by the Chairman.

Dan Rodrigues opened public comment.

Dan Rodrigues mentioned that the wine industry is still in harvest, and didn't think that brix has moved in two weeks. The current weather is not very conducive to it. There is a lot of unsold fruit out there so it is expected there will be a lot of organic matter for next year.

Jerry Diefenderfer recounted that the County survived the Gifford fire relatively well. There was not a lot of structure damage but there was damage to fencing and animal feed. Diefenderfer guessed that about 80% of the fire was on public land or mitigation lands, and for the first time that he had seen - the remediation cost as much as the cost to control the fire and attributed it to the extensive amount of road grading that took place in the 30 days after the fire. Diefenderfer's understanding was that the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) might be able to offer some assistance on Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) for fences, even if the fences don't meet the regular standards for being repaired, the process takes about two years.

Dan Rodrigues closed public comment.

### **III. Previous Minutes – September 2025**

There were not enough members present to establish a quorum. No action was taken on this matter. Approval of September 2025 minutes will be carried over to the next scheduled meeting.

**IV. Presentation and Discussion: Information on Biosolids from San Luis Obispo County Environmental Health – Peter Hague, Division Manager:**

- Peter Hague informed the ALAB members on the status of the current Biosolids Ordinance. Please see the link below:  
[https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/departments/agriculture-weights-and-measures/all-forms-documents/information/meeting-minutes/alab-meeting-agendas,-minutes,-presentations/2025/alab\\_presentation\\_2025\\_10\\_06](https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/departments/agriculture-weights-and-measures/all-forms-documents/information/meeting-minutes/alab-meeting-agendas,-minutes,-presentations/2025/alab_presentation_2025_10_06)
- ALAB members asked questions and discussed the long history of local biosolid regulation and emerging issues including PFAS chemicals in biosolids.
- Claire Wineman explained that Grower Shipper Association (GSA) members typically grow fresh produce that is not cooked before consumed, which requires stringent regulations for food safety. She provided context on some evolvments since the enactment of EPA Part 503 such as Leafy Greens Marketing Agreement (LGMA), FDA’s Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA), Closer to Zero Initiative, and longitudinal studies surrounding food safety and pathogens. Wineman informed the ALAB that GSA would advocate for consideration of the operational requirements its members adhere to when the time comes for a permanent ordinance. She also asked what the timeline and process for getting recommendations to the Board of Supervisors (Board).
- Peter Hague mentioned he would have to check with County Counsel to see when the recommendation to extend or adopt a new ordinance must get to the Board - as well as meet and confer with the Department of Planning & Building. The ordinance does expire on March 31, 2026.
- Paul Clark questioned whether the Board had an agenda date for this issue.
- Ian Landreth speculated that this issue may be covered in January when the Board reviews its priorities for the year.
- Lisen Bonnier recounted that in the past ALAB has written a letter of recommendation to the Board from an agricultural perspective. If a Board date was known ALAB could work to generate a letter of recommendation.
- Dan Rodriguez identified that ALAB would want to have a meeting to identify a sub committee responsible for drafting that letter – and that there is always the option of scheduling a special meeting.

**V. Updates from Ag Department Staff.**

- David informed the ALAB that the 2024 Crop Report hard copy is expected to be ready for distribution by mid-October.

**VI. Future agenda items/meeting dates, adjournment.**

- Claire Wineman asked about any new information on the Housing Element updates, specifically Action 7 and 8.
- Ian Landreth would follow up with Long-Range Planning to find out if there were any agricultural related issues associated with these actions.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 PM. The next monthly ALAB meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2025.

Respectfully submitted by Ian Landreth, San Luis Obispo County Department of Agriculture/Weights & Measures.