



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

Date: Wednesday, February 15, 2023
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	x
Amy	Blagg	x
Kyle	Brown	x
Pieter	den Hartog	x
Mike	Kluda	x
Joe	Larranaga	x
Norm	Peters	x
Art	Prudhel	
Keith	Striegler	
Joe	Valente	x
Larry	Whitted	x

Staff present: Dr. Stephanie Bolton, Stuart Spencer, and Will Kerner.
Guests present: Dawson Lewis (Starr & Storm Crop Solutions) and Cameron Gurley (Trincher).

3. **Consideration of previous minutes.** Valente/Armolea made a motion to approve the December 21, 2022 meeting minutes. The motion was carried on a vote of Committee members present. No “no” votes. No abstentions.

4. **Public comment:** none.

5. **Grower education programs.**

- **Review of recent initiatives**
 - 1/3 – Monthly IPM Network Breakfast Meeting: Tia Russell, Duarte Nursery, Clean Plant Material.
 - 1/18 – Lodi Winegrape Commission Annual Meeting at Hutchins Street Square.
 - 1/24-26 – Unified Wine & Grape Symposium.
 - 1/26-28 – ZAP in San Francisco.
 - 2/3-4 – Lodi Wine & Chocolate.
 - 2/7 – Lodi Grape Day.
 - Thanks to all the judges who came out for the Tokay FFA pruning contest at Kautz Farms.
- **Ideas for future initiatives**
 - 2/23 – Weed Management Field Day with Gallo, Trincher, and Dawson Lewis.
 - 3/7 – Lodi Farm Safety Day.

- 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.
- 4/4 – CD11 Lodi IPM Network Breakfast Meeting with Maria Zumkeller (LangeTwins) talking about Mealybugs & Viruses, followed by Charlie Hamilton helping with LODI RULES PEAS 2.0.
- April 2023 – The Vineyard Team has invited us to Paso Robles for a Mealybug & Virus Tailgate Talk.
- 5/19-20 – A new version of ZinFest.
- 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.
- LDGGA will host an economics and business forum on April 6.
- CAWG Day at the Capitol is March 14.

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.
- The Lodi Grower video filmed by public television is finalized and will air on Viewpoint with Dennis Quaid.

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.
 - Drs. Cristina Lazcano and Noely Gonzales – soil health project (still need more volunteer growers)
 - Letters of support
 - The Rootstock Research Focus Group typically meets on the second Thursday of the month at Avenue Grill. The next meeting is at the UC Davis On the Road event on March 9th.
 - The canine detection grant proposal that we submitted with Dr. Neil McRoberts (UC), Lisa Finke (Canine Detection Services), and Dr. Maher Al Rwahnih (FPS) was ranked number two out of all grants submitted in the open meeting DPR peer review.

8. **Weather Network services.** Mike Klouda shared information about the issues highlighted in the recent calibration report and reviewed recent storm damage.

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

10. **Reports from other Committees.**

- Stuart Spencer discussed marketing activities, including Lodi Wine & Chocolate, the May signature event, and a new Lodi Winegrape Commission video series highlighting growers.
- The Fourth Edition LODI RULES Standards was released.
- Stuart Spencer and Dr. Bolton continue to partner with education groups to connect students with careers in our industry by creating pathways. Norm Peters volunteered to help.

11. **Public comment on items not appearing on the agenda (2 min limit):** none.

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

13. The **next meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2023 at noon.**

14. The **meeting was adjourned** at 1:39pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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

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