



**RESEARCH, EDUCATION & COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Date: Wednesday, August 3, 2022
Time: 12pm
Place: Lodi Winegrape Commission, 2545 West Turner Road, Lodi, CA 95242

1. The **meeting was called to order** at 12:05pm by Committee Chairman Larry Whitted. The Commission’s mission statement was shared.
2. Those in **attendance** are indicated below. A **quorum** was established.

First Name	Last Name	Attended
Scott	Armolea	
Amy	Blagg	x
Kyle	Brown	x
Pieter	den Hartog	x
Ben	Duesterhaus	
Mike	Klouda	
Joe	Larranaga	
Keith	Striegler	x
Joe	Valente	x
Larry	Whitted	x

Staff present: Dr. Stephanie Bolton and Stuart Spencer.

Guests present: Art Prudhel (LWC Board), Norm Peters (Trinchero), Lisa Meline (Viticulture Student Volunteer), Stanton Lange, and Dr. Karen Block (UC Davis V&E). Art agreed to be a Committee member.

3. **Consideration of previous minutes.** Valente/Striegler made a motion to approve the June 15, 2022 meeting minutes. The motion was carried on a vote of Committee members present. No “no” votes. No abstentions (Exhibit A).

4. **Public comment:** none.

5. **Grower education programs.**

- **Review of recent initiatives**

- 7/18 – Dr. Stephanie Bolton was an invited speaker at the International Cool Climate Wine Symposium in Canada
- 7/19 – Harvest Safety Seminar with LDGGA
- 7/26 – Mechanization Demo with Gallo
- 8/2 – IPM Network meeting with Dr. Matt Johnson (Birds, Bats, Owls)

- **Ideas for future initiatives**

- The next monthly IPM Network Breakfast Meeting will be on October 4 with Dr. Akif Eskalen, who will talk about trunk disease and machine harvesting with show and tell.
- Weed Management Field Day in late February: show options for spraying herbicide in the wind, AgExtend (weed electrocution).
- The Committee will continue a mechanization series hosted with Committee Member Dr. Keith Striegler (Gallo) in 2022. The next tailgate talk will be during harvest to show in-field optical sorting on machine harvesters.

- Ideas for future meetings: climate change, rootstocks and drought tolerance, mites, Axel Borg (UC V&E Librarian), grower/winemaker relationships, the grape market, Vitidoor, field-in technology, and a microscope series.

6. Grower communications.

- Grower e-Newsletter emails are sent a few times per month as needed, with an extensive calendar at the bottom.
- The lodigrowers.com website is updated frequently with educational events (under the Education heading, Local Opportunities page) and viticulture blogs are posted every Monday morning.
- Dr. Karen Block volunteered to write a blog post about a new list of smoke testing labs provided by UC Davis.

7. Winegrape research in Crush District 11.

- **Research projects and focus group updates**
 - Scientists continue to contact the Lodi Winegrape Commission to collaborate on research projects in the areas of soil, water, sustainability, pests and diseases, rodent control, climate change, and more. Several AVF-funded projects have a connection to Lodi viticulture this funding cycle.
 - The Commission just invoiced \$61,922 to AVF and the CDFA PD/GWSS Board to close out the virus grant projects.
- **Viticulture Research Specialist Search**
 - Stuart Spencer, Dr. Stephanie Bolton, and Larry Whitted have an in-person interview with a candidate tomorrow.
- **UC Northern San Joaquin Viticulture Farm Advisor**
 - Dr. Stephanie Bolton and the rest of the search committee will be part of a second round of final interviews during August 30-31.

8. Weather Network services. The Committee agreed to cost-share a weather station for Winters Farming to fill a gap in the network where more grapes are going in.

9. The **FY2021-2022 Budget** was reviewed along with a **draft FY2022-2023 Budget Request**. Striegler/Valente made a motion to approve the draft budget request as presented with the correction of an Excel addition error caught by Kevin den Hartog. The motion was carried on a vote of Committee members present. No “no” votes. No abstentions.

10. Reports from other Committees.

- Stuart Spencer discussed marketing activities.
- The proposed Fourth Edition LODI RULES Standards are out for review by the winegrowing community through August 15, 2022.

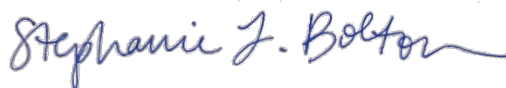
11. **Public comment on items not appearing on the agenda (2 min limit):** Student volunteer Lisa Meline shared a vineyard project in the Delta that is tied to local schools.

12. **Items for future agendas:** none.

13. The **next meeting is scheduled for October.**

14. The **meeting was adjourned** at 1:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephanie L. Bolton, PhD
Research & Education Director
Lodi Winegrape Commission



**RESEARCH, EDUCATION & COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Date: Wednesday, June 15, 2022
Time: 12pm
Place: Lodi Winegrape Commission, 2545 West Turner Road, Lodi, CA 95242

1. The **meeting was called to order** at 12:03pm by Committee Chairman Larry Whitted. The Commission’s mission statement was shared along with a thank you to exiting member Brad Goehring for his service to the Committee.

2. Those in **attendance** are indicated below. A **quorum** was established.

First Name	Last Name	Attended
Scott	Armolea	x
Amy	Blagg	x
Kyle	Brown	
Pieter	den Hartog	
Ben	Duesterhaus	
Mike	Kluda	
Joe	Larranaga	x
Keith	Striegler	x
Joe	Valente	x
Larry	Whitted	x

Staff present: Dr. Stephanie Bolton and Stuart Spencer.

Guests present: Lisa Meline (Viticulture Student Volunteer), Stanton Lange, and Dr. Karen Block (UC Davis V&E).

3. **Consideration of previous minutes.** Armolea/Valente made a motion to approve the April 19, 2022 meeting minutes. The motion was carried on a vote of Committee members present. No “no” votes. No abstentions (Exhibit A).

4. **Public comment:** none.

5. **Grower education programs.**

- **Review of recent initiatives**
 - 4/22 – Frost event meeting in Thornton
 - 4/23 – Tokay High School Science Festival Table (thanks Lisa!)
 - 4/27 – mini GUSS demo (thanks Keith!)
 - 4/30 – National Plant Diagnostician Conference tour
 - 5/3 – IPM Network meeting with Dr. Mary Wildermuth (RNA interference)
 - 5/11 – Bringing the Vineyard into the Tasting Room educational happy hour
 - 5/17 – Winegrape Quality from the Vineyard to the Bottle
 - 5/19 – Farmer’s Market Ag Night (thanks Joe and Amy!)
 - 6/7 – IPM Network meeting with Sutterra (vine mealybug monitoring)
 - 6/9 – Fresno State Virus Symposium

- **Ideas for future initiatives**

- This year's Lodi Grape Harvest Safety Seminar co-hosted with LDGGA is scheduled for July 19 at the Grape Festival Grounds.
- The next monthly IPM Network Breakfast Meeting will be on August 2 with Dr. Matt Johnson of Cal Poly Humboldt speaking about barn owls, birds and bats.
- The Committee will continue a mechanization series hosted with Committee Member Dr. Keith Striegler (Gallo) in 2022, which should include a curtain burner, mechanical suckering, a New Holland optical sorter, TED, robots, a Pellenc harvester with a sorter, and more.
- Ideas for future meetings: climate change, rootstocks and drought tolerance, mites, Axel Borg (UC V&E Librarian), grower/winemaker relationships, the grape market, Vitidoor, field-in technology, microscope series, weed management.

6. Grower communications.

- Grower e-Newsletter emails are sent a few times per month as needed, with an extensive calendar at the bottom.
- The lodigrowers.com website is updated frequently with educational events (under the Education heading, Local Opportunities page) and viticulture blogs are posted every Monday morning.

7. Winegrape research in Crush District 11.

- **Research projects and focus group updates**
 - Scientists continue to contact the Lodi Winegrape Commission to collaborate on research projects in the areas of soil, water, sustainability, pests and diseases, rodent control, climate change, and more. Several AVF-funded projects have a connection to Lodi viticulture this funding cycle.
- **Viticulture Research Specialist**
 - The search continues.

8. Weather Network services. We need to check the accuracy of the powdery mildew model – Dr. Bolton will follow up with Scott Armolea and Western Weather.

9. Demo Vineyard. We are grateful that Stanton Lange continues to manage the vineyard.

10. University of California.

- UC released funding for the Northern San Joaquin Co. Viticulture Farm Advisor Position in mid-October. Dr. Bolton is serving on the search committee. The first round of interviews did not result in a job offer. A second search was opened with applications due July 1.
- Dr. Andy Walker's replacement at UC Davis is Dr. Luis Diaz-Garcia.

11. The FY2021-2022 Budget was reviewed along with a **draft FY2022-2023 Budget Request.**

Striegler/Valente made a motion to approve the draft budget request as presented with the correction of an Excel addition error caught by Kevin den Hartog. The motion was carried on a vote of Committee members present. No "no" votes. No abstentions.

12. Reports from other Committees.

- Stuart Spencer discussed marketing activities, which included several tours and visits from and with trade this Spring. The Commission plans to expand wine export market activities.
- The proposed Fourth Edition LODI RULES Standards were released this morning for review by the winegrowing community through August 15, 2022.

13. Public comment on items not appearing on the agenda (2 min limit): Dr. Karen Block shared that UC will have a list of smoke testing labs available and that she received funding from the American Vineyard Foundation for an outreach program in Lodi next year. Amy Blagg invited Committee members to sign up for the blood drive in memory of Kris Guitierrez.

14. **Items for future agendas:** none.
15. The **next meeting is scheduled for August 3.**
16. The **meeting was adjourned** at 1:43pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stephanie L. Bolton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Stephanie L. Bolton, PhD
Research & Education Director
Lodi Winegrape Commission