



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

Date: Wednesday, October 19, 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	x
Joe	Larranaga	
Art	Prudhel	x
Keith	Striegler	x
Joe	Valente	x
Larry	Whitted	x

Staff present: Dr. Stephanie Bolton, Stuart Spencer, and Will Kerner.

Guests present: Norm Peters (Trinchero), Lisa Meline (Viticulture Student Volunteer), Stanton Lange, Dawson Lewis (Starr & Storm Crop Solutions) and Dr. Karen Block (UC Davis V&E).

3. **Consideration of previous minutes.** Valente/den Hartog made a motion to approve the August 3, 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**

- 8/30-31 – UCCE Viticulture Farm Advisor Interviews. Dr. Stephanie Bolton and the UC search committee recommended Dr. Justin Tanner as the new UC Northern San Joaquin Viticulture Farm Advisor.
- 9/15 – Lockeford Plant Materials Center Cover Crop Field Day.
- 9/15 – Lodi Wine Industry presentation with educators. We’re looking for a few volunteers to show these educators what you do soon.
- 9/27 – On-Board Sorting Mechanization Demo with Gallo at LangeTwins.
- 10/3 – Dinner with Dr. Akif Eskalen.
- 10/4 – IPM Network meeting with Dr. Akif Eskalen (trunk disease and machine harvesting).
- 10/7 – PBS television program interviews and videotaping.
- 10/11 & 10/13 – Guest viticulture lectures at Delta College, Manteca.

- **Ideas for future initiatives**

- 11/1 – The next monthly IPM Network Breakfast Meeting guest speaker will be Dr. Justin Tanner, who will talk about canopy management and IPM.
- 11/3 – Water Forum hosted by LDGGA.
- 11/11-13 – Sustainable Ag Expo hosted by The Vineyard Team. Dr. Stephanie Bolton is speaking about mealybugs and viruses and assembled a panel of Lodi growers for the event. The Commission will host a networking event on Tuesday night of the conference.
- 12/1 – “30 Years of Rootstock Research - Liberty Vineyard” Meeting co-hosted with Gallo at Burgundy Hall. Dr. Keith Striegler assembled an outstanding agenda which includes Dr. Andy Walker and Paul Verdegaal.
- 1/14 – Joe Valente needs volunteer judges for the Tokay FFA pruning contest at Kautz Farms.
- 2/7 – Lodi Grape Day.
- 2/23 – Weed Management Field Day with Gallo. We need a vineyard host.
- 3/9 – Dr. Karen Block is planning a UC Davis On the Road event in Lodi. Potential speakers include: Drs. Beth Forrestel, Megan Bartlett, Mason Earles, Luis Diaz Garcia, and Anita Oberholster. She is also looking for a “neutral” speaker to describe organic, sustainable, and regenerative viticulture in a scientific way.
- The Committee continues a mechanization series hosted with Dr. Keith Striegler as equipment is available.
- Potential IPM Meeting speaker/topic: Hanna Kahl (Community Alliance of Family Farmers, CAFF) and spider mites.
- Ideas for future meetings: climate change, rootstocks and drought tolerance, vineyard establishment workshop, beneficial insects, Axel Borg (UC V&E Librarian), grower/winemaker relationships, the grape market, Vitidoor, field-in technology, ag burning alternatives, ground squirrels (PERC), and a microscope series.

6. **Grower communications.**

- Grower e-Newsletter emails are sent up to 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.
- Folks have been assembled to work on a Return on Investment worksheet for growers to help them think about a new vineyard planting.
- Ted Rieger was hired to write an article introducing our new Viticulture Research Specialist, Will Kerner, and the new UC Farm Advisor, Dr. Justin Tanner, with descriptions of their distinct roles in our winegrowing community.

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.
 - At the request of the Commission, Dr. Akif Eskalen put together a small spore trapping experiment to quantify the release of trunk disease pathogen spores during machine harvest in Lodi.
 - The Rootstock Research Focus Group will resume meetings post-harvest in November.
- **Viticulture Research Specialist**
 - Will Kerner began on September 12 and has been learning about the Lodi Winegrape Commission, our winegrowing community, and rootstocks.
- **UC Northern San Joaquin Viticulture Farm Advisor**
 - Dr. Justin Tanner was hired and will begin on January 3, 2023. He has already begun engagement with our growers and preparing for Lodi Grape Day.

8. **Weather Network services.** We began October afternoon frost forecasts. The Kost Rd AQI issue is getting fixed. The cost-share with Winters Farming is proceeding. There are 15 stations left to calibrate for 2022.

9. The **FY2022-2023 Budget** was reviewed.

10. **Reports from other Committees.**

- Stuart Spencer discussed marketing activities.
- The proposed Fourth Edition LODI RULES Standards are coming soon.

11. **Public comment on items not appearing on the agenda (2 min limit):** There will be a Roger Boulton seminar at UC Davis on November 7.

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

13. The **next meeting is scheduled for December 21, 2022.**

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

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



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

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

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

First Name	Last Name	Attended
Scott	Armolea	
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Ben	Duesterhaus	
Mike	Kluda	
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.

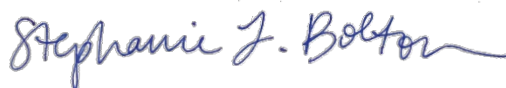
11. **Public comment on items not appearing on the agenda (2 min limit):** Student volunteer Lisa Meline shared a vineyard project in the Delta that is tied to local schools.

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