



California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA)
Fertilizer Inspection Advisory Board (FIAB)
Technical Advisory Subcommittee (TASC)

HYBRID TELECONFERENCE MEETING

1963 Independence Drive, Madera, CA 93637

Tuesday, September 16, 2025
12:30 PM – 3:30 PM

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dan Cook
Dave McEuen
Dr. Charlotte Decock
Dr. Chris Shogren
Dr. Franklin Gaudi
Dr. Jairo Diaz
Dr. Mike Almasri
Dr. Sebastian Saa
Dr. Tom Bottoms

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dan Rodrigues
Dr. Ehsan Toosi

CDFA STAFF

Dr. Emad Jahanzad
Jenna Leal
Jennifer Harmon
Karen Adler
Maria Tenorio Alfred
Natalie Jacuzzi

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. Tom Bottoms, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:33 PM. Introductions were made and a quorum was established.

REVIEW AND APPROVE MAY 20, 2025, TECHNICAL ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Dr. Bottoms requested the TASC review the minutes of the May 20, 2025, meeting.

MOTION: Dr. Franklin Gaudi moved to approve May 20, 2025, meeting minutes as submitted. Dr. Chris Shogren seconded; the motion passed unanimously with a vote of 9-0.

DEPARTMENT / DIVISION / BRANCH UPDATES

Jenna Leal updated TASC on the Department budget and Governor's mandates regarding budget reductions. Leal discussed the upcoming FIAB budget meeting with more information to come following that meeting in October. Leal advised the TASC that the former Office of Environmental Farming and Innovation (OEFI) has changed its name to the Office of Agricultural Resilience and Sustainability (OARS). Leal also informed the TASC that the Commercial Feed Regulatory Program's Supervising Special Investigator, Mike Davidson, is retiring at the end of September after over 40 years with the Branch.

PROGRAM UPDATES

New Fertilizer Research and Education Program (FREP) Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisory), Natalie Jacuzzi, gave a brief update on the upcoming FIAB Research and Education Subcommittee meeting. FREP staff have been working to create a strategic plan that will be presented to the Subcommittee. Jacuzzi also mentioned the upcoming FREP/Western Plant Health (WPH) Nutrient Management Conference in October and the Agricultural Expert Panel with the State waterboards.

TASC VACANCIES/APPOINTMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The TASC discussed the submitted applications for the two vacant member positions for 2026. The current members voted unanimously to recommend the reappointment of current member Dr. Mike Almasri, and to recommend that Gina Colfer, Sustainable Solutions Agronomist, be appointed to the remaining seat with Devin Clarke, Crop Consultant, as an alternative. These recommendations will move forward to be reviewed by the FIAB and approved by the Secretary of the Department.

MOTION: Dr. Sebastian Saa moved to approve the recommendation of the reappointment of Dr. Mike Almasri and appointment of Gina Colfer, with Devin Clarke as the alternate. Mr. Dan Cook seconded; the motion passed unanimously with a vote of 8-0 with one abstention being Dr. Mike Almasri.

FREP BYLAWS REVIEW AND REVISIONS

TASC members discussed the proposed revisions to the TASC bylaws which added language regarding Form 700 requirements and required trainings for members. Dr. Gaudi suggested adding language regarding the submission of alternate certificates for Sexual Harassment Prevention training that may be accepted if they meet specific criteria.

MOTION: Dr. Gaudi moved to approve the revised bylaws with additional language for alternate training certificates. Dr. Chris Shogren seconded; the motion passed unanimously with a vote of 9-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Provide TASC with a list of recently approved grants to commence in 2026 and provide the statistics of funded projects current and to-date to assist TASC with needed funding areas.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting was scheduled for October 30, 2025 in Fresno, following the FREP Conference. A doodle poll will be sent to members to confirm this date is sufficient.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 1:59pm.

Respectfully submitted,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY NATALIE JACUZZI

Natalie Jacuzzi

Date: 9/16/2025

Senior Environmental Scientist (Supervisory)

Fertilizer Research and Education Program

Feed, Fertilizer, Livestock Drugs Regulatory Services Branch