



Regional Association of Northern Counties Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers

Del Norte • Humboldt • Lake • Lassen • Mendocino • Modoc
Plumas/Sierra • Shasta • Siskiyou • Tehama • Trinity

Minutes

Regional Association of Northern Counties

January 12, 2005

Shasta County Department of Agriculture

Redding, California

Members Present: Glenn Anderson, Del Norte
Steve Hajik, Lake
Joe Moreo, Modoc
Mary Pfeiffer, Shasta
Doug Compton, Tehama
Paul Holzberger, Humboldt
Dave Bengston, Mendocino
Karl Bishop, Plumas/Sierra
Patrick Griffin, Siskiyou
Mark Lockhart, Trinity

Others Present: Ed Williams, CDFA, County Liaison
John Donahue, DPR, County Liaison
Danny Merkley☺, SWRCB, Ag Liaison; Mark Rentz, DPR
Diana Messina, Central Valley Regional Water Control Board
Rick Roush & Stephanie Klunk, U.C. Davis, IPM

- I. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Hajik at 9:00 a.m.
- II. The approval of the minutes from the Winter Conference was tabled.
- III. Mark Lockhart, Secretary/Treasurer, reported a fund balance of \$1,055.00.
- IV. CDFA Report: Ed Williams
 - There are to be no further general fund cuts for CDFA
 - The Preventive Release Program now has a permanent line in the governor's budget.
 - In other budget news there are \$2.17 million & 17 positions for Animal Health and bioterrorism; \$1.3 million to update the veterinary lab; \$1.1 million for milk & dairy safety; and \$760 K for the L.A. County Pest Detection trapper benefits. There was no additional money for High Risk or the border stations; in fact, Plant Health received none of their \$41 million in requests.
 - \$404 K of Federal money is again available this year to augment Pest Detection. This is a year-to-year supplement.
 - CDFA will coordinate their tsunami relief with the U.N.; Charlene Garcia in the contact at the main CDFA phone number.
 - DMS report: Charlie Nelson is now the northern devices rep following Mike Kelly's retirement. The training modules were rolled out and the first two were presented in the north. New ones will be presented at the rate of two per quarter. Investigative Techniques classes will be in Red Bluff January 19, 20.
- V. DPR Report: John Donahue
 - Methyl bromide has received a critical exemption from the Clean Air Act standards
 - Please respond to Ada Ann Scott's survey for registration fees
 - Roy Rutz has undertaken the Herculean task of editing, compiling & collating the Enforcement Letters to make them more usable.

VI. Old Business:

- A. Rick Roush & Stephanie Klunk of U.C. Davis IPM program gave us a summary of the resources that U.C. has available. U.C. has agreed give county ag offices copies of their IPM manuals gratis. Please respond to his letter which is to be delivered next week. They ask that we choose only the ones of use to our respective counties. Rick will be at the Interim.
- B. **Action:** The North reaffirmed our previous stance on minimum scholastic qualifications for Ag Biologists' and Weights & Measures Inspectors' licensure testing, as quoted below from the minutes of the August 21,22, 2003 meeting in Crescent City:
The North MSP that the requirement for a four year degree be retained, with the proviso that the range of degrees be broadened as long as candidates have taken a minimum number of credit hours in sciences.
- C. Direct Marketing Survey – Mark Lockhart will send out the survey and will nag the northern group to respond. (We had the poorest response to Scott Hudson's requests. Del Norte, Plumas/Sierra, Shasta & Tehama deserve recognition for responding.)
- D. **Action: MSP** to support the proposal for QC 210 regarding weed free forage.
- E. **Action: Biocontrol Conferences: MSP** to recommend to the Biocontrol Committee 1) that CACASA host its own Biocontrol Conference, 2) that CACASA's conferences be held every other year when U.C. does not host their conferences, and 3) that CACASA not provide financial support for U.C.'s conference using those resources for our own.
- F. Danny Merkley, Mark Rentz and Diana Messina explained the requests to county ag offices for PUR data by the Central Valley Regional Water Control Board. Messina (916 464 4828) said she'd be happy to make presentations to local groups about the ag waivers.
- G. Spring Conference: Clerical aid for the conference is covered: Jan (Tehama) – 2 days; Angie (Trinity) – 1 day; Sherry and Bonnie (Shasta) – the rest. We still do not have a keynote speaker.
- H. Wildlife Services Subcommittee Report: The 2005/06 contracts will increase approximately \$5,000 per year per position. Moreover, expect a further increase of 11% in 2006/07. Mary has submitted a funding request to Herger, Thompson and Lundgren will also be approached in the near future. Other CAC's will be asked to help and this issue is on the agenda for CACASA's federal effort.
- I. CISSC survey: Sean Hurley of CalPoly has sent out a survey request, some counties have responded, others not.
- J. SOD & nursery inspection: Mary Pfeiffer has asked that counties with strawberry packing houses and/or growing grounds be consistent in their inspections and use of forms.

VII. New Business:

- A. Equipment requests from the Macy funds for QC: Mark Lockhart will follow up
- B. NCACS schedule for 2005: tabled until February 16th.
- C. LPG Prover schedule – Doug Compton passed out the schedule for the 20 & 100 gallon provers.
- D. EPA, DPR, and CACASA MOU: John Donahue will take our suggestions back to DPR.
- E. **Action: CACASA dues structure: MSP** to have Joe Moreo communicate his proposal to the CACASA committee working on this issue.
- F. CACASA Finance Committee: We gave direction to Karl Bishop regarding investment strategies for CACASA reserves.
- G. Marijuana Issues for CAC's: there was a general discussion of some of the problems facing ag commissioners dealing with the semi-legal status of this crop, including identification, analysis, organic registration, pesticide use, nursery, seed inspections & crop statistics.
- H. County Photos: Ed Williams asked that each county send him an 11" x 14" photo of some aspect of their county representative of agriculture to be included in the county gallery in

the remodeled CDFA bldg. If you email the picture please do so at the end of the day so as not to overload their system. Or you can send a cd.

- I. Suggested Oral Exam Questions: John Donahue will distribute the revised list.
 - J. Budget Issues: There was a general discussion about the meetings the CACASA executive committee is holding with industry; the proposed changes in FAC 224c, and the timelines involved.
 - K. APHIS Nursery Stock Quarantine: Tabled until Feb 16th – please request Dorteia Zadig to address the group.
 - L. Mary Pfeiffer gave the group a brief report on the California Partnership for Preventing Invasive Weed Introductions which is in its organizational stages.
 - M. Joe Moreo will be the North's representative to the new CACASA Noxious Weed Control Subcommittee that the chair of the Weed & Vertebrate Committee (Pfeiffer) is putting together.
 - N. **Action: MSP** to support the draft EIR prepared by CDFA concerning eradication of terrestrial exotic pests.
 - O. Annual Financial Reports: tabled until Feb 16th.
 - P. Please forward your comments on the CACASA By-laws amendments to Mark Quisenberry.
 - Q. Added Agenda Item: Joe Moreo reported on his recommendation to the ARB to exempt counties of less than 100,000 in population from the new diesel engines air quality requirements.
 - R. Added Agenda Item: **Action: MSP** to send a letter to Scott Paulsen (cc'd to Steve Monk) requesting DPR address the problem arising from the use of some swab sampling materials that may contain residues of the materials being screened. (i.e., the Sharkskin issue) (p.s. this issue has since been resolved appropriately)
 - S. Added Agenda Item: Report 3A - Confusion regarding reporting of GWSS and High Risk hours has led the deputies' group to worry that hours are not being reported, or perhaps double reported. It was suggested that we consult Janet Glaholt concerning the need to revise the annual financial report preparation guidelines.
- VIII. Executive Session – an executive session was held.
- IX. Additional Agenda Items: see New Business above
- X. Adjournment - Chairman Hajik adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark T. Lockhart, secretary