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Agricultural Commissioner
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CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONERS AND SEALERS ASSOCIATION STANDARDIZATION AND STATISTICS COMMITTEE

MINUTES

SPRING CONFERENCE – Tuesday, May 19, 2015
Santa Ynez Valley Marriott
Buellton, CA

Members Present

Miguel Monroy, Chair
John Snyder, Secretary

Steve Hajik
Mark Quisenberry

Milton O'Haire
Scott Paulsen

Tim Pelican

- I. The meeting was **CALLED TO ORDER** at 1:27 pm by Chairperson Miguel Monroy.
- II. It was **M/S/P** to approve the **October 21, 2014 minutes**.
- III. **Reports and Unfinished Business**

A. Shell Egg Advisory Committee – Milton O'Haire and William Rohner

Milton reported on a survey conducted among the 14 counties that currently have egg inspection contracts with CDFA. The results reveal that out of a total of \$275,000 in expenses, counties are only reimbursed for approximately 52% of those local costs. Milton outlined some of the areas with the most disparity between costs and recovery. Additionally, Milton commented that Stanislaus County has made a computer application available to all counties that greatly reduces the paperwork demand in the egg inspection program. CDFA is also testing a similar program. Lastly, Milton reported that he is part of a subcommittee working on an amendment to an existing Administrative Civil Penalty bill that would allow CDFA to revoke the license of an egg handler who fails to attend an office hearing.

Bill Rohner, Southern District Supervisor, CDFA Egg Quality and Safety Management, discussed current bio-security requirements due to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI). CDFA's audits of out-of-state egg producers, as well as USDA and FDA inspections on poultry farms have been suspended due to HPAI. County and CDFA staff are continuing inspections but with strict adherence to industry and CDFA bio-security measures.

CDFA will host training for county egg inspection staff in the north and the south in June.

B. Egg Blitz – Mark Quisenberry

Mark distributed a spread sheet documenting the results of the recent Statewide Retail Egg Blitz as well as the results of a similar effort in 2011. Mark pointed out that compliance has eroded over the last four years. Patty Lesky reported that in Amador County, egg retailers and distributors were completely unaware of the existence of an inspection program, underscoring the need for more retail shell egg enforcement.

It was **M/S/P** that the committee send a letter to Tony Herrera, Program Supervisor, CDFA Egg Quality and Safety Management, with the statistical results of the recent 2015 CACASA Statewide Retail Egg Blitz, as well as a copy of the committee minutes, conveying the significant state of non-compliance and general lack of awareness of California's minimum egg quality standards at retail due to the infrequency of inspection activity.

IV. New Business

A. Direct Marketing Regulation Update – Steve Patton

Steve provided a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation reviewing the new Direct Marketing regulations resulting from the passage of AB 1871, in addition to new regulation clean-up language. Steve estimated that the new regulations will likely be implemented in nine to twelve months.

V. Additional Items - None

VI. Adjourn – 2:53 p.m.