

CALIFORNIA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

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JOINT AG & FOOD POLICY/ TAX & CREDIT COMMITTEE

103rd Annual CCA/CCW Convention

Peppermill Resort, Reno, NV

Tuscany 6

Thursday, December 5, 2019

2:00–4:00 p.m.

Meeting called to order by Ag & Food Policy Chair Ramsey Wood at 2:10 p.m.

Holly Foster moved that the Joint Ag & Food Policy, Cattle Marketing and International Trade, and Tax & Credit Committee minutes of the 2019 CCA/CCW Midyear Meeting be approved as presented. Jake Parnell seconded, motion passed.

Jason Bryant of Bryant Government Affairs provided an update on two upcoming ballot measures, Initiative 17-0055 and Initiative 19-0008, with potential impacts to Proposition 13's property tax provisions. Of interest to cattlemen is the particular provision that specifies that if a producer's agricultural buildings on commercial or industrial property value over \$3 million combined, the property may be reassessed at fair market value yearly for the purpose of taxation. Bryant will continue to keep the group updated on any movements of the ballot measures.

John Suther, Branch Chief of the Bureau of Livestock Identification, gave a year-end update on Bureau staffing, budget, brand registration, and livestock theft in 2019. Of particular note was the increase in law enforcement trainings held, with 40 participants from various law enforcement agencies across the state participating in educational trainings regarding cattle ownership, documentation, and transportation.

Justin Oldfield, Executive Director of the California Cattle Council, gave a transportation update. He reminded everyone that the 26,000-pound GVWR Class A driver's license exemption is for agricultural purposes only and does not include other activities such as hauling horses to a rodeo. This has been an ongoing issue with California Highway Patrol according to Oldfield.

Kevin Kester, Immediate Past President of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, updated the committee on the Real MEAT Act to combat mislabeling of plant-based products as "meat." Supported by NCBA, if passed, this legislation would protect the definition of meat and meat products. Kester also mentioned NCBA's efforts to see updates to estate tax regulations that would increase general exemption amounts.

With speaker presentations concluded, Ag & Food Policy Chair Ramsey Wood opened the floor for policy review, beginning with Ag & Food Policy resolutions.

Greg Kuck moved to readopt Resolution 14-01 "Transportation: Hazardous Material Certification Program" as amended by CCA staff. Jess Dancer seconded, motion passed.

Dave Daley moved to readopt Resolution 14-02 “U.S. Drought Monitor” as amended by CCA staff. Holly Foster seconded, motion passed.

Jake Parnell moved to readopt Resolution 14-03 “Winterizing Biodiesel” as amended by CCA staff. David Forster seconded, motion passed.

David Forster moved to readopt Resolution 14-04 “Opposition to the Registration of Firearms” as amended by staff. Sharon Erickson seconded, motion passed.

Jess Dancer moved to adopt a new staff directive titled “Real MEAT Act,” directing “that the California Cattlemen’s Association support the efforts of the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association to ensure passage of the Real MEAT Act.” Greg Kuck seconded, motion passed.

David Forster moved to readopt as amended Staff Directive “Coordinate Drought Monitor Reporting.” Mike McCluskey seconded, motion passed.

Dave Daley moved to readopt as amended Staff Directive “Split Speed Limit.” Jess Dancer seconded, motion passed.

With all business of the Ag and Food Policy Committee attended to, Tax & Credit Chair Jill Heely opened the floor to Tax & Credit policy review.

David Forster moved to readopt 14-01 “Income Tax Accounting Policies” and 14-02 “Benefit Assessments” as amended and to readopt 14-03 “Two Thirds Rule,” 14-04 “Land Based Taxes and Farm Security Zones,” and 14-05 “California Inheritance Tax” as written. David Cowley seconded, motion passed.

Tax & Credit Chair Jill Heely adjourned the meeting at 3:29 p.m.