

*Reedley College Agriculture & Natural Resources Department*

**AGRICULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA**

November 15, 2021

Redwood Room, Reedley Community Center

- I. Dinner at 5:30 pm
- II. Call To Order
  - a. Welcome & Introductions
  - b. Review of Agenda
  - c. Membership Update
- III. Industry Updates
- IV. AGNR Department Update
  - a. COVID-19 Update
  - b. Mid-Winter Institute to be hosted by Reedley College
- V. Farm Manager Update
- VI. Individual Program Updates
  - a. Agriculture Business
  - b. Animal Science
  - c. Plant Science
  - d. Horticulture
  - e. Ag Projects Office
- VII. Curriculum
  - a. Ag Tech Pilot Program
  - b. Free Training Courses
  - c. Certificate of Achievement – Agriculture Education
- VIII. Key Dates
  - a. November 19: Collegiate Livestock Show at Porterville Fairgrounds
  - b. December 2-4: Mid-Winter Institute, hosted by Reedley College
  - c. January 22: Reedley College Mid-Winter FFA Field Day
  - d. April 2: Reedley College FFA Field Day
  - e. May 4: ABC Pinot & Pints Fund Raising Event @ McClarty Residence
- IX. Other Topics/Open Discussion
- X. Adjournment

**AGRICULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

November 15, 2021

Redwood Room, Reedley Community Center

Attendance: The following advisory committee members were in attendance (A sign-in sheet is attached).

Industry Representatives: Mark Thompson, Gil Awalt, John Gray, Gail Gray, Bob Herrick, Monte Person, Don Pfaff, Justin Price, David Botkin, Wayne Brandt, and Carl Buxman.

Administration: Dr. Jerry Buckley, Dale Van Dam, and David Clark

Community Volunteers: Sue Buckley

Faculty: David Lopes, Tim Smith, Desi Molyneux, and Nancy Gutierrez

I. Dinner

The meal was provided by Reedley Colleges Food Services and was available at 5:30 pm.

II. Call To Order

a. Welcome & Introductions

The meeting was called to order by David Lopes at 6:10 pm.

b. Review of Agenda

The topic 'College Update' was added to the agenda as item II, d.

c. Membership Update

No changes made.

d. College Update

President Dr. Jerry Buckley provided a Reedley College update. He discussed the status of the COVID pandemic impact. Most AGNR department courses have been held in the face-to-face format with no issues. As of November 15<sup>th</sup>, all Reedley College employees and students will be required to be vaccinated in order to come to campus. He also acknowledged the work of Nancy Gutierrez on the Agriculture Technician Contract Education program and a new workforce development grant.

III. Industry Updates

Several committee members gave reports on the status of their respective workforce fields.

Dr. John Gray reported that there is a huge shortage of veterinarians and veterinary technicians.

Bob Herrick reported on the state of the veterinary product development industry. He also expressed the need for college graduates to possess strong data management skills and to be familiar with common MS Office programs, especially MS Excel.

Wayne Brandt reported on the challenges and transitions occurring in the fruit packing industry. Food Safety remains a major topic of critical importance.

Monte Person noted the challenges of getting younger generations into production agriculture.

Dave Botkin discussed the contraction taking place in the fruit industry as well as the shift to new crops. There is a general decline in stone fruit acreage and an increase in crops like citrus, kiwis, and table grapes.

Gil Awalt reported that the cost of land has skyrocketed, with some farm land in the area selling for as high as \$44,000 per acre.

Mark Thompson reported that the Ag Finance sector is alive and well. There are numerous internship program and job opportunities for college graduates. Work ethic and communication skills were cited as two key attributes desired in new employees. A 4-year degree is preferable.

Carl Buxman discussed opportunities for avocado production in Central California.

#### IV. AGNR Department Update

##### a. COVID-19 Update

This topic was covered during the President's update.

##### b. Statewide Post-Secondary Mid-Winter Institute

Desi Molyneux is organizing this year's event which is being hosted by Reedley College. This annual event rotates to a different host site (a community college or university) each year. It is attended by approximately 75 educators and guests from across the state annually. The event includes industry tours, speakers, and business meetings. This is the 28<sup>th</sup> year that Reedley College has coordinated this event as part of the state grant project.

#### V. Farm Manager Update

David Lopes summarized the farm manager update provided by Ken Willet. The complete report is attached to these minutes.

## VI. Individual Program Updates

### a. Agriculture Business

David Lopes summarized the Agriculture Business update provided by Sam Rodriguez. The complete report is attached to these minutes.

### b. Animal Science

Desi Molyneux and David Lopes provided an Animal Science update. A complete report is attached to these minutes.

### c. Plant Science

Dr. Tim Smith reported that there are 60 students pursuing the Pest Control Advisor (PCA) program and 25 students pursuing the Plant Science Associate in Science Transfer degree. Seven courses are currently being offered, with some being taught by quality adjunct faculty. The campus winery continues to experiment with new varieties, including Chardonnay, Sangiovese, Blush, and Cabernet.

### d. Horticulture Program and Agriculture Technician Pilot Program

Nancy Gutierrez is now teaching 4 courses and reports that enrollment is good. She is working on upgrading the 2 existing greenhouses.

Nancy is also involved in the agriculture technician pilot program. Started 2 years ago from a Western Growers' Initiative, this effort involves input from various local growers. Nancy is the instructor for a new course entitled 'Fundamentals of the Fresh Fruit Industry' which involves guest speakers from industry as well as tours of various local packing plants and related entities. Sixteen students are enrolled in this course.

Western Growers hosted a conference Reedley College in August. This event brought together universities and colleges, farming and agricultural partners, and technology companies across California for a series of educational sessions on how to transition the agriculture workforce to master rapidly developing agricultural technology. Karen Ross, California Secretary of Food and Agriculture, was the keynote speaker.

A few non-credit courses are in the works. Some suggested topic areas of focus may include Famous (computer program used by many packing sheds), MS Excel, and Food Safety.

### e. Ag Projects Office

Nancy Gutierrez reported that the Ag Projects Office will be officially closed, effective the end of this semester. The State Chancellor's Office is going through a restructuring process and the grants which have funded this office for the past 28 years will no longer be available.

VII. Curriculum

a. Ag Tech Pilot Program

This topic was discussed during Nancy's report.

b. Free Training Courses

This topic was discussed during Nancy's report.

c. Certificate of Achievement – Agriculture Education

David Lopes reviewed a handout provided by Kevin Woodard pursuant to the development of a new Certificate of Achievement in Agricultural Education. The full document is attached to these minutes.

*Moved by Don Pfaff and seconded by Justin Price to approve support of the new Certificate of Achievement in Agricultural Education as outlined in the provided document. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.*

VIII. Key Dates

a. November 19: Collegiate Livestock Show at Porterville Fairgrounds

b. December 2-4: Mid-Winter Institute, hosted by Reedley College

c. January 22: Reedley College Mid-Winter FFA Field Day

d. April 2: Reedley College FFA Field Day

e. May 4: ABC Pinot & Pints Fund Raising Event @ McClarty Residence

IX. Other Topics/Open Discussion

a. Dr. Buckley reported that Reedley College defeated Fresno City College in the 'Battle for the Pump' football game for the first time in several years.

b. Sue Buckley commented on the qualities instilled in students (e.g. professionalism) through participation in the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association team.

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 pm.

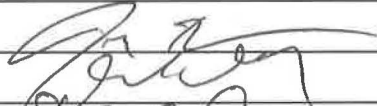
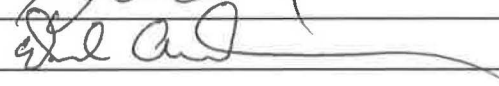

These minutes respectfully submitted by David M. Lopes



**Ag Advisory Committee  
Sign In Sheet 11-15-21**

<b>Representation</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Signature</b>
AG BUS	Tos	Randall	
AG BUS	Bishop	Cindy	
AG BUS	Conrad	Bill	
AG BUS	German	Steve	
AG BUS	Martin	Roy	
AG BUS	Sawatzky	Kyle	
AG BUS	Thompson	Mark	
AG BUS	Mann	Travis	
AS	Awalt	Gil	<i>Gil Awalt</i>
AS	Burke	Thomas	
AS	Clevenger	Marty	
AS	Gray	Gail & John	<i>John &amp; Gail Gray</i>
AS	Herrick	Bob	<i>Bob Herrick</i>
AS	Myers	C.J.	
AS	Person	Monte	<i>Monte Person</i>
AS	Pfaff	Don	<i>Don Pfaff</i>
AS	Williams	Chris	
AS	Price	Justin	<i>Justin Price</i>
AS	O'Bannon	Dr. Gayle	
AS	Rocca	Dr. Steve	
PS	Berry	Fred	
PS	Botkin	Dave & Rebecca	<i>Dave &amp; Rebecca Botkin</i>
PS	Brandt	Wayne	<i>Wayne Brandt</i>
PS	Buxman	Carl	<i>Carl Buxman</i>
PS	Parkinson	Sheri & Ty	
PS	Taff	Charlie & Joan	
STAFF-AgBUS/PS/AS	Deftereos	Nick	
STAFF-AgBUS/PS/AS	Lopes	Dave	<i>Dave Lopes</i>
STAFF-AgBUS/PS/AS	Smith	Tim	<i>Tim Smith</i>
STAFF-AgBUS/PS/AS	Woodard	Kevin	
STAFF-AgBUS/PS/AS	Rodriguez	Sam	
STAFF-AgBUS/PS/AS	Molyneux	Desi	<i>Desi Molyneux</i>
STAFF-AgBUS/PS/AS	Gutierrez	Nancy	<i>Nancy Gutierrez</i>

**Ag Advisory Committee  
Sign In Sheet 11-15-21**

<b>Representation</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>First Name</b>	<b>Signature</b>
ADJUNCT STAFF-AS	Dodds	Bodi	
ADJUNCT STAFF-AS	Holt	Danielle	
ADJUNCT STAFF-PS	Maddox	Ann Marie	
ADJUNCT STAFF-AS	O'Bannon	Clyde	
ADJUNCT STAFF-AS	Suggs	Kameron	
ADJUNCT STAFF-AS	Valor	Ashley	
ADMIN-AgBUS/PS/AS	Buckley	Dr. Jerry	
ADMIN-AgBUS/PS/AS	Clark	David	
ADMIN-AgBUS/PS/AS	van Dam	Dale	
STAFF-AgBUS/PS/AS	Willet	Kenneth	
Volunteer	Buckley	Sue	

Dave,

Few things on farm side:

Moonlight lease has reduced by 30 acres. Looking into developing a 20 acre piece of land focusing on irrigation technology and automation. Hoping to break this leased 20 acre block into four segments of 5 acres each, so that the harvest automation research as was previously discussed can be implemented upon. [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#)

Farm projects that are in the works, perimeter fencing on oak grove pasture to reestablish seasonal grazing.

Fenced area for livestock trailers at new animal science expansion area.

DG for lanes of animal science expansion area.

Irrigation line replacement for plant science south block. Concrete failing in many places.

Working on trying to get a new 3.5 acre block of pistachios put in.

Irrigation set up for new planting of pistachios.

Immediate things taken care of now by staff:

Fair this week for animal science! Lot of trips taking livestock and equipment back and for the for the students! Should be a good show!

Olive harvest coming up in next week or two.

On a sad note, farm staff is back down to three technicians from the four that we had.



New pump that was supposed to go in on November 8<sup>th</sup> is in works, have not heard back from district construction services as to why work has not yet started.

Animal science expansion block made some headway this past summer, nearly all of the perimeter fencing was completed with exception of bottom rung of pipe and field fence attached. When new pump is in place, need to get water infrastructure set up for this piece of land, existing water service could not keep up or be reliable source as it is now.

Thank you,

Kenneth Willet  
Farm Manager  
Reedley College  
[kenneth.willet@reedleycollege.edu](mailto:kenneth.willet@reedleycollege.edu)  
Cell 559-575-6921  
Office 559-637-2539



### Ag Business update1

The Ag Business faculty Kevin Woodard and Dr. Sam Rodriguez are keeping busy with virtual and in person classroom visitations and career days. Faculty attended the Woodlake HS career day in October. This month they attended the Kings County Career Connection and did class room visits and Earl F Johnson HS, Hanford HS, and the Kings County community school.

Ag Business has prepared to be as flexible as possible for AGNR students to enroll in AGBS courses either online or in-person. We will using a blended model that is two way interactive using the new OWL technology that allows students to take courses online live and interact with the rest of the student who are taking the class in person. We believe this format will give our student enough flexibility to continue their degree while navigating current COVID protocols.

## ANIMAL SCIENCE UPDATE

11/15/21

- Staffing

- Full-Time Faculty Teaching Animal Science Courses:
  - Desi Molyneux & David Lopes
  - Kevin Woodard teaches Meat Science & Technology
- Adjunct Instructors: Clyde "Tug" O'Bannon, Ashley Valor, Bode Dodds, & Kameron Suggs
- Farm Manager: Ken Willit
- Farm Technician: Steve Dias (new since last meeting)

- Facility Improvement Projects (Current Year or Ongoing)

- Animal Science Facility Expansion Project
- Pavilion Paneling, Tie Ring, and Arena Footing

- Major Equipment Acquisitions

- Cattle handling system to include a working chute, scale, lanes, and tub.
- Electric Horse Hot Walker
- Farrowing Crates

- Student Events & Activities

- September 24: Dinuba Bull Sale. Two bulls were entered and sold. Due to the drought, the sale was very limited this year.
- November 6 & 7: IHSA Horse Show Team Competitions at COS Campus Equestrian Facility in Tulare. RC finished 3<sup>rd</sup> all three contests. Took 10 horses.
- November 13: 7<sup>th</sup> Annual RCAS Club Calf Sale. This is an activity of the AS 40 – Livestock Exhibition & Marketing Course. The format for this year's sale included Facebook promotion with a phone-in bid process. 15 of 20 lots were sold. Seven breeders provided calves. Calves purchased from the November 2020 sale did well at various shows throughout the state.
- November 19: California Collegiate Livestock Show at the Porterville Fairgrounds. Thirty students have entered 19 beef cattle, 6 sheep, 5 meat goats, and 12 swine.

- Livestock & Equine Herds

- The quality of the livestock and equine herds continues to improve.
  - The horse herd consists of 20 animals (some owned and some borrowed). Some high quality donations have recently been made.
  - Estes Club Lambs has donated an awesome ram for the sheep flock.
  - Pigs purchased from Reedley College have been very competitive in various youth livestock shows (e.g. 2 breed champions and 2 reserve breed champions at Fresno Fair).

- Calves sold in last year's RCAS Club Calf Sale were also very competitive in some of this year's summer and fall shows (e.g. Champion AOC steer at Fresno Fair).
- Three embryo transfer calves were born this fall (3 calves out of 3 embryos implanted, a 100% success rate). The embryos were purchased from Coleman Angus, a very reputable breeder in Montana. Plans are to implant 3 more embryos into recipient cows this December.
- In addition, a 100% conception rate on fall cattle AI was realized (5 calves resulting from 5 cows inseminated).

- **Key Program Goals**

- Address the needs of disproportionately impacted (DI) populations identified in the agriculture program review data report.
- Continue working toward a complete set of secure, functional, & low maintenance livestock and equine facilities. Desired facility improvements include:
  - New Cattle Chute & Handling System
  - Pavilion Improvements: Roof, Arena Paneling, Tie Ring System
  - Concrete floor in hay barn
  - Commodity Storage Barn
  - Sheep & Goat Barn
  - Competition size horse arena
  - Additional pasture enclosures
  - Trailer & Equipment Parking Area
  - Security Cameras

## Certificate of Achievement – Agriculture Education

### **Credential Description**

This certificate program is designed for students with a career goal of becoming an agriculture teacher and choose to acquire associate degrees in other areas of agriculture. Certificate program that allows students to focus on their current degree program while increasing their breadth of experience in agriculture. Students will participate in program planning, community outreach and student recruitment activities. Students will meet the Orientation in Agricultural Education required by universities by observing agriculture classrooms at local secondary school sites. Upon graduation from Reedley College, these students will transfer to university offering undergraduate degrees in Agriculture Education.

### **Credential Justification**

Currently, Reedley College offers an AS Degree in Agriculture Education. Since this degree program was initiated we have found that the majority of students interested in becoming agriculture educators have declared majors within specific agriculture disciplines. Although Agriculture Education is a single subject credential program at the university level, it encompasses all disciplines within the agriculture field (Ag Business, Animal Science, Plant Science, Natural Resources/Forestry, Mechanized Agriculture). The objective of this certificate is to allow students with an interest in becoming an agriculture teacher, experience the secondary agriculture classroom through our AGED-50 course (Orientation in Agriculture Education) which meets the university of California requirement for

forty-five hours of classroom observation and participate in leadership development through the AGBS-8 (Agriculture and Natural Resources Ambassadors) course. Additionally, students must complete a minimum of nine (9) semester units of instruction from one (1) of the five (5) agriculture pathway disciplines.

### **Courses**

AG EDUCATION CORE – (6 Units)

AGED 50 – Orientation in Agriculture Education (45 hours of observation in the Secondary Agriculture Classroom)

AGBS 8 – Agriculture and Natural Resources Ambassadors

AG ED SPECIALIZATION – (9 Units from ONE of the following areas)

Animal Science

Ag Business

Plant and Soil Science

Mechanized Agriculture

Forestry and Natural Resources