

# California Department of Food and Agriculture

## Marketing Branch

### Approval of Meeting Minutes and Actions

Program:	Processing Tomato Advisory Board
Meeting Date:	January 30, 2024
Meeting Location:	Sacramento, CA

**Notable Actions:**

2024 0130	#24-03	Motion to recommend retaining Damore Hamric Schneider, Inc. CPAs to conduct a financial audit and a fiscal and compliance audit of the Board's 2023 fiscal year financial records. <a href="#">[Approved by Department Order on April 9, 2024]</a>
2024 0130	#24-04	Motion to recommend the appointment of Tome Lima of Ingomar Packing to fill the vacant processor member position on the Board. <a href="#">[Approved by Department Order on May 15, 2024]</a>
2024 0130	#24-05	Motion to recommend the appointment of Jeremy Lamendola of ConAgra Foods to the vacant processor alternate position on the Board. <a href="#">[Approved by Department Order on May 15, 2024]</a>
2024 0130	#24-06	Motion to recommend approval of the 2024 fiscal year budget, based on a projected volume of 11.5 million tons and including salary increases as presented. <a href="#">[Approved by Department Order on April 30, 2024]</a>
2024 0130	#24-07	Motion to recommend approval of the interim budget for the first quarter of the 2025 fiscal year as presented. <a href="#">[Approved by Department memo on April 30, 2024]</a>
2024 0130	#24-08	Motion to recommend re-hiring Karen Moreno as the Board Manager for the 2024 fiscal year. <a href="#">[Approved by Department memo on March 20, 2024]</a>
2024 0130	#24-09	Motion to recommend the establishment of a schedule of assessment rates for the 2024 fiscal year as presented, with a base assessment rate of \$14.00 per load. <a href="#">[Approved by Department Order on March 7, 2024]</a>

**APPROVED**

**SECRETARY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE**

BY:   
 Joe Monson, Branch Chief  
 Marketing Branch

DATE: OCTOBER 8, 2024



## MINUTES

### PROCESSING TOMATO ADVISORY BOARD (PTAB)

JANUARY 30, 2024

The Westin-Sacramento (Monaco II)  
4800 Riverside Blvd, Sacramento, CA

#### **CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, ESTABLISH QUORUM**

Board Chairman Neil Dougherty called the meeting to order at 9:41 A.M. Roll was called; a quorum was established. The following members and alternates were present:

##### Producers

Neil Dougherty  
Dan Burns  
Phillip Perez  
Tim Nuss  
Darryl Bettencourt (A)  
Patrick Pinkard (A)

##### Processors

Roger Scriven  
Garrett Miller  
Craig Leathers  
Justin Breem  
Tome Lima (A)  
Lance Dami (A)  
Gary Sorrick (A)  
David Moloo (A)  
Robert Krahn (A)

For others present please refer to the attached roster.

#### **INTRODUCTIONS**

Board Chairman Neil Dougherty welcomed the audience. Members of the audience introduced themselves.

#### **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

##### **ACTION**

A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the January 31, 2023, board meeting minutes. **Board Action 24-01**

#### **PTAB AUDIT RESULTS**

Karen Moreno reviewed the Damore, Hamric & Schneider 2022 PTAB financial and CDFA compliance audits. There were no findings from either audit.

##### **ACTION**

A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the 2022 financial and CFDA compliance audits as presented. **Board Action 24-02**

There was a motion that the Board designate Damore, Hamric and Schneider as auditors for the upcoming 2023 audits.

**ACTION**

A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to designate Damore, Hamric and Schneider to perform the 2023 PTAB audits. **Board Action 24-03**

This action requires separate approval by the Department

**WORKER’S COMPENSATION**

John Bolce of LP Insurance reviewed PTAB’s accident history, costs and Mod-Rate. He was enthusiastic with the progress and our historic rate but also cautioned to remember that accidents do still occur. Thanked PTAB management, staff and Accountability Program for helping to reduce accidents/injuries over the last three seasons. This has led to a decrease in costs.

**BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

CDFA re-appointed Roger Scriven (Morning Star Packing) and Garrett Miller (J.G. Boswell Tomato Co.) as processor members. Robert Krahn (Neil Jones Foods) was re-appointed as processor alternate, and David Moloo (Escalon Premier Brands) and Gary Sorrick (Del Monte Foods) was newly appointed as processor alternate. Dan Burns (Nickel Family LLC) was reappointed as a producer member, and Tim Nuss (Nuss Farms) was newly appointed as a producer member. Colby Fry (Opal Fry and Son Farming) and Lee Del Don (Del Mar Farms) were reappointed as producers alternates. Karen Moreno stated that there are currently two vacancies on the Board (Exhibit A).

**ACTION**

A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to move Tome Lima from his current processor alternate position into the vacant member position. **Board Action 24-04**

This action requires separate approval by the Department

**ACTION**

A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to fill the now vacant processor alternate position with Jeremy Lamendola (ConAgra Foods). **Board Action 24-05**

This action requires separate approval by the Department

The Producer side of the Board decided to wait to fill the vacant producer alternate position later.

**BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Karen Moreno presented the Budget and Finance Committee’s recommendations. She reviewed the 2023 budget. The committee recommended approving a budget based on an 11.5-million-ton crop, prior to the published intentions. Karen stated the 2024 crop intentions are estimated to be 11.6 million tons (Exhibit B). Karen asked the Board to approve a 2025 interim budget of \$36K in revenue and \$400K in expenses (Exhibit C). The Committee also recommended keeping the base inspection fee at \$14.00 per load (Exhibit D). The budget includes salary increases. It was recommended the Board re-hire Karen Moreno as the Board Manager.

**ACTION**

There was discussion about the expected crop and there was a motion to adopt an 11.5M ton budget (Exhibit E), including salary increases, which was seconded, and passed unanimously. **Board Action 24-06**

This action requires separate approval by the Department

**ACTION**

A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve an Interim Budget as presented, for the first quarter of 2025. **Board Action 24-07**

This action requires separate approval by the Department

**ACTION**

A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to re-hire Karen Moreno as the Board Manager. **Board Action 24-08**

This action requires separate approval by the Department

**ACTION**

A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve a base inspection rate of \$14.00 for the 2024 season. **Board Action 24-09**

This action requires separate approval by the Department

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Karen Moreno reported that it is the Processor’s turn to chair the Board.

**ACTION**

A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously, by the Processors, electing Garrett Miller to serve as the 2024 Board Chair. **Board Action 24-10**

**ACTION**

A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously, by the Producers, electing Neil Dougherty to serve as the 2024 Board Vice-Chair. **Board Action 24-11**

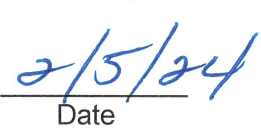
**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business the Board meeting adjourned at 10:34 A.M.

**CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES**

I, Karen Moreno, Manager of the California Processing Tomato Advisory Board, do hereby declare that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the California Processing Tomato Advisory Board meeting on January 30, 2024.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Karen Moreno, Manager  
Processing Tomato Advisory Board

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**ROSTER**  
**PTAB MEETING- JANUARY 30, 2024**

**Board Members**

Neil Dougherty  
Roger Scriven  
Garrett Miller  
Craig Leathers  
Justin Breem  
Dan Burns  
Tome Lima  
Phillip Perez  
Tim Nuss

Dougherty Farms  
The Morning Star Packing Co.  
J.G. Boswell Tomato Co.  
Campbell Soup Co.  
Stanislaus Food Products  
Nickel Family LLC  
Ingomar Packing  
Silverdale Farms  
Nuss Farms

**Board Alternates**

Lance Dami  
David Mooloo  
Patrick Pinkard  
Darryl Bettencourt  
Robert Krahn  
Gary Sorrick

Los Gatos Tomato Products  
Escalon Premier Brands  
Terranova Ranch  
J.G. Boswell Company  
Neil Jones Food Company  
Del Monte Foods

**Others Present**

Karen Moreno  
J.D. Blevins  
Jill Shepherd  
Connie Read  
Marcela Gamino  
Ben Kardokus  
Mike Montna  
Zachary Bagley  
John Bolce

PTAB  
PTAB  
PTAB  
PTAB  
PTAB  
CDFA  
CTGA  
CTRI  
LP Insurance

PTAB Board Meeting 1/30/2024							
<u>Board Member</u>	<u>24-01</u>	<u>24-02</u>	<u>24-03</u>	<u>24-04</u>	<u>24-05</u>	<u>24-06</u>	<u>24-07</u>
Neil Dougherty	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye
Darryl Bettencourt	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye
Dan Burns	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye
Phillip Perez	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye
Tim Nuss	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye
Garrett Miller	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye
Roger Scriven	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye
Craig Leathers	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye
Tome Lima	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye
Justin Breem	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye
<b>OUTCOME</b>	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed
<b><u>Board Member</u></b>	<b><u>24-08</u></b>	<b><u>24-09</u></b>	<b><u>24-10</u></b>	<b><u>24-11</u></b>			
Neil Dougherty	Aye	Aye		Abstain			
Darryl Bettencourt	Aye	Aye		Aye			
Dan Burns	Aye	Aye		Aye			
Phillip Perez	Aye	Aye		Aye			
Tim Nuss	Aye	Aye		Aye			
Garrett Miller	Aye	Aye	Abstain				
Roger Scriven	Aye	Aye	Aye				
Craig Leathers	Aye	Aye	Aye				
Tome Lima	Aye	Aye	Aye				
Justin Breem	Aye	Aye	Aye				
<b>OUTCOME</b>	Passed	Passed	Passed	Passed			

**2024 PROCESSING TOMATO ADVISORY BOARD**

<b>Producer Members</b>	
<b>Member</b>	<b>Alternate Member</b>
<b>Phillip Perez</b> Silverdale Farms, Inc. Term: 1/1/22 – 12/31/24	<b>Patrick Pinkard</b> Terranova Ranch, Inc. Term: 1/1/22 – 12/31/24
<b>Tim Maggiore</b> F.A. Maggiore & Sons Term: 1/1/22 – 12/31/24	<b>Vacant</b> Term: 1/1/22 – 12/31/24
<b>Neil Dougherty</b> Dougherty Farms, Inc. Term: 1/1/23 – 12/31/25	<b>Darryl Bettencourt</b> JG Boswell Company Term: 1/1/23 – 12/31/25
<b>Dan Burns</b> Nickel Family LLC Term: 1/1/24 – 12/31/26	<b>Colby Fry</b> Opal Fry and Son Farming Term: 1/1/24 – 12/31/26
<b>Tim Nuss</b> Nuss Farms, Inc. Term: 1/1/24 – 12/31/26	<b>Lee Del Don</b> Del Mar Farms Term: 1/1/24 – 12/31/26
<b>Processor Members</b>	
<b>Member</b>	<b>Alternate Members</b>
<b>Craig Leathers</b> Campbell Soup Co. Term: 1/1/22 – 12/31/24	<b>Lance Dami</b> Los Gatos Tomato Products Term: 1/1/22 – 12/31/24
<b>Vacant</b> Term: 1/1/22 – 12/31/24	<b>Tome Lima</b> Ingomar Packing Term: 1/1/22 – 12/31/24
<b>Justin Breem</b> Stanislaus Food Products Term: 1/1/23 – 12/31/25	<b>Gary Sorrick</b> Del Monte Foods Term: 1/1/23 – 12/31/25
<b>Garrett Miller</b> JG Boswell Company Term: 1/1/24 – 12/31/26	<b>David Molloo</b> Escalon Premier Brands Term: 1/1/24 – 12/31/26
<b>Roger Scriven</b> Morning Star Company Term: 1/1/24 – 12/31/26	<b>Robert Krahn</b> Neil Jones Food Company Term: 1/1/24 – 12/31/26



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service

# 2024 California Processing Tomato Report



Pacific Region · 650 Capitol Mall, Suite 6-100 · Sacramento, CA 95814 · (916) 738-6600 · (855) 270-2722 Fax · [www.nass.usda.gov/ca](http://www.nass.usda.gov/ca)

Released: January 24, 2024

## TOMATO PROCESSORS EXPECT TO CONTRACT 11.6 MILLION TONS IN 2024

As of January, California's tomato processors reported they have, or will have, contracts for 11.6 million tons in 2024, which is a decrease of 10% compared to 12.9 million contracted tons forecast in the August 2023 California Processing Tomato Report. Processors estimate that the contracted production for 2024 will come from 232,000 acres, generating an average yield of 50.0 tons per acre. This year's contracted planted acreage forecast is 9% below the 2023 estimate of 255,000 planted acres under contract in the August forecast.

The USDA-NASS Pacific Regional Office surveyed California's tomato processors for their intended contract acreage and tonnage for the upcoming 2024 season. The data reported by processors was either tonnage with derived acreage, or acreage with derived tonnage.

This early processing tomato estimate is funded by the California League of Food Producers.

Year	INTENDED AND FINAL HARVESTED CONTRACTED PRODUCTION		Difference
	January 1	Final	
Thousand tons			
2006	11,600	10,024	-1,576
2007	12,000	11,965	-35
2008	11,800	11,691	-109
2009	13,300	13,148	-152
2010	12,600	12,212	-388
2011	12,600	11,900	-700
2012	12,700	12,540	-160
2013	13,000	11,900	-1,100
2014	13,500	13,965	+465
2015	15,000	14,307	-693
2016	13,200	12,527	-673
2017	11,600	10,407	-1,193
2018	12,000	11,994	-6
2019	12,100	11,130	-970
2020	12,000	11,312	-688
2021	12,100	10,730	-1,370
2022	12,200	10,464	-1,736
2023 <sup>1</sup>	12,400	(NA)	(NA)
2024	11,600	(NA)	(NA)

<sup>1</sup> Final production will be released in the Vegetables Annual Summary on February 12, 2024.  
(NA) Not available.



## PROCESSING TOMATO ADVISORY BOARD

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P.O. BOX 1800 \* DAVIS, CA 95617-1800 \* (530)759-7501 \* FAX (530) 759-7504

TO: PTAB Board Members

FROM: Karen Moreno

RE: Interim 2025 Budget

Greetings,

Historically, the Board reviews and approves its budget at the January meeting. And, after the board stamps its approval, CDFA has 30 to 45 days for its review and approval process. The budget is unofficial while it is in these various stages of review, so technically we are operating without a budget during the first few weeks of our fiscal (calendar) year.

We propose the Board approve an interim budget to allow a seamless transition between budgeting cycles without disrupting the timing of our meetings, changing our fiscal year or delaying the payments of our obligations.

Below is the proposed interim budget for Quarter 1, 2025. This should be an ample amount to cover fixed expenses like rents, insurance payments and salaries until the official budget is signed and approved by the Board and CDFA. The official 12-month budget supersedes the Quarter 1 interim budget once we receive the approved version at our office.

PTAB's Interim Budget January 1, 2025 through March 31, 2025
Revenue: \$36,000
Expenses: \$400,000

**PTAB 2024 Inspection Fees**  
**\$14.00 Base Fee**

Exhibit D

<b>Inspection Station</b>	<b>2024 Inspection Fee</b>
Dixon	\$14.76
Escalon	\$15.30
Hanford	\$14.86
Ingomar	\$13.52
JG Boswell - Kern	\$14.36
JG Boswell - Kings	\$14.60
Los Banos	\$13.76
Los Gatos	\$13.80
Oakdale	\$14.54
Patterson	\$20.41
PCP	\$14.14
San Benito	\$16.30
Santa Nella	\$13.32
Stanislaus	\$14.16
Toma Tek	\$14.02
Valley	\$14.76
Williams	\$13.84

## PROCESSING TOMATO ADVISORY BOARD

P.O. BOX 1800 • DAVIS, CA 95617-1800 • (530) 759-7501 • FAX (530) 759-7504

## Budget and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2024

Westin Hotel – Tower Room

4800 Riverside Boulevard

Sacramento, CA 95822

Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by PTAB Chair, Neil Dougherty. The following members, alternates, and non-board members participated in the meeting:

Neil Dougherty (Dougherty Farms), Roger Scriven (Morning Star), Dan Burns (Nikel Family LLC), Darryl Bettencourt (J.G Boswell), Garrett Miller (J.G. Boswell), Justin Breem (Stanislaus Food Products), Ron Ley (Damore, Hamric, and Schneider), Mike Montna (CTGA), Karen Moreno and Connie Read (PTAB).

1. Call to Order, Roll Call
2. 2022 PTAB Audit Results – Ron Ley, Managing Principal presented Financial and Compliance Audit findings. Ron said it was a clean audit. Implementation of the new Lease Accounting Standards took place in 2023, now having to list on the balance sheet. Recommend a process listed on internal controls to manage. On the CDFA required Independent Accounting Report, out of all items tested, there were no findings. Ron said good job and congratulated PTAB.
3. 2023 Budget Review — Karen reviewed the 2023 Budget Projections.
4. Closed Session - The committee met in closed session. Recommendations for pay raises were decided.
5. PTAB 2024 Budget Proposal – The committee discussed various tonnage scenarios and inspection fees. The committee had a motion to recommend approval of the budget with no opposition and all voting in favor with the following assumptions:
  - a Budget based on 11.5M paid for tons.
  - b No increase in inspection fees, remain the same at an average of \$14.00 per hour.
  - c Pay raises for PTAB employees.
6. There was discussion about conducting a research meeting this year. Potential things to think about such as anything new in the industry, mold study, any new innovative ideas. Other topics discussed were looking at options for upgrading/updating PTAB's computer database systems and payroll processing, and equipment we might want to put on a rotation for replacement.
7. Meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

**PTAB Budget Proposal - 2024**

<b>2024 Budget</b>	
Inspections	460,000
Inspection Fee (per load)	\$14.00
Inspected Paid For Tons	11,500,000
<b>Revenue:</b>	
Other Revenue	\$170,200
GODAB Revenue	\$139,128
Inspection Fees	\$6,440,000
Interest	\$65,000
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$6,814,328</b>

**Expenditures:**

Marketing Branch	\$60,000
Salaries:	
Non-Seasonal Staff	\$997,500
Inspectors	\$3,507,960
Med (1.45%) + SS (6.2%)	\$344,668
Unemployment	\$99,120
Workers Comp.	\$59,806
Health Insurance	\$226,000
Pension Plan Non-Seasonal	\$149,625
Insurance, Liability	\$25,000
Administration Travel	\$15,000
Board Meetings	\$6,000
Seasonal Staff Travel	\$193,200
Printing, Contract	\$12,000
Telephones	\$46,200
Postage & Shipping	\$5,250
Rents	\$120,000
Office Upkeep & Utilities	\$30,000
Professional Services:	
IT Services	\$90,000
Other	\$65,000
Operation Supplies	\$150,000
Repair & Maintenance:	
Operation Equipment	\$357,000
Office Equipment	\$54,000
Miscellaneous Expenses:	\$45,000
Research & Development	\$0
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$6,658,329</b>

**Capital Costs:**

Office Equipment	\$0
IT Equipment	\$10,000
Operations Equipment	\$51,000
Total Capital Expenditures	<b>\$61,000</b>
<b>Total Program Expenditures</b>	<b>\$6,719,329</b>
<b>Net Cash Flow</b>	<b>\$94,999</b>

PTAB Budget Proposal - 2024

Beginning Cash Reserve	\$3,113,450
Net cash Flow	\$94,999
<b>Ending Cash Reserve</b>	<b>\$3,208,449</b>