

**CALIFORNIA CITRUS PEST AND DISEASE PREVENTION PROGRAM
OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 28, 2013

Opening:

The regular meeting of the Operations Subcommittee was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on August 28, 2013 in Visalia, California by Subcommittee Chair Jim Gorden.

Committee Members Present:

Dan Dreyer	Link Leavens*	Etienne Rabe
Dan Galbraith	Kevin Olsen	Earl Rutz*
Jim Gorden		

Committee Members Absent:

Joe Barcinas	Mark McBroom	Kevin Severns
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CDFA Staff:

Jason Chan	Craig Hanes	Debby Tanouye
Chong Chan	Victoria Hornbaker	Scosha Wright
Tina Galindo	Susan McCarthy*	Bob Wynn*
Art Gilbert*	Mike Pitcairn	

CRB Staff:

Rick Dunn	Ken Keck	Brian Taylor*
Louise Fisher	Cynthia Levesque*	

Guests:

Bob Atkins*	Linda Haque	Emma Torres
Bryce Belgum*	Sylvie Robillard	Bob Wagner*
Melissa Cregan	Paul Story	Gary Van Suelek
		Judy Zaninovich

*** Participated via telephone**

Opening Comments:

Chairman, Jim Gorden, welcomed the Committee, staff, and members of the public participating in person and online.

Public Comment:

Paul Story read a letter on Joel Nelsen’s behalf expressing concerns about the RFP process.

Approval of minutes:

Chairman Gorden reviewed the minutes from the Operations Subcommittee meeting which took place on August 7, 2013 in Visalia, California. Several edits were identified. (Attachment 1)

Motion: Approval of the minutes from the Operations Subcommittee meeting which was held on August 7, 2013.

First: Dan Galbraith

Second: Etienne Rabe

Motion Passes: All in favor

REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REPORTS & APPROVAL OF CRB ACTION

a. CRB Financial Report for Operations 2012/2013

Louise Fisher reviewed the July report with the Committee and let the Committee know there were no major changes. (Attachment 2)

b. CDFA Budget Report 2012/2013

Victoria reviewed the budget report with the Committee. (Attachment 3) CDFA’s financial tracking program has been having technical difficulties the last two weeks so the budget report shows the same numbers as last month because July’s funding hasn’t been closed out. Discussed were changes made - the orange Tulare II response line item was added because of the motion moved on July 25th. The placeholder line item has been reduced to fund the Imperial County grant, the HLB high risk survey, and the Tulare II response line items. The first Finance Subcommittee is being held after this meeting and the Committee may choose to revise some of these budget reports to make them more understandable.

CHRP BUDGET PROJECTIONS 2013/2014

Chairman Gorden discussed that this meeting is a “work shop” for budget planning so that everyone is prepared for the full Committee meeting on September 26, 2013. The Committee suggested putting a footer on each document tying it to the agenda item to make things easier. Also, it would be helpful going forward to know what was spent the previous year or a forecast when reviewing these budgets. Also include any change that occurred during the year. **The Committee is concerned that we are going to exceed the CHRP budget. Hopeful we will get more than 9.6 because that is the base after SEQUA.** These projections are based on what CDFA feels that they need to be confident. We can always make adjustments to fit everything into the 9.6 if that’s what it ends up being. The Finance Subcommittee will discuss this further and either suggest to the full Committee to make adjustments or chip money in.

a. High Risk HLB Survey

Debby Tanouye reviewed the breakdown of the Galtwald survey budget with the Committee. (Attachment 4) The Committee is concerned with the project itself. The science advisory panel (SAP) is going to review what is being done and recommend changes accordingly. Dr. Galtwald himself will attend the next SAP meeting, and was unable to make the previous meeting due to the technical difficulties CDFA was having and time constraints. Once he gets the QAQC he can give us a better answer. This is based on annual turn around. Debby suggested a field trip so that the Committee can see exactly what is done when staff are surveying. The Committee agrees and thinks it would be very helpful. How this survey is structured is very important going forward, it plays a huge role in the Committee's future.

b. Detection Trapping

Debby Tanouye went over the breakdown of the detection trapping with the Committee. (Attachment 5) CDFA staff is currently trapping 15 traps per square mile around the groves to determine if CDFA needs to perform any treatment. This does not include commercial trapping. The cost was high this year due to several delimitations prior to changing the protocol to a mile and a half around the groves. CDFA has taken out some of the delimitation traps per discussions at the previous full Committee meeting. Anywhere where CDFA has discontinued treatment, traps were removed.

c. Regulatory Budget

Victoria Hornbaker went over the breakdown of the regulatory budget with the Committee. (Attachment 6) The regulatory budget has been reduced significantly from previous budgets. The main focus is to keep a systems approach for any type of movement, ensuring a compliance agreement and permits.

d. CDFA Laboratory Budget

Susan McCarthy went over the laboratory budget with the Committee. (Attachment 7) She discussed the breakdown of the budget and went over personnel costs. The budget is less than what was projected last year.

CPDPC BUDGET PROJECTIONS 2013/2014

a. Administration

Victoria Hornbaker went over budget projections for the upcoming fiscal year with the Committee. (Attachment 8) There were a few adjustments made to the spreadsheet on the personnel salaries and benefits columns. A column was also added for training. The Committee would like to see the lab staff have some additional training as well. Travel was increased as a buffer. Interdepartmental changes and the indirect fees cannot be changed until the budget is set. The total projected budget after changes is now 9,135,143.

b. Urban Treatment

Tina Galindo gave a power point presentation on updates for urban treatment. Debby Tanouye then went over the breakdown of the urban treatment budget. (Attachment 9)

i. Southern California

CDFA staff was instructed to start meeting with the treatment coordinators to discuss treatment plans. Meetings were set up in July to meet with various counties. CDFA first met with San Diego County, and plan is to continue treatment trapping along border and in areas of Borrego, Escondido, Paula, Deluz, and Palma. CDFA is going to discontinue treatment in Fallbrook, Bonsal, Rainbow, Rancho Santa Fe, and Valley Center due to high ACP populations, refusals and organic growers. These are also areas where CDFA will discontinue grove trapping and implement ACP collection for HLB testing. Areas that treatment was not discontinued will now be under area wide treatment. There was a pest control district formed in Imperial County. CDFA will continue trapping and treatment there around the border. There needs to be further direction on whether or not to increase buffer. CDFA stopped trapping and treatment completely in San Diego County. There is no trapping and treatment in Riverside going on currently. CDFA is planning on making two applications a year and coordinate that with growers in Imperial County. There is nothing left to treat in north San Diego County meaning that there will be a lot of staff being laid off. It would be ideal to move those staff to the HLB survey and when treatment is needed again, staff can return back to that. We want to go in with the assumption that we are going to get a 100 percent compliance with the area wide treatment. There needs to be more targeted grower meetings.

ii. Coast (Ventura, Santa Barbara & North)

There are no projections for Santa Barbara currently. CDFA has finished treating along the Coast and we need to discuss where to go next with the area wide treatment.

iii. Central Valley

Projections were based on there being a few more finds in Tulare County.

c. CRB Operations Grant

Louise Fisher went over the breakdown for the operations budget for fiscal year 13/14. (Attachment 10) Discussed were a few changes made in data management, Riverside lab staff, and the supplies line item. Supplies were increased from last year's budget. Administration was greatly decreased. Ken Keck discussed data management further with the Committee. There was a technical advisory committee that CRB has employed. By getting a GIS trained personnel into the function, CRB can go from what is now a three person operation to a two person operation by next fiscal year. CRB is currently using Florida and Texas data, which doesn't seem like good data to use for California. CRB would like to maintain skilled staff. The Committee would like to go forward with the CRB operations grant however there is not a quorum to make a motion.

d. Biocontrol

Mike Pitcairn went over the breakdown for biocontrol with the Committee. (Attachment 11) CDFA staff has the responsibility of setting up the insectory production for the indoor rearing. APHIS/SEPHIS are doing the outdoor rearing. The budget Mike went over includes the insectory production and the field releases. Discussed were the three facilities and their operations as well as personnel costs: Mt. Rubidoux, Calpoly Pomona, and Arvin. The projection for the FY 13/14 budget is approximately 625,872 for Mt. Rubidoux, 237,733 for Calpoly Pomona, and 186,550 for the Arvin facility totaling in 1,050,155. Brian Taylor updated the Committee on the field cages. 20,000 tamarxia were given to date to CDFA for release in last three weeks. We are increasing tamarxia production seven to fourteen times the current rate based on number of cages we currently have.

e. Outreach

Victoria Hornbaker proposed that the maximum allowed budget for outreach will be spent for fiscal year 13/14.

f. Grove Trapping

Debby Tanouye went over the budget projection for grove trapping for fiscal year 13/14. (Attachment 12) The biggest difference between this projection and last year's will be vehicle expenses since CRB is no longer covering the cost.

g. Area-Wide Treatment Coordination

Craig Hanes gave an update on the area-wide treatment coordination and reviewed the budget. (Attachment 13) The contract is now approved and CDFA is working with CASS to get the positions filled. CDFA is also working on getting the new statewide grower liaison coordinator on board.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING SOURCES (2013/2014 PROJECTED)

a. Citrus Commodity Survey

Debby Tanouye went over the citrus commodity survey with the Committee. 25 percent of commercial citrus through the state is surveyed for various diseases. CDFA has an agreement with USDA called enhanced detection survey. CDFA will be using some of those funds to complete some surveying as well.

b. TASC Grant

Debby Tanouye went over the TASC grant with the Committee. It is currently in place and is used for commercial citrus trapping. This year Joel has asked CDFA use more for Tulare County. The grant is 475,000.

PROGRAM UPDATE (TIME PERMITTING)

Nothing was discussed?

CHAIRMAN REPORT

Discussed was the travel to the conference being held in Denver, Colorado. Three people from the Committee will attend using CPDPC funds. Two people will be covered using CHRP funds. Staff from the lab need to attend as well as Victoria. The Committee feels there is good justification for the attendees. Victoria Hornbaker is going to work on the travel justifications for the Committee members attending.

Jim Gorden let the Committee know that this may be the last Operations Subcommittee as it is constituted right now. Nick Hill's intent is to separate CPDPC from any CRB function and to appoint a smaller committee entirely of CPDPC members. We will see what the future brings in regards to meeting times, etc.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00pm. The next meeting will be held ???