

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
AGRICULTURAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD**

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**Board Conference Room
915 Capitol Mall
Sacramento, CA 95814**

August 8, 2001

Time: 10:00 a.m.
Members Present: Chairwoman Shiroma, Board Members Ramos-Richardson and Barrios.
Staff Present: Board Counsel Murray, Heyck, Levy, Wender, and Starkey, Chief of Administration Arviso, Analyst Massie, Legal Intern Tamashiro.
Others Present: Chief Administrative Law Judge Sobel.
Absent: Board Member Mason, Executive Secretary Barbosa.

OPEN SESSION

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Approval of minutes tabled, pending opportunity for additional review.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.
3. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENT:** None.
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

San Francisco Bay Area Labor Law Conference, September 14, 2001.
Oakland. Board members and Board counsel are encouraged to attend.

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.

Wilgenburg Dairy Farm, 01-RC-1-VI

Election held February 2, 2001.

Tally:

FFVW 1096	8
No Union	25
UCBs	<u>24</u>
Total	57

The Regional Director issued his Report on Challenged Ballots June 1, 2001. Neither party filed exceptions to the report, which became final on June 14, 2001. The Regional Director has scheduled the opening and counting of the ballots for August 14, 2001. The Executive Secretary will issue his ruling on the objections following conclusion of the challenged ballot proceedings.

United Farm Workers

(Excelsior Farms & Warmerdam Packing Co.), 01-UC-1-VI

The UFW filed a unit clarification (UC) petition on May 18, 2001, with the Visalia Regional Office seeking to clarify and/or amend the Board's certification in 94-RC-3-VI. The matter is under investigation and is pending the Regional Director's unit clarification report.

COMPLAINT REPORT:

Three cases on calendar:

California Redi-Date, Inc., 00-CE-25-EC

Pre-hearing August 14, 2001

Hearing August 28, 2001.

The Elmore Company, 00-CE306-EC

Backpay specification issued, consolidated with complaint July 16, 2001

Pre-hearing August 17, 2001

Hearing September 11, 2001.

Grewal Enterprises, Inc., 98-CE-162-EC

Pre-hearing August 21, 2001

Hearing September 25, 2001.

SETTLEMENTS:

Los Altos Farms, 00-CE-09-SAL, et al.

Informal settlement agreement obtained July 31, 2001.

BOARD DECISIONS: None.

COURT LITIGATION:

Coastal Berry Company, H021585 (26 ALRB No. 3)

The Petitioner has requested oral argument by telephone conference.

COMPLIANCE: No new activity.

6. BUDGET AND ADMINISTRATION:

(a) **Information Technology and Web Site Development Project:** Analyst Massie noted that the Subsequent History Table, which updates the case decisions, has been posted to the ALRB web page. Ms. Massie reported that T1 line installation is ongoing. She also noted that she will be giving new staff an overview of the Intranet.

(b) Administration:

1) Budget—Update:

Chief of Administration Arviso distributed a summary of the current year budget.

Chairwoman Shiroma informed the Board concerning a budget letter from the Department of Finance that requests alternative proposals to accomplish 3%, 5%, and 10% reductions in overall General Fund spending. For the current year, a 2.5% reduction is required. Chairwoman Shiroma, Board Member Mason, General Counsel Turner, and Chief of Administration Arviso will meet to draft a response.

Chairwoman Shiroma reported that General Counsel Turner has requested that funding for outreach be transferred to the Board's budget. The Board accepted General Counsel Turner's proposal.

Board Member Barrios suggested that the Board and General Counsel meet to discuss expediting travel reimbursement payments to the regional office employees.

2) BCP—Update: Chairwoman Shiroma discussed a proposed work plan for meeting a September 13, 2001, deadline for submission of the budget change proposal (BCP) request to the Department of Finance.

3) Interpreters Contract—Update: Judge Sobel reported on the bid results for interpreter services. After discussion, the Board tabled action pending additional information from Chief of Administration Arviso about the bid process.

Other Matters: State police (CHP) will conduct a walk through at the

headquarters office on September 11, 2001, to inform the Board about safety measures for staff. CHP emergency call buttons are being installed on staff phones.

- (c) **Needs Assessment Report--Update:** Board Counsel Starkey distributed the revised work plan for action items identified in the Needs Assessment Report.

- 7. **OUTREACH PROJECT:** Member Barrios noted receipt of correspondence received from representatives of the United Farm Workers (UFW) concerning suggestions for revisions and additions to the ALRB's community education brochures. A copy of the correspondence is to be circulated. Chairwoman Shiroma and Member Barrios will respond to the correspondence. Members Ramos-Richardson and Barrios to review the current ALRB materials in view of the suggested revisions.

Member Ramos-Richardson reported that work is continuing on the Spanish translation of the information pamphlets.

The Board tabled discussion of creation of an external advisory committee for outreach for a future meeting.

- 8. **LEGISLATION:** Board Counsel Wender stated that there were no significant changes concerning legislation being monitored. The Board generally discussed AB 471, relative to labor relations for backstretch employees.

9. **PERSONNEL:**

(a) **Board Counsel IV—Update:** The Department of Personnel Administration (DPA) has not provided a written response to the Board's request for authorization to hire at the Board Counsel IV level. Chairwoman Shiroma will contact DPA.

- 10. **FUTURE AGENDA REVIEW:** None.

PUBLIC MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 10:55 a.m.

WHEREUPON THE BOARD ENTERED INTO CLOSED SESSION.