

CPDPC Executive Committee Webinar Meeting

January 4, 2019 Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Jim Gorden at 9:02 a.m. on January 4, 2019. There was a quorum of the Executive Committee and the following were in attendance:

Executive Committee Members

Bob Felts Jr*
Jim Gorden*
Mark McBroom*
Keith Watkins*

CDFa Staff

Jon Babineau*
Ryan Fong*
Victoria Hornbaker*
Sara Khalid*
Ray Leclerc*
Bob Wynn*

Other Attendees

Jill Barnier*
Holly Deniston-Sheets*

*Participated via webinar

Review of January 9, 2019 CPDPC Agenda

Victoria Hornbaker reviewed the agenda for the full Committee meeting to be held on January 9, 2019. She stated that there will be additional discussion regarding the pro rata and combining Zone 3 and Zone 4 for the regional quarantine. She noted that a justification will be needed to support combining the zones, if the Committee makes that recommendation. A discussion followed and there were concerns raised about the impact of relaxing citrus movement regulations between Zone 3 and 4, including introducing Asian citrus psyllid (ACP) to Monterey and San Luis Obispo.

Victoria noted that the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) has reviewed hand field cleaning devices developed by Monterey growers, Corona-College Heights (CCH) Citrus and CCH growers and has developed a limited compliance agreement in collaboration with the receiving Counties to allow use of the assisted hand-cleaning device to remove stems and leaves from fruit. The approved pathways are for fruit from Monterey to move to Ventura and fruit from Santa Barbara to move to Riverside. A report on the results should be available for the March Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Committee (CPDPC) meeting. It was noted that the Data Analysis Tactical Operations Cell (DATOC) was concerned that the ACP/Huanglongbing (HLB) Action Plan's grove survey section did not account for the edge effect. Victoria noted that she added the topic to the agenda to allow for additional discussion at the CPDPC meeting. Holly Deniston-Sheets noted that the DATOC has received data on ACP spread in commercial orchards from Dr. Mamadou Setamou, but the review is on hold until mid-January.

It was asked if there had been any work done on a risk-based survey for commercial groves. Ray Leclerc explained that Dr. Gottwald had not yet produced the model and the survey staff was not available. It was suggested that it could be done as either a pilot program or done later in the year when staff capacity has increased.

Report on Finance Subcommittee

Bob Felts, Jr. reported that Nathan Johnson from CDFA Financial Services explained at the Finance Subcommittee meeting why the pro rata increased from \$600,000 to over \$1,000,000 for fiscal year (FY) 2019/20. He explained that the increase was implemented to recoup FISCAL program costs, retiree healthcare costs and a previous shortfall from FY 2017/18 of around \$1,200,000. He noted that the rollover would affect FY 2019/20 and FY 2020/2021. He suggested that some of the state's unclaimed gas tax or other programs borrowing the Citrus program's spending authority of \$20,279,000 could help offset the increased pro rata.

Victoria noted that other Agriculture-funded or special-funded programs coming onboard would reduce the Citrus program's share of the pro rata. She explained that she would continue to discuss issues like the unclaimed gas tax spending with CDFA's executive office and budget office. It was suggested that it would be beneficial to review how much of the spending authority the program has used for the last few years.

Victoria noted that the FISCAL program tracked \$407,000 expenditures in November, which is unusually low. She stated that FISCAL expenditures tracking was still a work in progress, and the CDFA Information Technology unit was still working on a program to interface with FISCAL for more timely expenditures tracking. She noted that the budget office is creating expenditure reports, however, they are not final. The only month that has been finalized since the CDFA started using FISCAL is June 2018.

Ray Leclerc stated that he is working on tracking to ensure the program is not so reliant on other groups with other priorities, and is working with CDFA's Pest Detection and Emergency Projects' accounting staff and field staff to ensure the codes he developed are accurate and universally understood.

Report on Operations Subcommittee

Victoria provided an update on recent find sites. She stated that the majority of the finds in Soledad were located in a mobile home park; 32 sites have been treated, with staff having been unable to make contact with the remaining seven sites. Survey teams have surveyed 305 sites with 11 refusals, and a Notice of Treatment (NOT) is in progress, having been routed to the Executive Office for signature. The San Francisco find was one ACP detection, and the two trees have been removed. She explained that Cassandra Davis would provide a more thorough report at the January 9, 2019 meeting.

Report on Science Committee

It was noted that Etienne Rabe would not be available at the meeting on January 9, but he has asked Ed Civerolo to provide an update on the Science Subcommittee.

Victoria explained that the subcommittee was working on a procedure to roll areas such as San Benito, which have been clear of ACP detections for two years, from an active ACP zone to Zone 1. She noted that Madera and Merced are also almost two years clear of ACP. The subcommittee is also in discussion of a one-year rollout in cases where only one ACP was detected. She explained that being removed from quarantine would allow additional protection for fruit coming into the county from quarantine zones, and the county's fruit would only require tarping during shipping rather than tarping and an additional mitigation.

Report on Outreach Committee

Mark McBroom stated that Dr. Beth Grafton-Cardwell requested there be a science component in addition to a grower component when making decisions for groves. Jim Gorden suggested that the ideal would be a grower-supported, science-based program.

Closing

The meeting was adjourned at 9:52 a.m.