



# Solano County

675 Texas Street  
Fairfield, California 94533  
www.solanocounty.com

## Minutes - Final Board of Supervisors

*Erin Hannigan (Dist. 1), Chairwoman  
(707) 553-5363*

*John M. Vasquez (Dist. 4), Vice-Chair  
(707) 784-6129*

*Linda J. Seifert (Dist. 2)  
(707) 784-3031*

*James P. Spering (Dist. 3)  
(707) 784-6136*

*Skip Thomson (Dist. 5)  
(707) 784-6130*

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Tuesday, April 7, 2015

8:30 AM

Board of Supervisors Chambers

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### CALL TO ORDER - 8:30 a.m.

*The Solano County Board of Supervisors met on the 7th day of April 2015 in regular session in the Board of Supervisors' Chambers at the Solano County Government Center, 675 Texas Street, Fairfield, California at 8:30 a.m. Present were Supervisors Seifert, Spering, Thomson, Vasquez and Chairwoman Hannigan. Chairwoman Hannigan presided. Also present were County Administrator Birgitta E. Corsello and County Counsel Dennis Bunting.*

### ROLL CALL

**Present** 5 - John M. Vasquez, Erin Hannigan, Linda J. Seifert, James P. Spering and Skip Thomson

### CLOSED SESSION

*The Solano County Board of Supervisors recessed to Closed Session at 8:31 a.m. to discuss the following matters:*

1      [15-0271](#)      Conference with Labor Negotiators:

Solano County representatives: Marc Fox, Jeannine Seher, Don Turko, Georgia Cochran, Birgitta E. Corsello, and Nancy Huston. Employee organizations: Teamsters, Local 150 for Unit 1 (Attorneys); SEIU Local 1021 for Unit 2 (Nurses), Unit 5 (Health and Welfare Employees), Unit 7 (Regulatory, Technical and General Services Employees), Unit 8 (General Services Supervisors), Unit 9 (Clerical Employees) and Units 82, 87, 89, and 90 (Extra Help Employees); Solano County Deputy Sheriff's Association for Unit 3 (Law Enforcement Employees) and Unit 4 (Law Enforcement Supervisors); Public Employees Union, Local One for Unit 6 (Health and Welfare Supervisors) and Unit 16 (Mid-Management Employees); Stationary Engineers, Local 39 for Unit 10 (Skilled Craft and Service Maintenance)

Employees); Union of American Physicians and Dentists for Unit 11 (Physicians, Dentists and Psychiatrists); Solano County Probation Peace Officer Association for Unit 12 (Probation Employees) and Unit 15 (Probation Supervisors); Solano County Sheriff's Custody Association for Unit 13 (Correctional Officers); Teamsters, Local 856 for Unit 14 (Correctional Supervisors); Solano County Law Enforcement Management Association for Unit 17 (Law Enforcement Management) and Unit 18 (Sheriff's Office Management); Professional and Technical Engineers, Local 21 for Unit 19 (Executive and Senior Management); and unrepresented employees

In-Home Supportive Services Authority representative: Marc Fox, Gerald Huber and Birgitta E. Corsello. Employee organization: SEIU United Long Term Care Workers, Local 6434

Attachments:     [A - Memorandum](#)

## RECONVENE

*This meeting of the Solano County Board of Supervisors reconvened at 9:04 a.m. All members were present and Chairwoman Hannigan presided.*

## REPORT OF ACTION IN CLOSED SESSION (IF APPLICABLE)

*County Counsel Dennis Bunting advised that there were no reports from Closed Session.*

## SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND A MOMENT OF SILENCE

*This meeting of the Solano County Board of Supervisors continued with the Salute to the Flag and a Moment of Silence.*

## PRESENTATIONS

- 2     [15-0241](#)     Adopt and present a resolution welcoming Colonel Joel D. Jackson back to Solano County in his new role as Commander of the 60th Air Mobility Wing, Travis Air Force Base (Supervisor Thomson)

Attachments:     [Resolution](#)  
                          [Adopted Resolution](#)  
                          [Minute Order](#)

**On motion of Supervisor Thomson, seconded by Supervisor Seifert, the Board adopted and presented Resolution No. 2015-38 welcoming Colonel Joel D. Jackson Commander of the 60th Air Mobility Wing, Travis Air Force Base. So ordered by 5-0 vote. (see Resolution Book)**

**Enactment No: Resolution 2015-38**

- 3**      [15-0249](#)      Adopt and present a resolution recognizing David Okita for 25 years of service as the General Manager of the Solano County Water Agency (Supervisor Spering)
- Attachments:*      [A - Resolution](#)  
                                 [Adopted Resolution](#)  
                                 [Minute Order](#)
- On motion of Supervisor Seifert, seconded by Supervisor Vasquez, the Board adopted and presented Resolution No. 2015-39 recognizing David Okita for 25 years of service on the occasion of his retirement from the Solano County Water Agency. So ordered by 5-0 vote. (see Resolution Book)**
- Enactment No: Resolution 2015-39**
- 4**      [15-0251](#)      Adopt and present a resolution proclaiming April 9, 2015 as "Stand Up for Transportation Day" in Solano County (Supervisor Spering)
- Attachments:*      [A - Resolution](#)  
                                 [Adopted Resolution](#)  
                                 [Minute Order](#)
- On motion of Supervisor Spering, seconded by Supervisor Vasquez, the Board adopted and presented Resolution No. 2015-40 proclaiming April 9, 2015 as "Stand Up for Transportation Day" in Solano County. So ordered by 5-0 vote. (see Resolution Book)**
- Enactment No: Resolution 2015-40**
- 5**      [15-0158](#)      Adopt and present a resolution recognizing April 2015 as National County Government Month in Solano County (Chairwoman Hannigan)
- Attachments:*      [A - Resolution](#)  
                                 [Adopted Resolution](#)  
                                 [Minute Order](#)
- On motion of Supervisor Seifert, seconded by Supervisor Thomson, the Board adopted and presented Resolution No. 2015-41 designating the month of April 2015 as National County Government Month in Solano County. (see Resolution Book)**
- Enactment No: Resolution 2015-41**
- 6**      [15-0217](#)      Adopt and present a resolution recognizing April 6-12, 2015 as Public Health Week in Solano County (Supervisor Seifert)
- Attachments:*      [A - Resolution](#)  
                                 [Adopted Resolution](#)  
                                 [Minute Order](#)
- On motion of Supervisor Seifert, seconded by Supervisor Vasquez, the Board adopted and presented Resolution No. 2015-42 declaring April 6-12, 2015 as Solano County Public Health Week. So ordered by 5-0 vote. (see Resolution Book)**
- Enactment No: Resolution 2015-42**

- 7        [15-0267](#)        Adopt and present a resolution recognizing April 18, 2015 as "March for Babies Day" in Solano County (Supervisor Vasquez)

*Attachments:*        [A - Resolution](#)  
                              [Adopted Resolution](#)  
                              [Minute Order](#)

**On motion of Supervisor Vasquez, seconded by Supervisor Spering, the Board adopted and presented Resolution No. 2015-43 recognizing April 18, 2015 as "March for Babies" Day. So ordered by 5-0 vote. (see Resolution Book)**

**Enactment No: Resolution 2015-43**

- 8        [15-0266](#)        Adopt and present resolutions proclaiming April 2015 as "Children's Month" to commemorate observances for children during the month of April

*Attachments:*        [A - Children's Month Resolution](#)  
                              [B - Child Abuse Prevention Resolution](#)  
                              [C - Light of Hope/Memorial Flag Day Resolution](#)  
                              [D - National Library Week Resolution](#)  
                              [E - Month of the Military Child Resolution](#)  
                              [Adopted Resolution - Children's Month](#)  
                              [Adopted Resolution - Child Abuse Prevention](#)  
                              [Adopted Resolution - Light of Hope/Memorial Flag Day](#)  
                              [Adopted Resolution - National Library Week](#)  
                              [Adopted Resolution - Month of the Military Child](#)  
                              [Minute Order](#)

**On motion of Supervisor Vasquez, seconded by Supervisor Spering, the Board adopted and presented Resolution No. 2015-44 proclaiming April 2015 as "Children's Month" in Solano County; Resolution 2015-45 recognizing April 2015 as Child Abuse Prevention Month and supporting the Solano Children's Alliance Blue Ribbon Campaign; Resolution 2015-46 recognizing Children's Light of Hope Day (April 24) and Children's Memorial Flag Day (April 24); Resolution 2015-47 recognizing April 12-18, 2015 as National Library Week and April 30, 2015 as El Dia de los Niños/El Dia de los Libros (Children's Day/Children's Book Day); and Resolution 2015-48 recognizing April 2015 as Month of the Military Child. So ordered by 5-0 vote. (see Resolution Book)**

**Enactment No: Resolution 2015-44 through Resolution 2015-48**

## ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

*Chairwoman Hannigan invited members of the public to address the Board on matters not listed on the agenda but within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. The following comments were received:*

*A) George Guynn, Jr., Suisun City, commented on management of taxes and a hearing later in the day at the courthouse.*

## ADDITIONS TO OR DELETIONS FROM THE AGENDA

*There were no additions to or deletions from the Solano County Board of Supervisors' agenda for April 7, 2015.*

## APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

On motion of Supervisor Seifert, seconded by Supervisor Vasquez, the Board approved the agenda of the Solano County Board of Supervisors for April 7, 2015 as submitted. So ordered by 5-0 vote.

## PUBLIC COMMENT ON CONSENT CALENDAR

*Chairwoman Hannigan invited members of the public to address the Board on items listed on the Consent Calendar. The following comments were received:*

*A) Linda Flener, Fairfield, commented on Item 10 regarding the Carrots, Careers and Care Packages Group.*

## APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR

On motion of Supervisor Seifert, seconded by Supervisor Vasquez, the Board approved the following Consent Calendar items by 5-0 vote.

## CONSENT CALENDAR

- 9**      [15-0270](#)      Approve the minutes of the Solano County Board of Supervisors' meeting of March 10, 2015
- Attachments:*      [Minutes - March 10, 2015](#)  
                                         [Minute Order](#)
- Approved**
- 10**      [15-0273](#)      Authorize the County's contribution of \$180 from the General Fund contribution allocated to District 4 to benefit the Carrots, Careers, and Care Packages Group
- Attachments:*      [Minute Order](#)
- Approved**
- 11**      [15-0240](#)      Accept the Dixon Public Library District 2014 Library Facilities Impact Fee Update report
- Attachments:*      [A - Impact Fee Report](#)  
                                         [Minute Order](#)
- Accepted**

- 12      [15-0237](#)      Approve the amended mission statement for the Department of Human Resources
- Attachments:*      [Minute Order](#)
- Approved**

- 13      [15-0248](#)      Approve the City of Fairfield's purchase for public benefit, tax defaulted parcel 0028-280-300 in advance of pending sale at public auction for delinquent taxes in accordance with Revenue and Taxation Code §3695.4

*Attachments:*      [A - Agreement](#)  
[B - Objection to Public Auction](#)  
[C - Application](#)  
[D - City of Fairfield Resolution](#)  
[E - Assessors Parcel Map](#)  
[F - Notice of Power to Sell](#)  
[Executed Agreement](#)  
[Minute Order](#)

**Approved**

- 14      [15-0260](#)      Adopt a resolution amending the List of Numbers and Classifications of Positions to extend 3.0 FTE Limited Term Agricultural/Weights and Measures Aides from July 15, 2015 through November 7, 2015, to accomplish State revenue contractual obligations

*Attachments:*      [A - Resolution](#)  
[Adopted Resolution](#)  
[Minute Order](#)

**Adopted**

**Enactment No: Resolution 2015-49**

- 15      [15-0216](#)      Approve contract amendments with Children's Nurturing Project for \$53,251 and A Better Way for \$202,859 for a total amount of \$256,110 to provide Prevention and Early Intervention Services to school age children formerly served through Youth and Family Services for the current period through June 30, 2015; and Authorize the County Administrator to execute the amendments

*Attachments:*      [A - A Better Way Contract](#)  
[B - A Better Way Amendment](#)  
[C - Children's Nurturing Project Contract](#)  
[D - Children's Nurturing Project Amendment](#)  
[Executed A Better Way Amendment](#)  
[Executed Children's Nurturing Project Amendment](#)  
[Minute Order](#)

**Approved**

- 16      [15-0265](#)      Approve Appropriation Transfer Requests to recognize \$16,666 in unanticipated grant revenue and related appropriations from the City and County of San Francisco under the Department of Homeland Security's Urban Area Security Initiative for the period of November 1, 2014 through February 28, 2016 and an operating transfer to the Sheriff's OES grant fund of \$490 from the Sheriff's operating budget (4/5 vote required); and Approve the purchase of a fixed assets server and operating system needed for the

continued operation of the Solano Operational Area's community emergency notification system

*Attachments:* [Minute Order](#)

**Approved**

- 17      [15-0268](#)      Adopt a resolution amending the List of Numbers and Classifications of Positions to extend a vacant 1.0 FTE Limited Term Office Assistant II from June 30, 2015 through June 30, 2016, to provide clerical support during the Department's transition to an electronic legal document filing system (E-filing) with Solano County Superior Court and State Department of Child Support Services (DCSS)

*Attachments:* [A - Resolution](#)  
[Adopted Resolution](#)  
[Minute Order](#)

**Adopted**

**Enactment No: Resolution 2015-50**

- 18      [15-0264](#)      Approve the Notice of Completion for Paving Project 2014, constructed by Vintage Paving Company, Inc. for a final cost of \$1,714,425

*Attachments:* [A - Location Map](#)  
[B - Notice of Completion](#)  
[Recorded Notice of Completion](#)  
[Minute Order](#)

**Approved**

- 19      [15-0245](#)      Approve the reappointment of Warren C. Sheldon to the Suisun Fire District Board of Directors, representing District 3 for a term to expire April 15, 2019

*Attachments:* [Minute Order](#)

**Approved**

- 20      [15-0247](#)      Approve the appointment of Joanna Myer to the Montezuma Fire Protection District, representing District 5 for a 4 year term to expire March 1, 2019

*Attachments:* [Minute Order](#)

**Approved**

- 21      [15-0219](#)      Approve the appointment of Melanie Norris to the Solano County Mental Health Advisory Board, representing a family member for a three-year term to expire April 7, 2018

*Attachments:* [Minute Order](#)

**Approved**

## REGULAR CALENDAR

- 22      [15-0204](#)      Conduct a public hearing required by the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982 (TEFRA); and Consider adopting a resolution approving the issuance of tax-exempt revenue bonds by the California Municipal Finance Authority for the benefit of NorthBay Healthcare Group

Attachments:      [A - Resolution](#)  
                          [B - City of Fairfield Letter](#)  
                          [C - Notice of Public Hearing](#)  
                          [Adopted Resolution](#)  
                          [Minute Order](#)

*Chairwoman Hannigan opened the public hearing.*

*Treasurer/Tax Collector/County Clerk Charles Lomeli introduced the item.*

*President and CEO of NorthBay Healthcare Gary Passama provided the Board with information on the improvement project for the NorthBay campus.*

*Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of NorthBay Healthcare Art DeNio provided the Board with information on the different components of the improvement project at NorthBay.*

*Supervisor Thomson commented on NorthBay's support of the community.*

*In response to a question from Supervisor Seifert, Mr. Passama provided information on a groundbreaking ceremony for a \$58M wellness center at the VacaValley campus later that day.*

*There were no comments from the public. Chairwoman Hannigan closed the public hearing.*

**On motion of Supervisor Thomson, seconded by Supervisor Seifert, the Board adopted Resolution No. 2015-51 approving the issuance of California Municipal Finance Authority Revenue Bonds (NorthBay Healthcare Group) in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$40,000,000 for the purpose of financing the acquisition, construction, improvement, renovation and equipping of acute hospital facilities and certain other matters related thereto. So ordered by 5-0 vote. (see Resolution Book)**

**Enactment No: Resolution 2015-51**

- 23      [15-0214](#)      Receive a presentation from Health and Social Services on the Employment First Initiative; and Consider adopting a resolution amending the List of Numbers and Classifications of Positions to add 8.0 FTE Employment Resource Specialist II, 1.0 FTE Employment Resource Specialist III, 1.0 FTE Employment Resource Specialist Supervisor and 2.0 FTE Staff Development Trainers, in support of the Employment First Initiative

Attachments:      [A - Resolution](#)  
                          [B - Presentation](#)  
                          [Adopted Resolution](#)  
                          [Minute Order](#)

*Director of Health and Social Services Gerald Huber introduced the item.*

*Deputy Director of Health and Social Services - Employment and Eligibility Services Angela Shing provided the Board with information on the CalWORKS and Welfare to Work (WTW) programs, Work Participation Rate (WRP), Work Participation Rate Penalty, and the Solano County WPR Improvement Plan.*

*In response to a question from Supervisor Vasquez, Ms. Shing provided the Board with information on the resources available to the participants in the F.A.M.E. (Families Active in Meaningful Employment) program. She then continued to provide the Board with information on new programs and proposed potential programs under the Solano County WPR Improvement Plan.*

*In response to questions from Chairwoman Hannigan, Ms. Shing provided the Board with information on housing stock and the Permanent Supportive Housing program.*

*Supervisor Vasquez asked about how housing stock was being tracked.*

*Principal Management Analyst Ron Grassi provided the Board with information on efforts by city workgroups and the CAP Solano JPA concerning availability of housing.*

*County Administrator Birgitta Corsello commented on compliance with participation rates and challenges of addressing housing needs. She also commented on unemployment, job creation, the collapse of the economy, new mandates and the Affordable Care Act (ACA).*

*Supervisor Seifert noted a focus on solutions and asked about efforts to address the barriers to employment. She also commented on the Workforce Investment Board's involvement with the Welfare to Work program.*

*Ms. Corsello noted that she had tasked staff to figure out how to co-locate and work with WIB to provide a single intake area, to leverage the library centers for training and outreach, to come up with a different way to address the barrier of access to transportation and to leverage what is already in place instead of replicating them. She also noted that staff would be coming back to the Board to consider hiring a firm to look at campuses and commented on looking at WIB locations and related County services during that review.*

*Assistant Director of Health and Social Services Sandra Dalida commented on efforts within the department to gather information on what other counties are doing successfully and create benchmarks for the County services.*

*Chairwoman Hannigan commented on access and where training would take place. She advised the use of GIS (Geographic Information System) to gather data on where training would be most needed and accessible.*

*Mr. Huber commented on time limits imposed on CalWORKS, noting the focus on employment first. He also commented on barriers to housing and employment.*

*Supervisor Thomson commented on issues impacting affordable housing including the low supply of rental housing, increase in home sales and the impact military housing allowance.*

*Supervisor Spering asked about transportation barriers to employment.*

*Ms. Shing provided information on resources available for transportation needs and efforts to look at other programs that can provide transportation assistance.*

*Supervisor Spering commented on transportation systems, Marin County's Homeward Bound program, and noted the need to look at these types of transportation programs to address the transportation barriers of employment.*

*Ms. Shing commented on expanding collaborations with current transportation resources to see what needs to be changed and to leverage what's already in place.*

*Supervisor Spering advised that it would be a good idea to talk to the transit operators and look at where the transportation is needed.*

*Ms. Shing continued to provide the Board with information on proposed potential programs, the impact to WPR, increased engagement of work eligible individuals, decreasing case to worker ratio, restoring CalWORKS/WTW program training for workers, and requested positions to support the WPR.*

*Supervisor Thomson commented on welfare recipients' responsibility to their children and asked what the penalties for individuals were if they didn't complete the CalWORKS program.*

*Ms. Dalida noted that there was a set time limit of 48 months for adults to be on the CalWORKS program. She also noted that the adult would be sanctioned if not complying with the program work requirements and that once the time limit had expired, the adult would no longer receive cash assistance.*

*Supervisor Thomson asked for numbers of individuals that had been removed from the CalWORKS program.*

*Ms. Shing provided information on caseload numbers and noted that they would provide the numbers to the Board regarding individuals removed from the program.*

*Supervisor Thomson noted that the program was for temporary assistance*

*and that the goal was to get the individual off of the program. He advised that he would be looking for data showing this. He then commented on the current WPR of 17% and asked about data prior to 2008 indicating what the percentage was for the County before the economic downturn.*

*Ms. Shing noted that the County WPR was 24% before the economic downturn.*

*Mr. Huber commented on workload increases for counties because of the expansion of ACA and noted a need to focus now on employment.*

*Supervisor Thomson noted the need to make sure the individuals know that welfare is temporary assistance and not long term. He also commented on reaching out to employers to help with this issue.*

*Ms. Shing commented on viable, real, longer-term employment opportunities and finding the resources to assist individuals to achieve employment.*

*Supervisor Spering asked that a baseline be established on the number of people being served. He also commented on hiring more people and noted he'd like a report back to the Board on the results from that. Lastly, he noted a need to prioritize and maximize the resources for individuals that want to work.*

*Chairwoman Hannigan commented on wrap around services for individuals, reducing the amount of residents on public assistance and requested the report back to the Board on the results.*

*Supervisor Vasquez requested that the report back include private and public sector employers in the community that have been contacted and are assisting with employment.*

**On motion of Supervisor Thomson, seconded by Supervisor Vasquez, the Board adopted Resolution No. 2015-52 amending the List of Numbers and Classifications of Positions within Solano County. So ordered by 5-0 vote. (see Resolution Book)**

**Enactment No: Resolution 2015-52**

24

[15-0263](#)

Conduct a public hearing to consider the adoption of an ordinance, as an urgency measure, defining a solar energy pilot demonstration project comprising a maximum of 2.2 acres of solar panels and located on Ryer Island as an agricultural research facility; and Amend and create an exception to, the Interim Ordinance prohibiting establishment of any commercial wind turbine generator, commercial solar energy facility, or wireless communication facility greater than 200-feet in height above ground level in unincorporated Solano County (Ordinance No. 2014-1751) (4/5 vote required)

Attachments:    [A - Ordinance](#)  
[B - SCAAC Letter to BOS](#)  
[C - SolAgra March 20, 2015 Letter](#)  
[D - SolAgra Site Plan](#)  
[E - Notice of Public Hearing](#)  
[Presentation](#)  
[Delta Protection Commission Letter](#)  
[Presentation by SolAgra](#)  
[Adoped Ordinance](#)  
[Minute Order](#)

*Chairwoman Hannigan opened the public hearing.*

*Director of Resource Management Bill Emlen introduced the item and provided the Board with information on the history of the proposed ordinance.*

*Planning Program Manager Mike Yankovich provided the Board with information on the SolAgra Demonstration Project.*

*Mr. Emlen commented on the length of the pilot project and noted that approval of the exception and pilot project would not guarantee approval of a larger scale project in the future, regardless of the project's results. He then noted that they expected to bring back a permanent ordinance addressing commercial scale solar later in the year.*

*Agricultural Commissioner/Sealer of Weights and Measures Jim Allan provided the Board with feedback from the Agricultural Advisory Committee and noted he was in support of the staff report.*

*Chairwoman Hannigan asked about timing concerning the limited term of the project.*

*Mr. Emlen provided information on the limited term of the project. He advised that it could take several growth seasons but that it really depended on how long it took to gather enough data to consider the viability of growing crops under solar panels.*

*Mr. Allan commented on the season lengths of various crops.*

*Chairwoman Hannigan invited members of the public to address the Board on this matter and the following comments were received:*

*A) Barbara Comfort, member of the Agricultural Advisory Committee, commented in opposition to the project.*

*B) Tom Hester, representing the land owners of the proposed project, commented in support of the project.*

*C) Moira Burke, member of the Agricultural Advisory Committee, commented*

*on concerns with the project.*

*Supervisor Seifert asked Ms. Burke to clarify her concerns regarding statistically significant results.*

*Ms. Burke provided the Board with examples of things that needed to be taken into consideration and the amount of data needed to conduct proper statistical analysis of the project.*

*D) Russ Lester, Chair of the Agricultural Advisory Committee, commented in support of the project as a research project only, on his concerns with the project and on a letter from the committee to the Board.*

*E) Al Medvitz, Rio Vista, commented on concerns with the project.*

*Barry Sgarrella, representing SolAgra, provided the Board with additional information on the project.*

*In response to a question from Supervisor Thomson, Mr. Sgarrella provided information about the SolAgra company.*

*Supervisor Vasquez commented on building shade structures on at U.C. Davis and noted that the project would be similar and was an experimental project harvesting solar by diffusing light and growing crops under the solar structures. He also commented on the amount of acreage for the project and the ability of the project to prove to be viable.*

*Supervisor Seifert commented on balancing food production and green energy and the evaluation of whether this was the right way to do that. She also commented on the ability of the project to be considered a scientific study and produce enough data. She then noted a need to hear from the Farm Bureau and commented on, the length of the project and how to measure the results.*

*In response to questions from Supervisor Seifert, County Administrator Birgitta Corsello commented on agricultural viability and noted that the Board had tasked staff in the past to work outside the box on issues such as the amount of coverage that a private operation could have and how much land could be left viable in agricultural production, determining whether or not the application and disposal of biosolids on agricultural land was a good practice, and other issues such as oil and gas well drilling, commercial wind turbines and cellular tower placement. She noted that for each issue, the Board had asked staff to step back, develop a technical group and bring experts to the Board in a scientific focus to try to help and at the same time test the boundaries of agriculture. She noted that this project was an opportunity to test the next potential way in which to leverage agricultural land in more than one fashion for agricultural production, generation of power for the reclamation district and as a potential revenue stream for the farming operation.*

*Ms. Corsello noted that the Board maintains local control on this opportunity*

*to lead and/or control a scientific experiment and further noted that if the pilot was successful, it could provide another way to support agricultural viability. Lastly, she noted that the exception was written as tight as possible and that the Agricultural Advisory Committee had provided feedback that would provide insight when the use permit comes forward as to what things are factored in and considered.*

*Supervisor Seifert asked about going through U.C. Davis for the project.*

*Ms. Corsello commented on projects where experts testified against each other, noting that there would always be an expert to refute the other. She advised that the Board could consider creating an expert team with multiple experts as opposed to just one expert source.*

*Supervisor Seifert asked about the pilot project approval.*

*Ms. Corsello noted that the project would be a use permit subject to the Planning Commission's environmental review and public review. She then noted that the Board had the right to pull it forward from the Planning Commission if the Board wanted to review it and advised that it could be appealed to the Board and that the Board would have an opportunity to review it at that point.*

*Supervisor Sperring commented on measuring the success of the project and who provided the data to do that. He then asked about the removal of the project if the project should fail and what SolAgra's response was to that.*

*Mr. Sgarrella commented that the project could be considered an adjunct to agriculture in that it would be considered a permanent power structure to run the pump station on Ryer Island.*

*Supervisor Sperring noted that it was up to the Board to determine whether to go forward with this project or not. He then asked for clarification on an expert panel and noted that private businesses working with private land owners is an opportunity for land owners. Lastly, he asked what would happen after one year.*

*Mr. Emlen noted that the feedback from the Board was important if the exception was approved because it would help staff form the parameters of use permit, including incorporating a scientific panel in the process. He commented that they could come back with periodic status updates on the results of the project. Lastly, he noted that if the project was successful, then they would need to decide whether the project had viability to expand and if so, would likely come back after a few years with an ordinance amendment and associated permits.*

*Supervisor Sperring noted the need to monitor the data and for the Board to*

*decide on any future expansion requests.*

*Deputy County Counsel Jim Laughlin advised that an approval by the Board would limit the project to 2.2 acres and noted that there could be ordinance amendment requests and permit requests to expand the footprint in the future and at that point, the Board could look at the data produced from this project to make a decision.*

*Supervisor Spering asked what the expectation was concerning putting in more solar panels.*

*Ms. Corsello commented that the length of experiment would be based on the type of crop put in and noted that the advantage of having multiple crops would be the ability to evaluate which crops are more successful and viable. She then noted that the Board could have staff indicate a length of time for the use permit, but advised that the length of the scientific study was not known yet.*

*Supervisor Spering commented on potential failure of the project resulting in structures remaining on the land and the impact that would have. He then asked how much time would be needed to determine if the project was succeeding or not.*

*Mr. Allan commented that it would take a large amount of conjecture to determine the length of time it would take and noted that future decisions should be based on what the results come back with. He then noted that there should be consideration of the impact this project could have on the local agriculture economy as well, but noted that he supported the report because it was limited and requires the project to come back in order to request expansion.*

*In response to a question from Supervisor Spering, Mr. Allan provided the Board with information on using gross income as opposed to net income.*

*Mr. Emlen noted that an ordinance change would be required to expand in the future.*

*In response to a question from Supervisor Thomson, Mr. Emlen commented on waiting until the permanent ordinance goes into affect and noted that the timing of the request was really dependent on the applicant.*

*Chairwoman Hannigan commented that the project was an interesting project for the county, the feedback from the Agricultural Advisory Committee, and the importance of maintaining agricultural viability and support for farmers. She noted that she was supportive of a small structured test case with multiple experts looking at it. She then commented that the ten requests from the Agricultural Advisory Committee were viable and understood the need to keep the structure in place for the pump. Lastly, she commented that this was an opportunity to look a potential viable solution for*

*continuing to produce agriculture that is financially viable and necessary in the marketplace and to offset some of those costs with production of electricity.*

*Supervisor Vasquez commented on past work for the ordinance on dairies and noted that this matter was a land use issue. He noted the need to help farmers find ways to preserve agricultural land to preserve it from being bought up and flooded for habitat preservation. Lastly, he commented on other ways the County has tried to help farmers and has been successful in maintaining land use control. He also noted that it takes time to ramp up and start something like this, that it would be coming back to the Board in the future and that he was supportive of the project.*

*Supervisor Thomson asked for clarification on the independent review panel suggestions.*

*Mr. Emlen advised that they would have to go through a process with feedback from the Planning Commission and the Agricultural Advisory Committee to guide how to structure that review.*

*Ms. Corsello advised that in the past, the Board had retained the experts, with some being paid and some volunteering. She noted that, they became the County's team of experts, not the applicant's. She also noted that sometimes industry paid part of the cost and sometimes the County paid for it entirely. Lastly, she advised that staff could provide estimated costs as part of the process going forward.*

*Supervisor Thomson noted that the county and taxpayers should not incur costs and asked if the crops listed in the request were being grown currently on the site.*

*Mr. Allan noted that the crops listed do well on Ryer Island given the soils and environment.*

*Mr. Hester noted that alfalfa, corn, wheat, safflower, milo, apples and pears have been grown in the area.*

*Supervisor Thomson asked about data showing production of these crops as a baseline to use.*

*Mr. Hester noted that only blueberries had not been grown in the area and that he had data on the other crops.*

*Mr. Sgarrella commented that they were looking at sustaining agriculture using the average value by acre measurement, not a crop by crop comparison. He noted that they would be using crops that will sustain that value and that the annual report from Commissioner Allan could be used as a baseline. Lastly, he commented on peer review of the project and reimbursement of the expense by the applicant.*

*In response to a question from Supervisor Thomson, Mr. Sgarrella*

*commented that Ryer Island is beyond the twelve nautical miles of the attack landing zone at Travis Air Force Base and provided the Board with information on studies conducted and tools used to measure whether there would be glare or glint from the solar panels. He advised that there was an email on file from base officials stating that they were satisfied that the project did not present glare or glint potential.*

*Supervisor Thomson commented on the loss of tax revenue from the exemption to tax the panels unless they were resold.*

*Mr. Sgarrella commented on ways to benefit all parties with power produced by the project and the possibility of future options such as a community power agency where renewable energy is made available to citizens.*

*Supervisor Seifert asked if the request could wait until the moratorium expired and what the possibilities were that others may come forward wanting to do similar projects.*

*Mr. Yankovich advised that this exception only applied to this one site and that no other interest has been received since the moratorium was put in place.*

*In response to comments from Supervisors Seifert and Vasquez, Mr. Yankovich advised that the project would still have to go through the Planning Commission and an environmental review, which are subject to appeal. He then advised that it could be two to three months to go through the Planning Commission.*

*Supervisor Vasquez asked how much work had been done on the new ordinance pertaining to commercial scale solar.*

*Mr. Yankovich noted that drafts of the ordinance had been taken to the Agricultural Advisory Committee and that staff planned to bring the ordinance to the Board in the summer.*

*In response to comments from Supervisor Vasquez, Mr. Emlen noted that the new ordinance would incorporate what had been discussed about the pilot project, if the project exception were to be approved.*

*Supervisor Thomson commented on the application to the Planning Commission and asked if the comments made would be incorporated into the process.*

*Supervisor Sperring noted that all the comments should be incorporated into the process.*

*Supervisor Thomson noted that he would support this project, but with reservations and concerns.*

*Chairwoman Hannigan closed the public hearing.*

***On motion of Supervisor Vasquez, seconded by Supervisor Spring, the Board adopted Ordinance 2015-1756, an amendment of the interim ordinance prohibiting establishment of any new commercial wind turbine generator, commercial solar energy facility, or wireless communication facility greater than 200 feet, to allow approval of a solar energy demonstration project as an agricultural research facility, adopted as an urgency measure. Supervisor Seifert voted no. So ordered by 4-1 vote.***

### **RECESS**

*This meeting of the Solano County Board of Supervisors recessed at 1:00 p.m. and reconvened at 1:10 p.m. All members were present and Chairwoman Hannigan presided.*

*County Counsel Dennis Bunting noted that a vote needed to take place to waive further reading of the ordinance.*

***On motion of Supervisor Vasquez, seconded by Supervisor Spring, the Board waived further reading of the ordinance by majority vote. So ordered by 5-0 vote.***

**Enactment No: Ordinance 2015-1756**

## **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND REPORTS ON MEETINGS**

*Chairwoman Hannigan invited members of the Board to make comments or reports on meetings. The following comments were received:*

*A. Supervisor Seifert requested that this meeting of the Solano County Board of Supervisors be adjourned in memory of Emma L. Tipton, an active member of the Vallejo community.*

*B. Supervisor Seifert requested that this meeting of the Solano County Board of Supervisors be adjourned in memory of Maxine Lewis, an active member of the Vacaville community.*

*C. Supervisor Seifert requested that this meeting of the Solano County Board of Supervisors be adjourned in memory of Betty Garben Mason, an active member of the Green Valley community.*

*D. Chairwoman Hannigan requested that this meeting of the Solano County Board of Supervisors be adjourned in memory of Lantz R. Jackson, Jr., an active member of the Vallejo community.*

## **ADJOURN:**

*This meeting of the Solano County Board of Supervisors adjourned at 1:15*

*p.m. in memory of Emma L. Tipton, Maxine Lewis, Betty Garben Mason and Lantz R. Jackson, Jr. Next meeting of the Solano County Board of Supervisors will be April 14, 2015 at 8:30 a.m., Board Chambers, 675 Texas Street, Fairfield, California.*

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**ERIN HANNIGAN, Chairwoman**  
**Solano County Board of Supervisors**

**BIRGITTA E. CORSELLO, Clerk**  
**Solano County Board of Supervisors**

By \_\_\_\_\_  
**Jeanette Bellinder, Chief Deputy Clerk**