

**Citrus Research Board Office**  
CRB/CPDPC Joint Operations Committee Meeting  
CRB Conference Room  
217 N. Encina Street  
Visalia, Ca 93291  
Minutes of Meeting  
**January 2, 2013 10:00 a.m.**

A Meeting of the Citrus Research Board/Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Committee Joint Operations Committee was called to order by Chairman Jim Gorden at the Citrus Research Board Office, Conference Room, Visalia, California. A quorum was established with the following in attendance:

Joint Committee Members

Jim Gorden, Chairman CRB Ops  
Link Leavens, V-Chairman CRB Ops\*  
Dan Dreyer  
Dan Galbraith  
Kevin Severns\*  
Mark McBroom\*  
  
Earl Rutz (Ex-Officio)\*

CRB Staff:

Ted Batkin  
Brian Taylor\*  
Louise Fisher  
Rick Dunn  
Cynthia LeVesque\*  
Brent Eickelberg  
Marilyn Martin

Interested Parties:

Linda Haque, Ventura County  
Helene Wright, USDA\*  
Leslie Leavens-Crowe\*  
Marilyn Kinoshita\*  
Judy Zaninovich  
Dave Machlitt\*  
Stephen Birdsall\*

CDFR Staff:

Susan McCarthy  
Art Gilbert  
Debbie Tanouye  
Tina Galindo\*  
Duane Schnabel\*  
Robert Leavitt\*

\*Participated by phone and/or Webex

**Call to Order**

Chairman Gorden welcomed all in attendance. Roll call was taken to establish a quorum and to confirm who was attending.

**Review of Minutes**

Chairman Gorden asked if anyone had any comments, questions or edits to the Joint Operations Committee meeting minutes of December 5, 2012.

**01.02.2013. 1** Dreyer moved and McBroom seconded to approve Minutes from the December 5, 2012 Joint Operations Meeting.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

**Review of financial reports and approval of CRB action**

**a. Financial Report for CRB Operations**

**Louise Fisher**

Fisher provided the November financials and stated we're on track to be on budget. Fisher did state she may need to look into the Riverside Lab utilities, since slightly over budget. The rent is also slightly over budget as well because of common area expenses of \$2,500 that was accrued throughout 2012.

Fisher stated under the Field category, there is a reduction for Taylor being defunded and will be right on track

when we get December's numbers. Taylor stated there is a significant repair that is being done on one of the vehicles, but has been allowed for in the budget.

Fisher stated that the overall Operations' budget is under budget by about 9%. Batkin stated being an operational budget, this budget does not divide out by twelfths.

McCarthy questioned the supplies for the Riverside lab since they're not processing samples. Batkin stated supplies are bought ahead of time in anticipation of activities and when we get deals from the vendors.

Fisher made reference to the footnote (1) at bottom of budget, stating it pertains to the November 14<sup>th</sup> CPDPC Board action to defund Taylor and is reflected in footnoted numbers under the Field section of the budget.

### **Regional ACP Management Programs Update**

**Susan McCarthy**

McCarthy reported that Alan Washburn's emergency contract is in place now and will be going out with a RFP for that position. McCarthy stated that she will be talking with Judy Zaninovich about the contract for the Central Valley; Zaninovich has already been working it.

Zaninovich stated she was the acting grower liaison for Tulare County, but will be the Kern County person after Bob Wagner transitions over as the new Tulare grower liaison. Zaninovich reported that they have three restricted areas and three eradication areas. The eradication areas are 800 meters and treatment is required for all the trees in those areas. CDFA treated all of the residences with 24 trees or less and it is up to the grower liaison to work with those growers to get everything else treated. Zaninovich stated all the growers have been contacted and treatments are ongoing at this point; their biggest impediment is weather.

Zaninovich reported that in Terra Bella, 97% has been treated with only 2 small growers left in the area and one homeowner that has abandoned a citrus orchard but is intending to treat. The other is a foreclosure and is on edge of that area; they're working to get that treated. There is one residential property with more than 25 trees and the homeowner is working to get treated.

In Strathmore, 43% of that area has been treated. Several residences have more than 25 trees with some up to 60 or more. They've been working to get those growers treated. They've all been contacted and are open to treating; probably next week. Most of commercial growers are planning to treat this week.

Lindsay is 51% treated. There have not been any treatment refusals from growers or residences. Fisher asked if it was a second treatment for some of those in the Lindsay area. Zaninovich stated they're only required to treat once. The only grower requiring a second treatment had a donated treatment last spring.

Haque asked if the residences with more than 25 trees are selling their fruits. Zaninovich stated all of them have told her they are not selling their fruit; the majority of trees are either dead or not producing; but if there are any green leaves on them, they are considered live trees and need to be treated. Zaninovich stated the deadline for treatment is January 15 and is based on guidelines that Beth Grafton-Cardwell developed.

Dave Machlitt reported on Ventura County. They currently have six active treatment zones with commercial citrus. Fillmore has multiple detections including breeding populations and the latest expansion is to the west side of Cespe Creek with one new grower who has agreed to treat.

Machlitt stated in Fillmore they have one grower who has not agreed to treat and has been referred to the Ag Commissioner for action. The ACP find in the Santa Paula area was on a ranch/residence. There are 10 growers with 19 parcels; all been contacted and have agreed to treat. In the Somas/Bradley Road area, ACP was found at a rural residence along Bradley Road. There are 9 growers and 15 parcels; all agreed to treat except one who has been hard to contact.

Machlitt stated there is a fourth find site treatment zone out in Moorepark area; it was an ACP trap at a rural residence. There are 3 properties within treatment zone and all have been contacted and agreed to treat. Machlitt stated the most difficult ones to work with are the ones without a packing house; they have cash buyers and some don't even have a permit.

Machlitt stated the two most recent finds are between Santa Paula and Fillmore and involves eight different growers; seven have been contacted so far. There is a large grower, who is organic, and doesn't let CDFA trap. Machlitt stated he is trying to line-up all of the other growers in the area to treat and use as ammunition to get the organic grower to treat. Machlitt stated there is another treatment zone along the Grand Avenue in Fillmore, involving approximately three growers with small parcels of oranges; it may be difficult getting them to treat.

McBroom stated there is a commercial grove in their area that has had a second ACP find in two months. One find was in October and was treated the end of October; another ACP was confirmed in the same block about 10 days ago. It is a minneola-tangelo block, they were harvesting at the time. There is no state or county mandate regarding commercial groves being treated so close to the last treatment; the treatment was imidacloprid. McBroom expressed concern over how difficult it will be to mandate landowners to treat with how expensive it is and questions its effectiveness. Machlitt stated the leverage is with the packing houses; the grower won't get packed until he completes the treatment protocols.

McCarthy stated San Diego is in process of hiring treatment coordinators. San Bernardino doesn't have a treatment coordinator and is up to the full CPDPC as to whether or not they want to fund one there. Batkin commented on the San Bernardino area being complex because it splits two county lines. There is a small amount of acreage in San Bernardino County; but the bulk of the acreage is in the Redlands area out through the foothills, which is Riverside County. The county line runs right down the middle of it down the wash.

Rutz stated he understood that in San Diego County they've offered the position to Mark Nyberg, with Lyall in charge of the Task Force for San Diego County. Many of the areas are looking at area wide treatments already and that should suffice with the packing houses to move fruit. Rutz stated he doesn't know of any residential treatment in the area of Pauma Valley, Valley Center or Fallbrook and he would like an update. Rutz stated for the Temecula area in Riverside County, McMillan is in charge of a task force, but doesn't know who their area liaison is.

Dunn stated Orange County would be another one for concern. He spoke to Mark Nyberg who said he would be interested in working Orange County as well.

### **Bio Control Program Report**

**Ted Batkin**

Batkin stated the work with Cal Poly is ongoing. The bids came in a little higher than anticipated, so discussion is going back and forth between Cal Poly and Conley. We may look at other contractors to keep within budget.

Batkin stated there are four small greenhouses at the Rubidoux facility, around 8 x 10 or 8 x 12's. They are part of the USDA soil facilities there. They sit up on top of a bunker and they're retrofitting to use the greenhouse facility at the top; putting cages in them and rearing the psyllids in the greenhouse area. They are using that area down below to use as *Tamarixia* stinging rooms; it is an ideal set-up and is low cost to convert. They're hoping to have in operation in February or March.

Batkin reported that Joe Morse has made available a greenhouse on the UCR campus, next to the quarantine facility for rearing *Tamirixia*. It will be available this month and they've ordered 60 bug dorms to start this process. Batkin shared slides of field cage operations work with UC Riverside and USDA APHIS. Batkin reviewed pictures of different cage styles; first one being developed in Texas and was Dan Flores' design. Batkin stated they have bids out now for about 25 cages. They've identified 10 to 15 trees in the Yorba Linda area and some in other locations to start the rearing cage facility. It should take approximately 30 to 45 days to

get these cages built and in operation. The Riverside campus is raising psyllids for this and with the four greenhouses going at Rubidoux, they'll have that operating as well.

Batkin informed the committee that even though the Rubidoux greenhouses are right across from the CCPP program, the CCPP screenhouses are double screened; they're not just sealed; all the entrances are double and triple screened with their curtains, so there shouldn't be any problems with escape of psyllids. Batkin showed pictures of cages that were 12x12 but with different vertical sizes. The cage with a vertical height of approximately 8 feet interior, UCR has put two of them out in the San Bernardino area and they're building psyllid populations in there. Over time, will probably be using a combination of both an easy-up frame and the pipe framed structures. The easy-up frame has a patch area up in roof and is designed to catch and allow the *Tamarixia* to move through it but keep the psyllids inside the tent. They're doing this as an experiment to find out whether they can use the real fine mesh screen and actually get the *Tamarixia* to escape where they can capture them in a separate area. Right now they plan to physically aspirate the *Tamarixia* from the cages. They are expecting a good size volume of *Tamarixia* by the end of March for distribution in the L.A. basin.

Batkin stated the whole purpose of the Cal Poly mix with the APHIS contract is methods development. They are looking at the easy-up tent for the Cal Poly campus, testing various different screens and techniques, with the planting of 30 25-gallon lemon trees.

Galbraith asked if Morse gave an estimate for approximately how much *Tamarixia* will be added to their breeding with the additional room at UCR. Batkin stated it is mostly for psyllid raising and isn't sure if they'll be able to rear *Tamarixia* in that house. Right now they're getting 800 to 1,000 *Tamarixia* per week production out of Riverside and it's basically what they need.

Batkin informed the committee they will be interviewing for a full time lead entomologist. They are scheduled for the week of January 14 and have several candidates.

Batkin spoke about the vehicle needing extensive work for a blown engine. It is one of the Ford Rangers, which they pulled out of service and CASS replaced with a rental vehicle. Batkin stated he is pulling that vehicle out of service and with a new engine and is transferring it over to the bio control program.

Batkin stated that Mark Huddle has put in a proposal to make one final trip to Pakistan. His post doc will be leaving sometime before June. He has applied for a grant from the Hanson Trust, who wants to cost-share this with CRB or CPDPC. They have a tentative approval from Hanson Trust if we come up with the balance of funding. One-half of the funding is \$18,000 and will be addressed at either the CPDPP or CRB level.

## **Detection and Treatment Update**

### **a. Report on Tulare County ACP Detection, Response**

**CDFR Staff**

Courtney Albrecht introduced Melinda Mokal for giving the update on the situation in Tulare County. Mokal stated as of last week, they held two conference calls for growers and packing houses and had about 100 people call in. The conference calls were to address the newly approved pre-harvest treatment method for the movement of bulk citrus to receivers located outside of the restricted area. The pre-harvest treatment is only allowing the movement of the incidental leaves and stems; not full shipments with leaves and stems and should be at a minimum in shipments of bulk citrus moved out of the restricted area to approved receivers. They've been getting lists and compliance agreements of receivers located outside of the restricted area that are allowed to receive such citrus. They will be following up with compliance agreement inspections, with a checklist of certain perimeters that are supposed to be met with the receivers outside ACP restricted areas and outside ACP quarantine areas that have been allowed to receive bulk citrus from either a quarantine or restricted area under the QC1255. They will be doing those compliance agreement inspections starting next week and will be working with local counties that have approved such establishments as well.

Mokal stated the pre-harvest treatment information is on their public website, as well as establishments that are

under compliance, both with the QC1255 and with the project located inside the restricted areas of Tulare County. The pre-harvest treatment itself is any one of six pyrethroid products and the pre-harvest treatment option has to be applied to the bulk citrus before it is harvested and the fruit must then be harvested and shipped within seven days of the re-entry interval of the treatment that was applied. Tulare County grower meetings and nursery meetings were very well attended. All of the packinghouses and receivers located in each of the restricted areas in Tulare County have been placed under compliance. Every packer inside each of those restricted areas knows what is required of them. Current outreach efforts are being carried out with signing of compliance agreements with growers, harvesters and haulers. All nurseries, as well, have signed compliance agreements within the restricted area; there are only six nurseries and a limited number of plants on hold.

Mokal gave an update to the nursery situation down south in the quarantine area; with over 26,000 plants on hold. Since their last report, they've had three new nurseries found to be infested with ACP and have been placed on hold, with about 200 plants at those three nurseries placed on hold.

#### **b. Trapping Program Report and Treatment Update**

**T. Galindo**

Galindo reviewed the San Diego treatment areas; there were 79 detections in the county. They have 12 trucks currently working in several areas of San Diego right now. Galindo responded to Rutz's question regarding residential treatment in Pauma Valley, stating the only residential treatment they've done was in October. Any detections that have come up since then have not needed meetings; the crew is getting homeowner consent to treat as the detections come up. Pauma Valley is now complete.

Galindo reviewed Imperial County, stating it still seems to be picking up. There have been 242 detections since December 1<sup>st</sup>. There were 3 more grove detections, 1 repeat and 2 new detections; they will continue to treat these areas.

In Riverside County, their crews are working with Alan Washburn in Indio and Temecula and are almost done. The crews will head down to San Diego to help finish up those areas.

In Ventura County there were 6 detections. Last week they had 2 new detections in Fillmore and Santa Paula. They were able to treat some of the homes last week. They are up to 17 trucks in Ventura this week and should finish up Santa Paula and Somis today. They will put all of the crews in to knockout Thousand Oaks and Simi, which are their biggest treatment areas.

In Valencia, they had a couple of appointments scheduled for today; Santa Clarita has 2 areas that will begin on Monday.

Leavens asked Galindo if the 2 Fillmore finds have been isolated single finds in regard to the ones that were discovered 3 or 4 months ago. Galindo stated it has just been those two properties that had the population.

Rutz asked Galindo if there were any new finds or new treatments for the southern zone of San Diego County. Galindo responded there was something in Calexico that just got treated and stated there has been a lot of new areas but not too much along the border.

Batkin asked Galindo and/or Tanouye what is happening along the Tijuana border with APHIS Int'l. Services and our program here, if there is interface going on. Tanouye stated they do get a report from Mexico every one to two weeks. They have had new detections in new areas that they are treating.

Galindo reviewed the county maps reflecting find sites. Ventura County has two new finds since mid-December; one is north of Fillmore and the other is between Santa Paula and Fillmore. The Imperial County map reflects several new detections in the Salton City area; detections are widespread throughout the county. In Los Angeles County, up in the north they're treating Santa Clarita and just finished Valencia. In Orange County they've had new grove detections in San Juan Capistrano; Tanouye notified the county of those

detections and John Hooper has been notifying growers. In Riverside County they're continuing in Temecula and in Indio; they just completed the Hemet area. They continue to get detections out in the Coachella area. In San Bernardino County, they have a lot of repeat detections in groves around the areas they've already treated, with some new grove detections as well. In San Diego County, they've had a lot of detections with several trucks working there trying to keep up with all of the detections.

Taylor asked Galindo about progress of removing traps from the residential areas. Galindo stated they're still in progress. They're about done in Riverside County and they're complete in San Bernardino. In L.A. they're still removing there as well; new finds have kept them from completing the removal.

Gilbert reported on Tulare trapping. All the traps in Lindsay, Strathmore and Terra Bella are still on a one week servicing, as well as all of the GWSS traps that are within those three areas until the GWSS gets back online and start servicing their traps again. The transects in Tulare County and commercial orchards are still on a two week basis. These traps are still being double screened and all are negative for ACP. Gilbert stated they are a little behind in screening these traps because of double screening and doubling the workload, so they may bring on a few new people to help with the screening.

Gilbert reported that he, Kevin Hoffman, Debby Tanouye, Tina Galindo and a few others came up with a revised psyllid suppression program. For Imperial, Los Angeles, San Diego and Ventura, it remains the same. For Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino, they are proposing some changes for the committee to consider.

Gilbert suggested for Orange County: Right now, with no detection trapping around commercial groves they are suggesting replace it with the Gottwald urban survey; no delimitation trapping around commercial groves, and no treatments around commercial grove detections. In lieu of trapping in commercial groves, replace it with HLB sampling using Grafton-Cardwell's plan that was developed earlier. It will take some modifications because orchards in Orange County aren't exactly square.

For Riverside County: As far as detection trapping in the urban areas, no trapping except south of Indio, trap at 5 traps per square mile. Delimitation trapping around the urban areas, no trapping except south of Indio at 25 traps per square mile in core and surrounding 8 square miles. No treatment around urban detections except south of Indio, treat 200 meters. Detection trapping around commercial groves: no trapping except south of Indio; trapping 15 traps per square mile in 3 mile wide buffer; in area of discontinued trapping replace with Gottwald urban survey. Delimitation trapping around commercial grove detections: no trapping except south of Indio, trap at 25 traps per square mile in surrounding 8 square miles. Treatments around commercial groves detections; no treatments except south of Indio, treat 400 meters. No trapping in commercial groves, except south of Indio; in areas of discontinued trapping, replace with HLB sampling using Grafton-Cardwell's plan.

In San Bernardino County: Detection trapping in urban areas, no trapping. Delimitation trapping around urban detections; no trapping. Treatment around urban detections; no treatment. Detection trapping around commercial groves; no trapping and replace with Gottwald urban survey. Delimitation trapping around commercial grove detections; no trapping. Treatments around commercial grove detections; no treatment. No trapping in commercial groves; replace with HLB sampling using Grafton-Cardwell's plan.

Gilbert stated it is basically no trapping or treatment in Orange, San Bernardino or Riverside except south of Indio; and replace it with survey for HLB. It will eliminate the traps for the two trappers down there plus a few traps in the Hemet and Temecula area that are being serviced by someone else. It will reduce trapping by about 540 commercial citrus traps.

Tanouye stated they are still evaluating the area that is north of Indio. They are trying to work with the ag commissioner to see what can be done to encourage the golf courses to treat their citrus. Some of the proposed ACP suppression program may change depending on what progress she can make. They know the groves are infested and they're not going to treat; no coordinator is needed for those two counties. Gorden stated that the

proposal Gilbert reviewed for San Bernardino, Orange and Riverside counties is to substitute visual sampling and HLB sampling for the trapping and treatment programs north of Indio.

Gorden stated we are looking for a recommendation from this committee as to how to proceed with the trapping and freeing up resources. We don't have enough information at this time to make a recommendation for the budget; that will go to the CPDPC next week. Gorden asked the committee if there was a motion to adopt the recommended suppression program. McBroom stated he was looking at consistency; the amount of finds around the commercial groves in San Diego and Imperial aren't that overwhelming. If the commercial properties are treating, we should be consistent with what is being done in Ventura. Rutz concurred.

Gorden stated the only counties that have changed on the draft suppression program from our adopted plan in September are Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino. Gorden stated the committee is trying to address pulling back the trapping where we have huge number of psyllid finds in San Bernardino, Orange and Riverside Counties, and redeploying those assets so that we can step up our HLB sampling. The grower should be encouraged to be on a treatment program and then we can go in and tap for psyllids, testing for HLB. Tanouye stated they know the groves/areas are infested with ACP and the goal, at this point, would be to detect HLB as soon as possible.

Gorden asked for a motion to act on this proposal that Gilbert has put together. Dreyer asked if there was any financial impact. Gilbert said not really; Gorden said it redeploys the resources. Dunn asked if this had implications for the need of a grower liaison in those areas and Gorden stated it probably will to get the message to the growers for the need of implementation of treatment. McCarthy asked what acreage amount was and Gorden stated less than 1,000 acres. McCarthy stated Mark Nyberg stated he would take that on also; Alan Washburn is already covering part of Riverside and we've talked already about having somebody for the Redlands area who will also take care of the San Bernardino area. Dunn asked McCarthy if she agreed that there is still a need for a grower liaison in an area like Redlands, even though it switched to advising the growers to go on a calendar spray program. McCarthy agreed, stating it is up to the committee. Dunn stated he thought it should be discussed here. Batkin agreed with Dunn, stating with this Operations Committee should at least forward an opinion to the full CPDPC. If we're going to follow in the spirit of why we have this body and what CPDPC has asked of this body, then this committee should have a recommendation to send over. If not, then let it go to the CPDPC; but the whole purpose of having this Operations Committee as a joint committee, working both sides of the equation, was to make these kind of recommendations to the CPDPC.

Fisher asked about the discussion at the last CPDPC meeting about it being a bigger issue along the Mexican border. Is that something that should be part of this treatment/trapping program; the rate of trapping along the Mexican border? Tanouye answered, for Imperial and San Diego County, they didn't make any changes to the trapping for the border. McCarthy stated the numbers reported on this are consistent with what was developed when the budget was passed.

Leavens stated there is a sense of frustration; if our people feel that redeploying the assets is the right thing to do, he will make the motion. Leavens said Gorden made a comment several meetings ago that our goal needs to be focused on determining where HLB is. Leavens feels frustrated that we're flying blind to some degree, but if we're continuing to sample for HLB and the trapping program needs to be redeployed, he will make a recommendation. Gorden stated the committee has a motion from Leavens and a second from Galbraith to accept the proposal that was presented by Gilbert to change the trapping protocols and treatment protocols in Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, as has been laid out by Gilbert. Gorden asked the committee if there was any further discussion; there was none.

**01.02.2013.2** Leavens moved and Galbraith seconded to change the trapping and treatment protocols in Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

**Motion failed: 4-yes; 1-no; 1-abstention**

Gorden stated it will be sent to the CPDPC without a recommendation and it can be debated there.

Tanouye asked about the trapping in the Central Valley to continue through the winter months. Gorden stated there was a recommendation made at last month's meeting. Tanouye stated that at the moment, she would have to revise the county contract to implement that and needs to know whether to do that. Batkin stated it was the recommendation from the Science Committee to this board and department to continue the trapping through the winter in the urban areas; especially in the high risk areas of the San Joaquin Valley and should be immediately put into effect. Gorden stated the policy up until October or beginning of November was the traps are withdrawn from the urban areas in the San Joaquin Valley, Bakersfield, Visalia, Tulare, Fresno, Madera areas. With the recommendation from the Science Committee to continue to trap through the winter season in those areas of the San Joaquin Valley, the contract with the counties would have to be changed to accomplish that. Gorden asked the committee their opinion on having trapping discontinued in the urban areas in the months of November, December, January and February or following the Science Committee recommendations.

Rutz wanted to know the financial implication to do the next couple of months; we should give serious thought to following the science committee. Gorden stated he didn't know what the financial implication would be; it could probably be pushed forward a couple of weeks and that would be about the best we could accomplish this year. Gilbert stated we would be hard-pressed to gain anything this year with having to advertise, hire new employees, getting them trained and out there and we'll be starting next month as it is. There is nothing to be gained even though the science advisory committee recommended. Tanouye stated in moving forward we wouldn't have their contracts end in October, we would just keep them going. Gorden thought that would be what we're looking at and, if possible, get them in the field a little earlier. Spring time would be prime to have those traps in the field; the flush starts pushing in February for some of the varieties and that is when the psyllids will be really moving to try and find the flush. Gilbert stated maybe they should just go ahead and extend the contracts and then get going as fast as possible. Gorden asked when the first trap retrievals happen if they start trapping in February. Gilbert responded around the 15<sup>th</sup> of March. Tanouye stated they can amend their contracts to encourage them to start earlier than February. Gilbert concurred. Gorden stated you can start retrieving traps the first of March. Tanouye concurred, stating they can amend the contract to reflect the first read date. Gorden stated then going forward another year, the implication would be to keep them going.

Dreyer asked if the urban trap program include the transportation corridors as well, like along Highways 65, 58, and 99? Gilbert stated it includes wherever there's citrus trees along the corridors in housing. Dreyer asked if those traps, at current, are gone. Gilbert answered yes.

Marilyn Kinoshita stated she looked at the past contract; it looks like it is about \$20,000 to \$25,000 per month for Tulare County if you kept them out. That is roughly the monthly invoice. Kinoshita stated they do have the traps around the corridors as long as there is a residence to match up with it. Gorden stated that it would be an additional \$25,000 for another month. Kinoshita stated Tulare County is on the low end as far as hourly rates and other counties are more expensive. Gorden stated Fresno would probably be considerably more expensive than Tulare County. We could be looking at half a million more dollars to do that. Gorden asked Tanouye if she could have those numbers for next week's CPDPC meeting. Tanouye said it would be a projection, based on the percentage of increase. Gorden stated it would be more like a 30% increase. Dunn asked if Madera County was included. Gorden stated the recommendation was for Madera, Fresno, Tulare and Kern Counties.

Rutz stated he feels it would be prudent to try and get the traps out this season, as early as possible and then separate the issue for next year into a budget discussion based on the science and keep the two separate, if possible. Gorden stated it will be hard to change much currently because of the late date. Tanouye stated they can amend the contracts. McCarthy reminded the committee that it is a federally funded program, it's not CPDPC funded. Batkin concurred and stated it has to do with the management of the CHRP funds. This would be an increase to the CHRP funding side of that equation; then there would be a corresponding decrease in some other part of the program because the CHRP funds are flat lined for the next two years. It would be more



realistic to address this next fiscal year and see what the impact is going to be. Gorden stated we have to figure out what the cost is going to be and where the money is going to come from to do the job.

## **HLB Survey**

### **1. Risk-Based HLB Survey (Gottwald)**

Tanouye reviewed the Risk Survey for HLB for the total area of California where Gottwald did his evaluation and determined the highest risk for HLB. They are primarily surveying starting with the highest risk and surveying down from there. The maps reflected all the areas that Gottwald has evaluated and he is also moving into Tulare and some of the Central Valley areas that he will develop as well. Tanouye stated she will have maps and data for Imperial for next week's CPDPC meeting.

Batkin asked if they were pulling plant samples. Tanouye said symptomatic trees plant samples. Batkin asked if they are using the high throughput or are they using conventional PCR for the lab testing. Schnabel stated for the regulatory samples they use the conventional PCR. Batkin asked if all the samples on the Gottwald study are going through the Cepheid. Schnabel said if they are plant samples, yes.

Gorden stated this is going to evolve to be a more and more important part of the program. Tanouye concurred.

### **2. Hacienda Heights HLB Survey**

Galindo stated they are finishing up in zone 3 right now and are continuing to test the sniffer sites monthly.

## **Laboratory Activities**

### **a. Riverside Laboratory Activities**

**Cynthia LeVesque**

With no action items to discuss or vote on, Gorden passed on LeVesque's report because of time restraints.

### **b. Sacramento Laboratory Activities**

**Duane Schnabel**

Schnabel reported on the lab numbers. In December they had 2,945 total samples; 918 were plant; 1,835 ACP and 192 nursery samples. Broken down numbers were: 337 quarantine samples from Hacienda Heights; 2 trace forward – trace back samples; 110 high risk samples (Gottwald).

Schnabel talked about the two different platforms they run. One is the Cepheid (standard PCR) and the other one is the high throughput (ABI). Their goal is to move to the ABI high throughput for all samples; regulatory as well as non-regulatory.

December 10<sup>th</sup> they met with USDA CPHST to discuss the testing protocols. They were approved to move to the ABI high throughput system for all samples pending: 1) that they submit the accreditation panels, which they've run and sent in for all their employees; 2) that they write up the planned deviation for approval. They will be submitting this to the USDA in the next two weeks and should hear back sometime in February on the approval. This would move them for all sampling, to the high throughput ABI system platform. It will give them lower cost, faster diagnostics, lower testing variability and a better level of detection.

Batkin asked if they get a hit using the ABI, will they go back and re-run a confirmatory sample using the Cepheid. Schnabel stated yes, they will still run the Cepheid platform for other tests that they do. They will maintain that and be able to go back and run the standard PCR for any samples that come up positive. Schnabel stated their next step would be to do a combined LAM/LAS, which is the two variant strains, into one test. They submitted that data to USDA and they're reviewing it. It would be their final step and would reduce the cost even further. Schnabel stated this is all being done under the farm bill grant.

## **Data Management Report**

**Rick Dunn**

### **a. GIS Technician**

Dunn reported their first choice for GIS Technician declined the position. He will start the interview process again and hopes to have someone before the next meeting. Batkin stated he doesn't want to delay another full

month if there is a good candidate. He would like a motion from this committee to approve the authority to hire the right candidate. Dunn stated in getting another technician, it will empower the whole GIS program to move us forward and will allow for specific projects as needed. Batkin stated this has been previously discussed and was put into the budget. We had approval to do the search and now need final approval to hire a technician.

**0102.2013.3** Galbraith moved and Dreyer 2<sup>nd</sup> motion to authorize the hiring of a GIS Technician.

**Motion passed unanimously with those present**

**b. Citrus Layer Progress Update**

Dunn stated as of week after Christmas, in the layer they have 18,000+ polygons encompassing 308,000+ acres statewide, that is measured by the GIS system. In Tulare County they have now digitized 7,000+ polygons encompassing 117,000+ acres that is depicting our citrus layer. Commissioner Kinoshita lent him a copy of a citrus layer that they were working on at their office. There was a difference in the number of polygons; CRB's was 7,000+ and theirs was 4,000+. Ours indicated 117,000+; theirs 109,000. Dunn stated that 990+ polygons in our layers are not in theirs; alternatively, 400+ of their polygons are not in ours and there are polys that are indeterminate; they overlap somewhat and aren't included. Work still needs to be done to synchronize the two layers so that we have one concise layer for the County. There is the same situation statewide.

Dunn stated they've done a lot of interviews where they were able to confirm the permit does belong to the person the Ag Commissioner has listed. Dunn stated his counterpart at UC Kearney, Kris Lynn-Patterson's status has changed with the university; she is now the academic GIS coordinator. Dunn said he is not working directly with her, but is working with her SRA, Robert Johnson, who has been supervising the interns. They were able to contact 51 growers, almost all in Tulare County, during the first 3-1/2 weeks of December. Dunn stated he was able to conduct 5 interviews in December, with larger growers including groves in Tulare, Fresno and Kern Counties. He acquired information on nearly 400 polygons totaling 7,600 acres. Dunn reported that at the December 11<sup>th</sup> growers' meeting there was a sign-in for growers that wanted to provide their contact information; 144 of those identified them as being growers and the UC people were able to contact 14 of those in the weeks following the meeting; it is still a work in progress.

**CPDPC Report**

**Susan McCarthy**

McCarthy stated there have been discussions between the department and Ventura County. They would like them to declare eradication zones in Ventura County. They've had several calls back and forth and it is going to be taken up. The question of whether or not eradication is considered feasible in Ventura County is going to be taken up by Polek's task force tomorrow, among other issues.

**Adjournment**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 13, 2013 at 10:00 a.m., exact location to be confirmed because of farm show in Tulare. The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

**Certification**

I, Ted A. Batkin, President of the Citrus Research Board, do hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the CRB/CPDPC Joint Operations Committee Meeting held on January 2, 2013.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ted A. Batkin, President