

**CALIFORNIA CITRUS PEST AND DISEASE PREVENTION PROGRAM
COMMITTEE MEETING**

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Opening:

Chairman Nick Hill called the October 23, 2013 California Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Committee (CPDPC) conference call meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

Richard Bennett*	Jim Gorden*	Kevin Olsen*
Dan Dreyer*	Gus Gunderson*	Etienne Rabe*
Bob Felts, Jr.*	Nick Hill*	Kevin Severns*
John Gless*	James McFarlane*	

Committee Members Absent:

Craig Armstrong	Mark McBroom	George McEwen
Steve Birdsall	Link Leavens	Brian Specht

CDFA Staff:

Jason Chan	Craig Hanes	Debby Tanouye
Cong Chen	Victoria Hornbaker	Scosha Wright
Nick Condos	Kevin Masuhara	

Guests:

Bob Atkins*	Dale Kerstan*	Mike Wootten*
James Cranney*	Joel Nelsen*	
Dr. Beth Grafton-Cardwell*	Jeff Steen*	

*** Participated via telephone**

Opening Comments:

Chairman, Nick Hill, welcomed the Committee, staff, and members of the public participating in person and online.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Finance Review 2012-2013 Budgets

Jason Chan referred the Committee to the budget display handout.

a. CPDPC Assessment Final Budget:

Jason asked the Committee to look at Schedule A, Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance for the Assessment Funds. He explained that to through the end of the Committee’s fiscal year (September 30, 2013) the Committee had expended \$11,950,605. He pointed out that there is a lag for some expenditures and he projects a positive ending balance of \$1,249,997.

b. CHRP Final Budget:

Jason asked the Committee to look at Schedule B, Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance for the ACP CHRP Funds. He explained that to through the end of the Committee’s fiscal year (September 30, 2013) the Committee had expended \$10,263,030. He pointed out that there is a lag for some expenditures and he projects a negative ending balance of **\$1,593,038**. Victoria Hornbaker reported that the \$527,000 that CDFA had asked the Committee to cover at the meeting on October 9th is no longer needed as the \$1,000,000 that the legislature had set aside for the citrus program has been made available to the program. The \$527,000 will be deducted from the \$1,000,000 and the remainder will be available, should it be needed from October 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. PDEP will absorb the balance of the projected shortfall, \$1,066,038.

Debbie Tanouye stated that she is concerned about CHRP, because funding has decreased and the workload has increased. She urged the Committee to consider developing a plan to eliminate CHRP activities to stay within the 9.6 million that the CDFA is anticipating in CHRP funding. At the next Committee meeting we will go over the old CHRP budget and a new CHRP budget to see where changes can be made.

Debby Tanouye reviewed the 2012/2013 CHRP funding timeline that the Committee asked her to prepare at the October 9th meeting. She pointed out several key times where funding was received and the also where the Program had anticipated getting additional funds that did not occur. She also discussed the expenditures and explained that even though cuts had been made, there were multiple finds in the Central Valley that were not budgeted for in the CHRP budget.

Sustainability of Central Valley Quarantines:

Victoria discussed the Central Valley finds and the multiple five mile quarantines, she stated that there have been questions about the sustainability of the current protocol. Currently 60 to 70 percent of the citrus acreage in Tulare County is under quarantine, will the current protocol continue to work if there are additional finds? Kevin Severns stated that it is too early to quarantine the entire county as there is a substantial amount of citrus that is not “infested.” Dr. Beth Grafton-Cardwell suggested a coordinated treatment for Tulare growers. She stated that area-wide treatments would be beneficial, rather than treating only small parts “800 meter” eradication areas. Beth also was concerned about extending the quarantine area, because it would impact the ability to require mandatory treatments. Mike Wootten voiced that Sunkist had a meeting today, and Beth’s area wide treatment plan was greatly supported.

Victoria reported that she had received several emails regarding the current quarantine areas. She reported that all quarantines in the Central Valley are in place, this includes the expansion in

Fresno for the find in the Dinuba area of Fresno County, and the Porterville, Exeter, Strathmore and Terra Bella expansions. Compliance agreements are being filled out to get everyone under an agreement, and due to staffing reductions, compliance agreements can be faxed to the Program.

There was a brief discussion about extending the number of days between treatment and harvest for the ACP-Free Performance Standard, a period longer than seven days would be desirable, ten to fourteen days would be better.

Other Business:

Victoria stated that she had several issues to cover with the Committee.

a. Committee Meeting Calendar

Victoria mentioned that there was some concern from several Committee members that there should be a meeting in August of 2014 to prepare for the September meeting and setting the 14/15 budget. Nick Hill directed Victoria to add meeting in August and the Committee can decide at a later date if they want to cancel the July meeting.

b. Grower Liaisons

Craig Hanes gave an update on the progress with the Statewide Grower Liaison applications. He stated that the application period closed on October 17th and that 9 qualified candidates were identified from the applicant pool. The resumes for the qualified candidates were sent to the executive Committee for review. Craig also mentioned that there are several Regional Grower Liaison positions that are posted, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara/SLO and Tulare II. In San Bernardino there is on applicant, however the applicant does not meet the education requirement. The Committee discussed this, deciding that the candidate has the appropriate skills and contacts necessary to do the job and asked Craig to have CASS move forward with this candidate. Craig reported that there are several applicants for the Tulare II position and one very recent application for the Santa Barbara/SLO position. Craig also mentioned that there is a position available in Ventura County, however, the Ventura County Farm Bureau has employed a Liaison and the Operations Subcommittee had recommended that the Committee help fund that position as it would be mutually beneficial to both the Committee and the Farm Bureau. Craig and Victoria stated that they had a discussion with the County Agricultural Commissioner, but that the Commissioner was hesitant. Nick Hill asked to postpone any further discussion until he had a chance to look into the issue.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

