

CPDPC Executive Committee Conference Call

October 6, 2014 Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Nick Hill at 10:00 a.m. on October 6, 2014. The following were in attendance:

Committee Members

Nick Hill*
Kevin Severns*
Craig Armstrong*

Other Attendees

Stephen Brown*
Victoria Hornbaker*
Debby Tanouye*

*Participated via telephone

Review Revised Final 2014/2015 Budgets

CPDPC Budget

The final CPDPC budget was presented to the Executive Committee for review. The current budget for 2014/2015 is \$15,072,263, which reflects a decrease of \$198,986 from the budget provided at the September 3, 2014 CPDPC meeting. The decrease is due to reductions in projected expenditures in the CRB Operations Grant. At the Committee's direction, approximately \$200,000 was moved from activities under the CHRP budget to the CPDPC budget. A new column titled CHRP Supplement was added to the CPDPC budget to offset an anticipated CHRP shortfall, the budget amount for this column is \$152,377.

CHRP Budgets

The draft CHRP budget was presented to the Executive Committee for review. The total projection for 2014/2015 is \$9,624,859. The movement of \$152,377 from the CHRP budget to the CPDPC budget has given a net decrease in the CHRP budget of \$210,951. Additionally a portion of the HLB Survey and Biocontrol work will be billed to the CPDPC to insure that the CHRP budget is not overspent.

Other Budgets

The Citrus Commodity Survey and the TASC grant budgets will be unchanged from the September 3, 2014 meeting.

Review Proposed Assessment Collection

Inspection Services was notified that the Committee will not move forward with the new electronic assessment collection format, due to the increased fees. The program was notified that assessment collections will need to be move from Inspection Services to program staff by January 1, 2015. Program staff will meet with Inspection Services on October 15, 2014 to review the existing assessment collection protocols and develop a job cost analysis. This will aid the program in identifying the appropriate staff level and time commitment for assessment collection activities. Program staff will present the information to the Committee on November 12, 2014.

Review Sweet Orange Scab Mitigation Measures

The CDFA in collaboration with industry, Ag Commissioners and the USDA has begun to implement a regulatory response to the Sweet Orange Scab (SOS) finds in Imperial, Riverside and Los Angeles Counties (October 1, 2014). The regulatory response will include hold notices on all SOS hosts, including bulk citrus and nursery stock. Movement will be allowable under a master permit with mitigations.

- Nursery stock movement under compliance agreement (retail)
 - Existing stock will be held and inspected if free from SOS, tag for sale in the 5-mile area
 - New retail stock will come from federally approved insect resistant enclosure with tag
- Nursery stock movement under compliance agreement (production)
 - Derived from registered CNS from federally approved insect resistant enclosure

- Stock originates from approved insect resistant enclosure
- No overhead watering and impervious rain barriers
- Stock inspected to be free from SOS
- Bulk citrus movement under compliance agreement (growers, haulers and packers).
 - Remove as much stems and leaves at harvest as feasible
 - Fruit delivered to packinghouse under compliance to conduct full packinghouse protocol for SOS
 - Loads are completely tarped or moved in an enclosed conveyance
 - Culls and stems and leaves are treated as quarantine material by receiving packinghouse

Review Early Detection Technologies

The Executive Committee discussed the recent communication and activity that has occurred surrounding some preliminary Early Detection Technology (EDT) results. There were concerns from the Executive Committee on both sides of the issue. Preliminary data is being used to state emphatically that HLB is in the environment, without being confirmed by conventional PCR and conversely that there is a belief that HLB is in the environment and industry and government are not acting based on the EDT data to remove trees. Staff noted that they are resampling trees from areas where the EDT data indicates a preliminary positive.

Nick Hill reported that Dr. Etienne Rabe, CRB Chairman, is assembling a taskforce to review the technologies. The taskforce will be made up of scientists, growers and one representative each from CDFA and USDA. Staff expressed concern that the taskforce may not have adequate subject matter experts. Concern was expressed that the appropriate representatives from USDA and CDFA are included on the taskforce. Staff assured the Executive Committee that the CDFA representative is the Primary State Plant Pathologist and will be unbiased on the issue.