

CALIFORNIA CITRUS PEST AND DISEASE PREVENTION COMMITTEE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Opening:

The Finance Subcommittee webinar was called to order at 9:00 A.M. on November 12, 2024, by Subcommittee Chair Keith Watkins.

Subcommittee Members Present:

Keith Watkins* James McFarlane*

Subcommittee Members Absent:

Kurt Metheny Mark McBroom

CDFA Staff and Guests:

Carl Baum*	Jasmine Lopez*	Anmol Joshi*
Paul Figueroa*	Alex Muniz*	Nilan Watmore*
David Gutierrez*	Keith Okasaki*	Jennifer Willems*
Kahleen Loo*	Alisha Rios*	Jason Wu*

*Participated via webinar

Opening Comments

Chairman, Keith Watkins, welcomed Subcommittee members, guests and staff participating via webinar.

Review 2023-24 Budget and Expenditures

Jason Wu presented the Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Division (CPDPD) Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-24 approved budget and expenditures. September 2024 incurred expenditures for FY2023-24 and closed in FI\$Cal with \$368,747 in expenditures. The FY 2023-24 year-to-date (YTD) total is \$36,968,729 with a remaining balance of \$4,531,271. Carl Baum stated that majority of the remaining encumbrance comes from Ventura County as they are finalizing their billings. For the Citrus Health Response Program Federal agreement, there is a remaining billable balance of \$1.9 million. Of that amount, \$1.5 million is allocated to the lab for their costs. If the lab does not fully bill their \$1.5 million, CPDPD can bill the remaining balance. CPDPD will continue to maximize additional savings from FY2023-24, which would improve the starting fund balance for FY2024-25. Keith Watkins asked for an estimated timeline for the lab's final numbers. Carl answered CPDPD has given the lab a deadline of early December to report their final numbers. If there is still no report, CPDPD will go ahead and bill the remaining amount and will reimburse the lab costs out of the Agriculture Fund (Ag Fund).

Review 2023-24 Revenue

Jason presented the FY 2023-24 revenue. CPDPD received \$263,513 in revenue since the last Finance Subcommittee meeting in October 2024, increasing the year-to-date total of revenue received to \$17,999,530. This converts to a year-to-date total of approximately 199,994,777 cartons.

Review 2024-25 Budget and Expenditures

Jason presented the CPDPD FY 2024-25 approved budget and expenditures. September 2024 closed in FI\$Cal with \$2,553,546 in expenditures. The FY 2024-25 YTD total is \$6,369,289 with a remaining balance of \$31,985,516.

Jason presented a funding source summary for emergency funding (E-Fund) for Huanglongbing Ventura (HLB-Ventura) and the federally funded Citrus Yellow Vein Clearing Virus Los Angeles (CYVCV-LA). The YTD expenditures for HLB-Ventura are \$264,331 with a remaining balance of \$1,171,869. CYVCV-LA YTD expenditures are \$224,358 with a remaining balance of \$25,642. The HLB-Ventura E-Fund project runs through to June 30, 2025. The CYVCV-LA agreement ends November 28, 2024.

Review 2024-25 Clean Citrus Nursery Stock Program Summary

Jason presented the FY 2024-25 Clean Citrus Nursery Stock Program summary. The approved fund balance is \$255,155. CPDPD recorded \$32,841 in revenue, \$5,628 in expenditures, and \$78,664 in reimbursements, bringing the net fund balance to \$361,032.

Other Business

Keith asked how the budget changes have affected daily operations. David Gutiérrez responded that it's been difficult but the team is managing as the CPDPD continues to explore options for further savings. Since fruit flies are still causing issues throughout California, CPDPD has been sending staff to aid in those efforts, resulting in salary savings.

Carl stated that the Budget Office has received instruction on how to calculate the pay increases for the California Association of Professional Scientists represented and aligned employees. CPDPD hopes to receive the final numbers by the next meeting to implement them into the approved budget.

Keith asked about the turnaround for the process of sending help for fruit flies. Carl answered it takes around two months from when the work is completed to when the numbers are reflected. David added that the fruit fly processes have been going much faster than other projects, which helps with faster reporting.

Carl asked if there has been any significant change in the crop estimate since the May 2024 report. Keith answered that the crop may come in lighter than the original estimate and could be more comparable to this past year's crop estimate of 180,000,000 cartons. Keith confirmed there was no need to revise the revenue estimate for the current crop year.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:23 A.M. The next Finance Subcommittee meeting will be held on January 7, 2025, at 9:00 A.M.