



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

Date: Tuesday, April 11, 2023
Time: 12pm
Place: Lodi Winegrape Commission, 2545 West Turner Road, Lodi, CA 95242

1. The **meeting was called to order** at 12:01pm 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	Klouda	x
Joe	Larranaga	
Norm	Peters	x
Art	Prudhel	x
Keith	Striegler	
Joe	Valente	x
Larry	Whitted	x

Staff present: Stuart Spencer.

Guests present: Dawson Lewis (Starr & Storm Crop Solutions) and Dr. Justin Tanner (UC Farm Advisor).

3. **Consideration of previous minutes.** Valente/Blagg made a motion to approve the February 15, 2023 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**

- Committee discussed recent meetings attended.
- 2/23 – Weed Management Field Day with Gallo, Trincherro, and Dawson Lewis.
- 3/7 – Lodi Farm Safety Day.
- 3/9 – UC Davis On the Road event in Lodi.
- 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.
- Dr. Justin Tanner discussed county VMB trapping and where the data is going, and potentially doing something more effective.

- **Ideas for future initiatives**

- JAVA Alliance Meetings.
- How to farm in wet years, how much fertilizer, when to irrigate.
- June 7 – Virtual Smoke Summit.

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.
- People 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**
 - Mike Klouda shared the work of Drs. Cristina Lazcano and Noely Gonzales – soil health project.
 - The Rootstock Research Focus Group meets on the second Thursday of the month at Avenue Grill. The next meeting is April 11th.
 - 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. Hope to hear by end of April.

8. Weather Network services. Mike Klouda shared they are waiting on parts to fix stations.

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.

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

12. Items for future agendas: 2023-24 Budget Request

13. The next meeting is scheduled for May 30, 2023 at noon.

14. The meeting was adjourned at 1:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,



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