

CALIFORNIA CITRUS PEST AND DISEASE PREVENTION COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 28, 2022

Committee Members Present:

Craig Armstrong*	Bob Felts Jr.*	Mark McBroom
Kevin Ball	John Gless*	Etienne Rabe*
Franco Bernardi*	John C. Gless	Rod Radtke
Brad Carmen	Jim Gorden	Keith Watkins
Aaron Dillon		

Committee Members Absent:

Jared Plumlee	Gregorio Rundini	Roger Smith
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California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Staff:

Ravneet Behla*	Anmol Joshi	Lea Pereira*
Fernando Berber	Sara Khalid*	David Phong*
Karina Chu*	Arima Kozina*	Grace Radabaugh*
Kiana Dao*	Sarah Kraft*	Alisha Rios*
Paul Figueroa*	Betty Lee*	Rathkiry Siv*
Stephanie Fragoso*	Zack McCormack*	Javier Tobar*
Jorge Garcia*	Jana Miscevic*	ThuyVy Truong*
David Gutierrez	Alex Muñiz*	Nilan Watmore*
Spencer Hom*	Lauren Murphy	Jennifer Willems
Victoria Hornbaker	Keith Okasaki*	Jason Wu*

Guests:

Price Adams*	Melinda Klein*	Greg Parra*
Rick Dunn*	Jessica Leslie*	Curtis Pate*
Lisa Finke*	WeiQi Luo*	Cressida Silvers*
Brady Gergovich*	Marcy Martin*	Karen Westerman*
Ryan Gifford*	Joey Mayorquin*	Qijun Xiang*
Subhas Hajeri*	Mia Neunzig*	Judy Zaninovich*
Logan Henderson*	Sandra Olkowski*	Sandra Zwaal*

**Attended the meeting virtually.*

Opening Comments

Mark McBroom called the Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Committee (CPDPC) meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. Mark McBroom welcomed the committee, staff, and members of the public participating in person and online. There was a quorum for the meeting.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

The Consent agenda contained minutes from the April 12, 2023 Committee meeting.

Motion: To approve the consent agenda as presented.

First: Keith Watkins

Second: Rod Radtke

Motion Carries: The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

Review 2022/23 Budget Expenditures and Revenue

Bob Felts Jr. presented the Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Division (CPDPD) 2022-23 Fiscal Year (FY) budget expenditures and revenue. March 2023 and April 2023 have closed in the Financial Information System for California (FI\$Cal). March 2023 closed with \$4,189,912 in expenditures and April 2023 closed with \$2,003,187 in expenditures. The FY 2022-23 year-to-date total is \$30,071,167 with a remaining balance of \$14,378,588. Bob explained that the high March 2023 expenditures are due to many county and outreach invoices that were processed during the month. CPDPD has liquidated and disencumbered many contracts which decreases the total amount of obligated expenditures and will impact the upcoming Fund Condition Statement. Total expenditures are projected to come in around \$36 million.

Bob reported that 2022-23 FY revenue increased by \$3,666,505 since the previous meeting, bringing the year-to-date total of revenue received to \$9,512,518. This converts to a year-to-date total of approximately 135,893,114 cartons.

2023/2024 Budget Review and Approval

Victoria Hornbaker presented the proposed budget for FY 2023-24. She reported that the cost of treatment contracts have more than doubled. She also reported that an increase in the indirect costs was due to Cal-Cannabis no longer being within CDFA and all divisions having to absorb those indirect costs. Discussion ensued on identifying potential cuts to include seasonal positions, the data-analysis and mapping unit at Citrus Research Board (CRB), treatment activities, grove trapping, risk-based survey, and outreach.

Motion: To set the 2023/2024 Committee budget at \$41.5 million with all program and budget changes being presented to Finance and Operations Subcommittees.

First: Bob Felts Jr.

Second: Jim Gorden

Motion Carries: The motion passed with 10 yays (Mark McBroom, Craig Armstrong, Kevin Ball, Brad Carmen, Bob Felts, Jr., John C. Gless, Rod Radtke, Aaron Dillon, Jim Gorden, and Keith Watkins).

Review Fund Condition Statement (FCS)

Bob presented a timeline showing Agriculture Fund (Ag Fund) expenditures and revenues for CPDPD since FY 2018-19. Total revenue has decreased each year due to lowering the assessment rate in FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22. Total Ag Fund costs in FY 2018-19 were \$3,050,237.41 and the following FYs recorded \$14,505,808.35, \$19,127,769.86, and \$23,617,239.03, respectively. This shows that a \$10 million credit was applied to the Ag Fund in FY 2018-19.

Bob presented the current Fund Condition Statement (FCS) with updated numbers for FY2021-22 from the Budget Office. Carl Baum explained that FY2022-23 is not closed yet so the figures presented are calculated estimates and are subject to change. As of the day of this meeting, the federal agreement has not been executed by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). CPDPD has submitted the necessary documents for processing and is waiting for the execution of the agreement to begin billing for it. Committee members were reminded that the CPDPC aligned with the state FY budget cycle in FY 2021-22 for a budgeted year of only 10 months. CPDPD has also received an additional \$1.3 million from USDA and can expect a total of \$13,444,301 in federal funding for FY 2022-2023. Carl reported that when the FY 2022-23 closes on June 30, 2023, there will be approximately \$3,900,000 in encumbrances that will begin to resolve starting on July 1, the first day of the FY 2023-24. Bob reported that with the 2022-23 carry-in of \$10,391,365, the fund balance comes to \$5,533,803 less encumbrances.

Discuss 2023/24 Assessment Rate

Bob reported that using a figure of 170,000,000 cartons and raising the assessment rate to \$0.09 from \$0.07 per carton would generate approximately \$15,000,000 in revenue. He suggested further discussing moving the assessment rate at the CPDPC meeting in August.

HUANGLONGBING (HLB) RETAIL NURSERY PROPOSAL

Aaron Dillon presented parameters for citrus nursery stock for retail sales in HLB quarantines. Since 2013, sources used to produce citrus nursery stock must be maintained in an insect resistant structure and tested to ensure they remain disease free. If the public does not have access to clean citrus nursery stock produced at regulated establishments, they are more likely to seek out unregulated stock. The proposed program would allow clean nursery stock to be sold in limited quantities and for a limited time inside of big box stores. These proposed regulations would be monitored and regulated under compliance agreements. Aaron further stated that growers are seeing illegal propagation of citrus within the quarantine zones. Some committee members had angst over potentially selling more backyard trees in already infested areas. Keith Okasaki stated that as the quarantine zone has grown, CDFA staff have seen an increase in black market sales. Keith also stated that residents will

continue to purchase citrus for their backyards and this program provides a way for residents to acquire clean nursery stock. Mark McBroom suggested that the Operations Subcommittee take a deeper dive and provide a recommendation to the full committee in August.

ACP CANINE DETECTION TEAM DISCUSSION

Lisa Finke presented an update on the ACP Canine Detection team. The working group reviewed the development of a food safety risk assessment. A detector canine comparative budget was also completed. The overall cost to support one canine team, including the training of new dogs following the retirement of all dogs by the age of 9 years, would be \$396,000. Mark McBroom recommended that the operations subcommittee provide a recommendation to the full committee on the utility of the canine detection team.

OTHER ITEMS, CLOSING COMMENTS AND ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:58 p.m. The next meeting will be on August 9, 2023 in Visalia, California.