

CALIFORNIA CITRUS PEST AND DISEASE PREVENTION PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 12, 2014

Opening:

The regular meeting of the California Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Committee (CPDPC) was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on March 12, 2014 in Ontario, California by Committee Chair Nick Hill.

CPDPC Members Present:

Craig Armstrong	Gus Gunderson	Kevin Olsen
Richard Bennett	Nick Hill	Etienne Rabe
Steve Birdsall	Link Leavens	Earl Rutz
Dan Dreyer	Mark McBroom	Kevin Severns
Bob Felts, Jr.	George McEwen	
Jim Gorden	James McFarlane	

CPDPC Members Absent:

John Gless	Brian Specht
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CDFA Staff:

Nick Condos	Victoria Hornbaker	David Morgan
Tina Galindo	Margarete Krick	Colleen Murphy-Vierra
Art Gilbert	Jason Leathers	Debby Tanouye
Adrian Gonzales	Magally Luque-Williams	Bob Wynn

Guests:

Vic Corkins	Michael Hennessey	Ed Williams
John Demski	Teresa Siles	Helene Wright
John Gardner		

*** Participated via telephone**

Opening Comments:

Chairman, Nick Hill, welcomed the Committee, staff, and members of the public participating in person and online. Chairman Hill reported that in an effort to focus the meeting on strategic planning session all reports will be in the binder and the Committee members can review them at their leisure, but staff will not be presenting reports, rather the Subcommittee Chairs will provide a 5-minute update.

Public Comment:

Mark McBroom provided a comment stating that he is concerned that having the strategic planning session at the end of the agenda may not leave enough time for the Committee to adequately explore each item.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS & UPDATES

Chairman Hill reviewed the minutes from the Committee meeting which took place on January 8, 2014. No corrections were identified.

Motion: Approval of the minutes from the January 8, 2014 CPDPC meeting as presented.

First: Kevin Olsen

Second: Richard Bennett

Motion Passes: All in favor

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

Finance Subcommittee Chair James McFarlane provided a summary of the Subcommittee meeting that was held on February 27, 2014, in Visalia, California.

a. Review of 2012/2013 Closeout

James reviewed the 2012/2013 fiscal year Assessment budget. The revenues received for the 2012/2013 fiscal year are \$16,079,000 and he noted that previously the revenue section included a projected outstanding revenue balance of \$670,000. The projection has been removed as no additional 2012/2013 revenues have been received through February. There were several minor adjustments to the expenditures on the 2012/2013, and a projected expenditure for the grower liaisons, the net effect of this will be a reduction in the carry over into the reserve of \$625,000 leaving a reserve balance of approximately \$7.3 million. James reviewed the CHRP budget noting that expenditures in the Pest Detection column were up \$81,000 since the last meeting. All other budget columns had minimal changes.

b. 2013/2014 Budget and Assessments

James also reviewed the 2013/2014 budgets and revenues. He explained that there was a 13.3 percent reduction taken in the projected assessments, which reduced the projection by approximately \$1.97 million. The reduction is based on a CRB study of the freeze impact; the CRB calculations were included for review. James reported that there were no items of concern on the Assessment budget. He did report that there is an issue with the CHRP budget for the Central Valley activities, pointing at a \$46,000 shortfall as of January 31, 2014. The shortfall is due to the greater than anticipated activity in the Central Valley. Jason Chan provided a budget for the projected CHRP activities and expenditures for the period on February 24, 2014 through September 30, 2014 of \$309,037. James stated that the Finance Subcommittee suggested that the Assessment budget column for new area contingency would be an appropriate area to move these expenditures to.

Motion: To use \$309,037 from the New Area Contingency funds from the Assessment budget for activities projected in the Central Valley.

First: Etienne Rabe

Second: Kevin Severns
Motion Passes: All in favor

c. Draft Variance Analysis Review

There was a question about the cash basis verses accrual system, there was a draft presented. CDFA has working on trying to realize the lags to be able to project out monthly. James went over the draft variance analysis and let the Committee know that it is a work in progress.

d. Assessment Collection Review

Victoria reported that the program was contacted by inspection services who handle the collection of the assessments. They are proposing to move to allow the assessments to be submitted via credit card which will facilitate faster payments; however there is a fee of two to three percent per payment. If the Committee chooses not to accept credit card payments for, assessments will need to be collected by the program and additional staff will need to be added to handle the increased workload. A decision does not need to be made right away, the Committee has approximately a year to make a decision.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

Victoria gave several updates on behalf of Bob Atkins, the Grower Liaison Coordinator. She also gave a recap on a meeting with the Department of Pesticide Regulations which was sent out to the Committee in advance of the meeting. Victoria gave a report on volatile organic compound (VOC) reductions, several non-fumigant pesticides are being restricted in an effort to reduce VOC's in the Central Valley. She also notified the Committee of several bills before the legislature that may impact the program. She stated that the SAP report is in binders as well, and will be sent out to the public soon.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

Jim Gorden, Operations Subcommittee Chair stated that there was no Operations Subcommittee meeting held in March. The next meeting is scheduled for April 09, 2014.

a. HLB Survey

The HLB survey is coming along great, the first cycle should be completed soon. Dr. Gottwald is going to be establishing a new protocol soon so staff can begin cycle two. The changes made from the last full CPDPC meeting were put into place immediately, which has sped up the progress of the HLB survey.

b. Biocontrol Program Update

Jim provided a summary of the Biocontrol Program Update that Mike Pitcairn provided to the Committee. He reported that 250,000 Tamarixia were produced last year and CDFA is hopeful there will be an exponential increase in production this year. The Mt. Rubidoux facility is doing very well, with approximately 150 cages currently in production with an additional 170 planned. The Cal Poly Pomona greenhouse should be constructed and available for occupancy by August of this year. The biocontrol taskforce is planning a trip to see some of the biocontrol facilities in Mexico and Florida. Etienne asked CDFA to revise the projected annual Tamarixia production to a realistic goal. There was discussion about a goal to meet in regards to how many Tamarixia

produced in the current year. The biocontrol taskforce will be scheduling a meeting in the next month so some additional information will come out of that.

OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

Kevin Olsen, Outreach Subcommittee Chair stated that the Outreach Subcommittee did not meet in March; however there will be a meeting on April 09, 2014. He provided a brief summary of the packing house and farm labor contractor outreach that have been a focus of the subcommittee in the last several months. He also mentioned the draft crisis communication management plan that the team has been working on; noting that Teresa and Alyssa have done a great job putting that together. Additional areas of focus in the last several months were pesticide applicator outreach as well as nursery outreach.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY REPORT & DISCUSSION

Etienne Rabe reviewed the two reports that were in the Committee members binders. One report was on the Multiagency Coordinating Committee and the other was on the Specialty Crop Research Initiative.

a. Multiagency Cooperative

The Multiagency Coordinating Committee (MAC) has an amount of \$21 million to be spent by September 2015. They have identified seven projects of which three will be fast tracked within the next month: antimicrobial therapy, thermal therapy, and biocontrol scale up. The remaining four will be looked at in the next two months. Victoria and Ken Keck are a part of the MAC group, representing California.

b. Specialty Crop Research Initiative

There is a budget of 25 million per year for 5 years through farm bill for the Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI). About one-third of the SCRI annual budget is now specified for citrus/HLB related research. The Committee is hopeful to get some good projects going. CRB is going to ensure there is a team effort in pursuing funding so that the money will be spent in the best way possible.

PRESENTATION OF THE SCIENCE ADVISORY PANEL REPORT

The ACP/HLB Ad Hoc Science Advisory Panel (SAP) met in December and has provided a recommendation report. Etienne would like the Science Subcommittee to review the report and address progress of the program on implementation of recommendations. They would like to see this meeting happen within the next few weeks. Victoria stated that she will also be scheduling a stakeholder review meeting to discuss the SAP's recommendation, as they impact multiple stakeholders. There was discussion about getting these meetings scheduled as soon as possible.

STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION ADVISORY PANEL REPORT

Dale Chafer acted as the facilitator for the planning session of the meeting and the facilitator report is attached.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00pm. The next meeting will be held in Ventura, California on May 14, 2014 at 10:00am.