



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Pete Dodson

Bruce Merrilees

Bill Oldham

David Weiss

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Debra Sommerfield

**Lake County Winegrape Commission
Board of Directors'
Meeting Minutes
October 31, 2017, 3:00 p.m.
Lake County Winegrape Commission
3865 Main Street, Kelseyville, CA 95451**

1. Chair Jonathan Walters called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. Board Members present: Jonathan Walters, Broc Zoller, Keith Brandt, Pete Dodson, Bruce Merrilees, Bill Oldham, David Weiss; Absent: Bonnie Sears. Also present: Debra Sommerfield, President; Ben Kardokus, CDFA Economist (via phone).
2. Minutes from the August 1, 2017, Board Meeting (*Motion #1, Zoller/Oldham, 7-0-1*) were approved with one addition to Item 3 to add the word "Symposium" so it reads: "...the International Sauvignon Blanc Symposium planned for May 4-5, 2018."
3. Chair Walters led the Board in a Harvest Roundtable Discussion. Discussion covered yields, prices, labor, and weather. Cabernet Sauvignon yields may be slightly up from last year while Sauvignon Blanc yields are likely slightly down from last year. Some indicated increase in prices. Labor was stretched particularly during the first half of September while grapes were ready and pears were still being picked. Heat over Labor Day scorched some areas of canopy; that, followed by the early freeze caused some to have concern over the potential impact to next year's crop.
4. Chair Walters led the Board in a discussion about the impacts of the North Bay wildfires. Board members discussed the widespread impacts and recalled the support Napa and Sonoma industry gave to Lake after the Valley Fire. Board discussed a possible donation – and/or matching fund – for donation to Redwood Credit Union as that fund covers relief across Napa, Sonoma, Mendocino, and Lake. Board considered up to \$10,000 in matching funds, perhaps to be administered by NCO, and directed staff to consult LCWC counsel. CDFA Economist Kardokus agreed that we should consult counsel.
5. Chair Walters and President Sommerfield provided a summary of the successful grant-funded outreach events at TEXSOM in Dallas in August, and discussed plans for participation in SommCon and the San Diego Bay Wine + Food Festival in November. Chair Walters briefly discussed the program for the International Sauvignon Blanc Symposium for May 4-5, 2018.
6. Research and Education Committee Chair Zoller mentioned the upcoming Master Vigneron Academy Graduation to be held on November 4. Chair Sommerfield provided a reminder as a call for attendees for the Agricultural Labor Management Seminar on November 6-7.
7. Chair Walters stepped the Board through Q1 2017-18 financials for LCWC and CDFA grant programs, which the Board approved as presented. (*Motion #2, Dodson/Oldham, 7-0-1*)

8. Board Members reviewed documents to renew the line of credit and approved accepting and executing the document and authorizing Chair Walters and President Sommerfield as signatories. (*Motion #3, Weiss/Brandt, 7-0-1*)
9. Board Member Weiss provided an update on the latest appointments to the California Association of Winegrape Growers (CAWG) Board of Directors, stating that with the new members seated this year, the CAWG Board currently does not have a Lake County representative. He mentioned the need to come up with a strategy to get a Lake County representative on the next cycle.
10. Consultant Terry Dereniuk made a special presentation to the Board to update them on the status of the AVA application process for the proposed Elk Mountain Valley AVA and for the Long Valley area.
11. Next meetings scheduled for December 5, 2017, at 4:00 p.m.
12. Meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

**Lake County Winegrape Commission
AB 2720 Roll Call Vote Tally**

| Board Members | Motion #1 | Motion #2 | Motion #3 |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Jonathan Walters, <i>Chair</i> | Aye | Aye | Aye |
| Broc Zoller, <i>Vice Chair</i> | Aye | Aye | Aye |
| Bonnie Sears, <i>Secretary-Treasurer</i> | Absent | Absent | Absent |
| Keith Brandt | Aye | Aye | Aye |
| Pete Dodson | Aye | Aye | Aye |
| Bruce Merrilees | Aye | Aye | Aye |
| Bill Oldham | Aye | Aye | Aye |
| David Weiss | Aye | Aye | Aye |
| FINAL TALLY | 7-0-1 | 7-0-1 | 7-0-1 |

Respectfully submitted,



Debra Sommerfield, President, Lake County Winegrape Commission