

AGRICULTURE Science Sustainability CAREERS



National Ag Science Center Board Meeting

Wednesday, April 21, 2021
10AM – 12PM

Mission: *The National Ag Science Center provides students with unique programs in agriculture and science – to promote positive educational experiences and an awareness of career connections and issues important to sustainable agriculture in California.*

Minutes

- I. Welcome. Members in attendance: Dave Evans, Kim Hernandez, Brandi LoForti, Paul Huckaba, Adam Hite, Craig Pitau, Tom Gallo, Doug Van Diepen, Matt Cranford, and Emily Lawrence. Review of minutes from January meeting - Dave Evans, motion to approve, Tom Gallo, second. Motion carried.
- II. Action and Discussion Items - Emily presented a powerpoint covering each topic area.

Events update

Golf Tournament – Update on the registrations and sponsorships so far. 4/9 major sponsors, 44/144 golfers, 4/12 raffle prizes. We need golfers. We are also looking for SWAG items-Adam and Kim mentioned they can round up some swag. Emily will post the golf tourney docs on the board portal as well as send out in an email to the board.

ACTION ITEM Hall of Fame 2020 Wrap Up (July annual meeting). Motion to present this at the July meeting made by Doug, second by Kim. Motion carried.

Video – board members viewed the draft version of the PSC/HOF video. Suggestions for changes included: name and position of the dignitaries captioned on the videos and an explanation of AIM on the screen (DV); future videos of AIM should have the instructor in a logo shirt from NASC (KH); we need to add Hall of Fame 2021 info. Process for the release will be to show a final version to PSC (Emily, once Mario finishes the edits). Emily will invite PSC (with help from Tom or Brad) to the July meeting to view the video and receive their plaque (Emily will contact PSC for a picture). Post-meeting we will disperse the video to link on PSC website, Brandi will look to Harder and Flora website links and CWA, Kim will reach out to CA Poultry to share.

Hall of Fame 2020 finances from the campaign included \$59,353.61 in net income. Quickbooks and Salsa are a match for the event! Kudos to Kelsey for her work on Salsa (and Mario for his video and website work).

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Finances – P&L for March 2021 and Balance sheet (including YTD) were reviewed. Emily reported the significant positive balance while working toward eventual repayment of CSUS for her salary. At this time they are covering through June 2021 with another year added to that. Reserves are still in the Norman Ross fund.

SCF Update-Colin was unable to attend the meeting but had a conversation with Marian Kaanon regarding the Credit Union funds and the confusion on the statements we were receiving. The fund is not our asset. SCF will carry the overall fund, even though it is an endowment, it is in trust there. We are designated as the recipient of the interest earned funds that should begin in July, 2021.

Truck-Brandi updated the board on the compliance issues with the truck. The 2003 engine is compliant through 12.31.21. We are currently not eligible for the exemption to the CARB board (under 1000 miles annually). We may be under that mileage for 2022 as schools do not have all the 2021-22 school COVID protocols in place. Craig proposed an idea for a second unit using a gooseneck trailer (est. \$25K) as opposed to a new engine (est. \$30-45K). This would be able to be pulled by a pickup. There are also a couple of replacement options through the SJARB including an incentive for someone with a 2010 or newer interested in moving up to electric or newer model who could sell to us (not a great option as its still a big truck expense for us).

Further discussion included discussion of approaching trucking companies to see about trucks/drivers moving forward with AIM scheduling. Tom, Doug, Adam, and Paul indicated they had contacts in trucking companies. Emily will put together an outline of AIM usage for a sub-committee on the truck and trucking.

Spring Programming

Food Safety-working on moving forward. Should have grant results in June/July.

B&GC, YEP- we received \$5K from B&GC to create a 12-week ag science program. Included curriculum, materials, and train the trainer days. Emily has applied for a Make Dreams Real (Boyett) grant to offer this same curricular program to a new nonprofit Youth Empowerment Program-focusing on at-risk youth in West Modesto. They have a donated garden space.

Faith Ranch/Stanislaus County Community Partners-Tom and Emily are working on some expansion ideas for the ranch. Tom spoke to his ongoing conversations with the family on the new ideas. SCOE has included the ranch as a destination field trip on the virtual field trips page with corresponding educational programming.

Summer/Fall Programming

AIM Emily talked about the logistics of addressing COVID protocols in the lab. We have one scheduled spring 2022 program-a new program location Career Inspiration Center – SCOE (Feb. 2022) being run through SCOE. 4 of our smaller districts (Hughson, Patterson, Ceres, and Denair) agreed to bring students to the CIC in lieu of their traditional visits from AIM.

III. No Other Business-meeting adjourned.