

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
AGRICULTURAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Conference Room
915 Capitol Mall
Sacramento, CA 95814

January 24, 2001

Time - 10:00 a.m.
Members Present - Chairwoman Shiroma; Board Members Barrios
and Mason.
Staff Present - Executive Secretary Barbosa; Board
Counsel Levy, Wender and Starkey; Chief
of Administration Arviso; Analyst Massie;
Board Staff Torres.
Others Present - General Counsel Turner
Absent - Member Richardson

OPEN SESSION

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** -The Board approved the minutes for
December 20, 2000, 3-0.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT.** None.
3. **GENERAL COUNSEL COMMENT.** Data for the Assembly
Oversight Committee will be submitted to the Board for
review. Noel Zuniga has been hired as a field examiner
in the Visalia regional office.
4. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENT.** None.
5. **WEEKLY STATUS REPORT ON ELECTIONS, UNFAIR LABOR
PRACTICE COMPLAINTS, HEARINGS AND COURT LITIGATION.**

ELECTIONS REPORT:

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO TAKE ACCESS and NOTICE OF
INTENT TO ORGANIZE** - No new filings reported.

COMPLAINT REPORT:

No new complaints issued.

One prehearing conference held:

Cieniga Farms, Inc. 00-CE-334-EC(SM)
Prehearing conference held January 23
Hearing scheduled January 31.

Three cases have been set for hearing:

Rancho Valnies, 00-CE-32-EC
Prehearing Conference, March 6
Hearing, March 27.

Ventura Coastal Corporation, 00-CE-31-EC
Prehearing Conference, March 6
Hearing, March 27.

Desert Citrus Properties, Inc., 00-CE-30-EC
Prehearing Conference, March 6
Hearing, March 27.

A motion to consolidate complaints and set hearing on six complaints is pending ruling by the Executive Secretary.

Coastal Berry Complaints:

99-CE-135-EC(OX); 99-CE-136-EC(OX);
99-CE-140-EC(OX); 99-CE-154-EC(OX);
99-CE-163-EC(OX); 00-CE-284-EC(OX).

The Chief Administrative Law Judge issued rulings in three cases:

Gilbert Gomez, 00-CE-285-EC
Bertha Gomez, 00-CE-307-EC

In separate rulings, the ALJ granted in part and denied in part the General Counsel's motion for an order deeming the allegations of the complaint against the employer to be true and for an order against the employer on the grounds the employer did not file an answer to the complaint. (January 22)

Pictsweet Mushrooms Farms, 00-CE-7-EC(OX)
The ALJ denied the employer's motion to strike portions of complaint for lack of specificity. (January 22)

One hearing is in progress:

Wilgenburg Dairy, 98-CE-59-VI
Hearing in progress.

No cases are pending exceptions and/or reply.

Seven cases are on calendar:

January	1
February	2
March	3

BOARD DECISIONS: The Board's decision in *John V. Borchard, et al.*, 27 ALRB No. 1, issued yesterday.

COURT LITIGATION: No changes.

6. BUDGET AND ADMINISTRATION.

- (a) **Board Regulations:** A telephone conference with the Regional Directors is scheduled for January 25 at 10:00 a.m. The Executive Secretary reported that informational material concerning suggestions for regulations was circulated to the Board and faxed to the regional directors yesterday for review and comment. The rulemaking calendar is due January 31. Member Mason will serve as the Board lead in this area.
- (b) **Information Technology and Web Site Development Project:** Reporting on improvements to the ALRB web site, Analyst Massie noted that search tables have been created to facilitate access to ALRB published decisions. Also, a dedicated area of the web page contains Spanish language information and educational materials. Chief of Administration Arviso reported that a regular maintenance schedule for the server is being set up with the vendor. She also noted that Jim Winston has been assigned to respond to a survey

from the Department of Information Technology (DOIT).

- (c) **Administration** - After discussion, the Board approved for Board members and staff the voluntary use of the American Express corporate account credit card for travel expenses. Ms. Arviso reported that the agency is taking steps to be responsive to energy saving requirements. She also noted that she is working on updating the emergency response plan and building security issues. Jim Winston has circulated the annual statement of economic interests, form 700, which is due March 30.
- (d) **Strategic Plan - Update:** The agency's needs assessment report, as revised, is to be submitted to the Legislature this week. The Board discussed follow up to recommended action items in the report. After discussion, the Board agreed to have the General Counsel initiate contact with a One-Stop center in the Napa area. A written request for budget augmentation and supporting workload data are due to the Department of Finance by February 14.
- (e) **Regional Directors Quarterly Meeting - Conference Call re: Regulations:** Discussed above, under Board Regulations.

- 7. **OUTREACH PROJECT.** Discussed in connection with Strategic Planning, above.
- 8. **LEGISLATION.** No updates to report for this meeting.
- 9. **ANNOUNCEMENTS.** None.
- 10. **PERSONNEL.** Business Officer interviews were conducted yesterday. Job announcements for Board Counsel positions are being developed.
- 11. **FUTURE AGENDA REVIEW.** The next regular meeting of the Board is re-set from February 7 to February 6, 11 a.m.

PUBLIC MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 12:10 p.m.

WHEREUPON THE BOARD ENTERED INTO CLOSED SESSION.