

**Nevada Board of Agriculture**  
Meeting minutes  
Thursday, January 12, 2023 9:00am



**Meeting Location:** Nevada Department of Agriculture  
405 South 21<sup>st</sup> Street  
Sparks, NV 89434  
775-353-3601

**Video Conference:** Nevada Department of Agriculture Nevada Department of Agriculture  
2300 East St. Louis Avenue 4780 East Idaho Street  
Las Vegas, NV 89104 Elko, NV 89801  
702-668-4590 775-778-0270

**Virtual Meeting Information:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88911367337>  
Meeting ID: 889 1136 7337  
Phone: +1-669-900-9128  
Phone Access Code: 889 1136 7337

**Public notice**

Below is an agenda of all items to be considered. Action may be taken on items preceded by an asterisk (\*). Two asterisks denote possible closed session (\*\*). Items on the agenda may be taken out of the posted order, items may be combined for consideration, and items may be pulled or removed from the agenda at any time at the discretion of the chairperson. Unless noted as an action item, discussion of any item raised during a report or public comment is limited to that necessary for clarification or necessary to decide whether to place the item on a future agenda.

Public comment may be presented in-person (if there is a physical meeting location), by computer, phone, or written comment. Written comments may be submitted by completing a public comment form available online at

[http://agri.nv.gov/Administration/Board\\_of\\_Agriculture/Board\\_of\\_Agriculture\\_Public\\_Comment/](http://agri.nv.gov/Administration/Board_of_Agriculture/Board_of_Agriculture_Public_Comment/).

Written comments can also be submitted via fax to 775-353-3661, email to [sbellwood@agri.nv.gov](mailto:sbellwood@agri.nv.gov) or to any of our offices listed below.

- a. Nevada Department of Agriculture: 405 S. 21st Street, Sparks, NV 89431
- b. Nevada Department of Agriculture: 4780 E. Idaho Street, Elko, NV 89801
- c. Nevada Department of Agriculture: 2300 E. St. Louis Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89104

The chairperson may limit public comment that is repetitious, does not relate to a matter within the board's jurisdiction or prevents the meeting from continuing in an orderly manner. All public comment should be addressed to the Board of Agriculture and not an individual member. The board asks that your comments are expressed in a courteous manner. All public comment is limited to three minutes per person. Unused time may not be reserved by the speaker nor allocated to another speaker.

Reasonable efforts will be made for members of the public who have disabilities and require special accommodations for assistance at the meeting. Please call Samantha Bellwood at 775-432-4263.

Notice of this meeting was posted on or before 9 a.m. on the third working day before the meeting at the following locations: Nevada Department of Agriculture, 405 S. 21st Street, Sparks, NV 89431, Nevada Department of Agriculture, 4780 E. Idaho Street, Elko, NV 89801, Nevada Department of Agriculture, 2300 St. Louis Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89104. Copies of the agenda, supporting documentation and meeting minutes are available, at no charge, at the Nevada Department of Agriculture website at [agri.nv.gov](http://agri.nv.gov) or [www.notice.nv.gov](http://www.notice.nv.gov) or by visiting the Nevada Department of Agriculture, 405 S. 21st Street, Sparks, NV 89431.

## **Agenda**

### **1. Open meeting-call meeting to order by Chair Woody Worthington**

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Moment of Silent Reflection
- C. Roll call

Members in attendance: Woody Worthington, Heather Lackey, Charlie Frey, Paul Noe, Duane Coombs, Bernard Petersen, Valerie Drake, Jim Snyder, Dr. Craig Schank, Pete Paris, Dave Coon

NDA Staff in attendance: Samantha Bellwood, Jerri Conrad, Doug Farris, Meghan Brown, Bill Striejewske, Patricia Hoppe, Amara Vigil

### **2. Public Comment**

Jon Griggs, representing the Nevada Cattlemen's Association, submitted public comment supporting the appointment of Dr. J.J. Goicoechea as the next director of the Nevada Department of Agriculture.

Brian Markowski submitted public comment inquiring why the Nevada FSA has the lowest number of awarded USDA operating and microloans across the United States.

### **3. Nevada Department of Agriculture Director Applicant**

- A. \*Discussion and approval of applicant, Dr. Julian Goicoechea, brought forward by Governor Lombardo – Woody Worthington, Chair (*for possible action*)

Chairman Worthington reviewed NRS 561.115 through NRS 561.185 outlining the Director qualifications. Chairman Worthington asked Dr. Goicoechea if he would continue the employment listed on his resume and if his vested interest would be in the department. Dr. Goicoechea stated that he would invest 100% of his time to the department and would be resigning as Eureka County Commissioner and closing his veterinary practice and would seek no other gainful employment. In addition, Chairman Worthington asked Dr. Goicoechea what his first goal would be as the incoming director. Dr. Goicoechea stated that he would seek to fill the two vacant division administrator positions and get an in-depth review of the budget to prepare

for the upcoming legislative session.

Heather Lackey motioned to approve the appointment of Dr. Julian Goicoechea as Director of the Nevada Department of Agriculture. Charlie Frey seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

#### **4. Public Comment**

Leana Carey submitted public comment thanking the Board of Agriculture for appointing Dr. Goicoechea as the next Director of the Department.

#### **5. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:38am.