

**Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Committee (CPDPC)  
Executive Committee Webinar Meeting  
March 25, 2022, Minutes**

There was a quorum of the Executive Subcommittee, and the following were in attendance:

**Executive Subcommittee Members Present:**

Bob Felts, Jr. *	John Gless*	Mark McBroom*
Etienne Rabe*	Keith Watkins*	

**CDFA Staff:**

Carl Baum*	Anmol Joshi*	David Phong*
Kiana Dao*	Sarah Kraft*	Keith Okasaki*
Alisha Garcia*	Jana Miscevic*	Michael Soltero*
David Gutierrez*	David Morgan*	Amelia Wright*
Victoria Hornbaker*	Alex Muniz*	

**Other Attendees:**

Price Adams*	Kevin Ball*	Aaron Dillon*
Elizabeth Grafton-Cardwell*	Subhas Hajeri*	Gregorio Rundini*

\*Participated via webinar

**Opening Comments:**

Mark McBroom called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m., welcoming the Executive Committee (Committee), guests, and staff participating. There were no public comments.

**Finance Subcommittee Report**

2020-21 Expenditure and Revenue Reports

Bob Felts, Jr. reported the year-to-date expenditures for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-21 were initially calculated at approximately \$29,900,000, however this was due to a billing error. The actual FY 2020-21 expenditures are \$29,521,516, leaving a balance of \$12,759,746. Bob reported post audits are complete and no other major adjustments are expected to be made for expenditures.

Bob reported FY 2020-21 revenue through February 2022 was at \$15,547,655, which is less than the projected amount of \$16,208,000.

Bob stated there is a large range of residual carryover and that the fund condition statement promised by CDFA will be available at the next Subcommittee meeting on May 3, 2022. Victoria added that calculating the final numbers for the fund condition statement is a challenge due to billing requiring redirection from the Agriculture Fund to the Federal Fund and contracts being disencumbered. Dr. Rabe pointed out that the current budget is still approximately \$6,000,000 under the budget CPDPC initially projected.

2021-22 Expenditure and Revenue Reports

Bob Felts, Jr. reported expenditures for FY 2021-22 were \$11,969,652, leaving a balance of \$32,619,158. The expenditures were slightly higher than initially anticipated and this is due to better tracking by CDFA. FY 2021-22 revenue was \$3,901,530 through February 2022. Bob added the previously projected 184,450,000 cartons for FY 2021-22 will likely be closer to 170,000,000 cartons. This, coupled with the lowered assessment rate, will result in lower revenue. Bob clarified that although the revenues will be lower, there is considerable carryover and that will offset the revenue loss.

### 2022-23 Proposed Budget Report

Bob Felts, Jr. advised the FY 2022-23 proposed budget is \$44,362,316, which is close to last year's budget. This proposed budget's allocation for administrative funds is lower than previous years because the higher allocations were necessary to form new a division.

### **Science Advisory Panel (SAP) Progress Report**

Victoria Hornbaker reported that Secretary Ross has convened an SAP to review the Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Program (CPDPP). The event is being held in Sacramento on April 21<sup>st</sup> and April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022, at the Four Points by Sheraton Sacramento International Airport.

Price Adams added the invited panelists include experts from the United States Department of Agriculture, Texas A&M University, University of California Berkeley and Riverside, and Premier Citrus in Florida. The panelists will also work with various subject matter experts from commercial citrus nurseries and the university to ensure CPDPP is moving forward efficiently and successfully. The overall goal of the SAP is to gain clarity on the science-based questions and then incorporate them into overall strategic planning purposes. Price presented 16 questions that were prepared for the SAP; this list included overarching questions about the program statewide and focused questions specific to Southern, Central, and Northern California districts.

To ensure the most critical priorities are covered, Price asked the Committee to add any questions they think were missed or should be discussed at the SAP event. Several members gave their suggestions, and the topics were discussed amongst the entire group.

### **Outreach Subcommittee Report**

Price Adams reported there were several outreach events recently, including the World Ag Expo, California Citrus Mutual Citrus Showcase, and meeting with elected officials during Ag Day at the Capital. More events are taking place in the next few months. Price announced that a lunar new year paid social media campaign targeting Vietnamese and Chinese audiences was just successfully completed. Furthermore, the [www.californiacitrusthreat.org](http://www.californiacitrusthreat.org) website will be getting updated to make it more user friendly and the outreach annual report is in the final stages of completion. Victoria Hornbaker reported Ag Day at the Capital had various agencies, including the University of California system, that included citrus in their booths/presentations. David Gutierrez added that portions of Ag Day targeted a younger demographic, and this is beneficial since it starts citrus education early and children can lead to increased adult involvement in helping to save citrus.

### **Operations Subcommittee Report**

John Gless reported the Operations Subcommittee has been working with Riverside County to increase compliance and enforcement of regulations for larger growers operating as fruit sellers and farmer's markets. A working group was convened to review the effectiveness of grate cleaning in areas with high Asian citrus psyllid (ACP) and huanglongbing populations. John added Federal funding for that Lisa Finke's ACP detector dog team program ends in May 2022, and she is concerned about securing continued funding.

### **Science Subcommittee Report**

Dr. Etienne Rabe stated that most of the updates coming out of the Science Subcommittee were covered in the report for the SAP event.

### **Closing**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:02 a.m. The next meeting will be held on April 29, 2022.