

California Department of Food & Agriculture  
Integrated Pest Control Branch  
**Beet Curly Top Virus Control Board**  
2895 N. Larkin Ave. Suite A  
Fresno, CA 93727  
Conference Room  
**March 16, 2023**  
**DRAFT MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Zach Bagley  
Darryl Bettencourt  
Dan Burns\*  
Mario Caimotto\*  
Ron Dalforno  
Joseph Nicholl\*  
Kyle Perez\*  
Jennifer Sanders\*

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Daniel Waterhouse\*

**CDFA PERSONNEL**

Kaitlyn Beames  
Michelle Dennis\*  
Mark McLoughlin\*  
Lauren Murphy  
Canh Nguyen  
Chris Ogawa  
Kendra Tapia

\*Participated via zoom

**GUESTS**

Mike Montna, California Tomato Growers Association

**INTRODUCTIONS**

The Beet Curly Top Virus Control Board (Board) Meeting was convened at 9:31 am by Board Chairman, Darryl Bettencourt, and introductions were made.

**BAGLEY-KEENE OPEN MEETING ACT**

The meeting was held in compliance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act.

**REVIEW OF MINUTES**

The Board reviewed and approved the minutes from the Beet Curly Top Virus Control Board (BCTVCB) Meeting that took place January 19, 2023.

**MOTION:**

Mario Caimotto moved that the Board approve the minutes from the January 19, 2023, Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Zach Bagley and passed with a vote of seven yeas. Mr. Perez joined the meeting late, after the first motion was already voted on, and therefore did not participate in this motion.

**VOTES:**

**YES**

Zach Bagley  
Darryl Bettencourt  
Dan Burns

**NO**

None

**ABSTENTION**

None

Mario Caimotto  
Ron Dalforno  
Joseph Nicholl  
Jennifer Sanders

**BOARD VACANCY – Lauren Murphy**

There is currently one Board vacancy for District I in Southern California. A vacancy announcement will be sent out. Applications and resumes will be accepted through October 31, 2023 and presented to the Board at the BCTVCB Fall 2023 Meeting.

**BCTVCP OPERATIONAL RESOURCES – Chris Ogawa**

CDFA filled four of the eight vacant Pest Prevention Assistant (PPA) Limited Term positions. Two PPA positions were filled for the Sacramento Valley, and two PPA positions were filled for the San Joaquin Valley and will be allocated to the northern SJV and Kern County. The interview process to fill the remaining four PPA positions and two Agricultural Pest Control Specialist positions is ongoing.

**PROGRAM UPDATE – Lauren Murphy**

Ms. Murphy presented a Beet Curly Top Virus Control Program update for 2023 Program activities.

Discussion followed.

**BCTVCP RESEARCH**

**LAMP UPDATE – Michelle Dennis**

CDFA was informed that Dr. Gilbertson will not be moving forward with the BCTV Loop-Meditated Isothermal Amplification (LAMP) assay development.

Discussion followed.

**RESEARCH AGREEMENT OPTIONS – Canh Nguyen**

The Program is continuing to work on the development of scope of works for research agreements with three different laboratories: University of California, Riverside, California State University, Fresno, and University of California, Merced.

Discussion followed.

**PUBLIC OUTREACH – Lauren Murphy**

The Program provided a BCTVCP public outreach presentation at the University of California Cooperative Extension's Northern San Joaquin Processing Tomato Meeting on February 8, 2023. The Program will also provide a BCTVCP public outreach presentation at an upcoming meeting in Colusa on March 24, 2023.

**DIAGNOSTICS SUBCOMMITTEE – Ron Dalforno**

Ron Dalforno, Diagnostics Subcommittee (DS) Board Chairman, presented a brief overview of items that were discussed at the Diagnostics Subcommittee Meeting on February 3, 2023.

One item that was discussed at the DS meeting was current research that is being done by Rebecca Creamer's lab at New Mexico State University. Ms. Creamer's lab is analyzing beet leafhoppers (BLH) stomach contents to identify what host plants BLH feed on and the plants they prefer. Ms. Creamer thought that this research could be beneficial to the BCTVCP and proposed that BCTVCB could provide funding for this ongoing research and would therefore have access to the results of this research in real time.

Discussion followed.

The Board revisited the current Nansen Lab Research Agreement and suggested extending the contract.

Discussion followed.

### **FISCAL MATTERS**

#### **2022/2023 ACTUAL BUDGET EXPENDITURES – Canh Nguyen**

The program's total FY 2022/2023 actual expenditures as of January 2023 were \$1,000,313.

#### **2022/2023 RECEIVED AND PROJECTED REVENUE – Canh Nguyen**

The Received and Projected Revenue sheet by month for FY 2021/2022 was presented and reviewed and thus far in FY 2022/2023. For FY 2022/2023, revenues received as of February 2023, were \$1,766,965.

#### **2023/2024 PROPOSED BUDGET – Canh Nguyen**

The FY 2023/2024 Proposed Budget was presented and reviewed. The FY 2023/2024 Board Purposed Budget is \$2,857,852.

### **MOTION:**

Ron Dalforno moved that the Board accept and approve the financial documents as presented: FY 22/23 Actual Budget Expenditures, FY 22/23 Received and Projected Revenues, Fund Condition Statement, and the FY 23/24 Proposed Budget. The motion was seconded by Mario Caimotto and passed unanimously.

### **VOTES:**

#### **YES**

Zach Bagley  
Darryl Bettencourt  
Dan Burns  
Mario Caimotto  
Ron Dalforno  
Joseph Nicholl

#### **NO**

None

#### **ABSTENTION**

None

Kyle Perez  
Jennifer Sanders

**MOTION:**

Mario Caimotto moved that the Board accept and approve the Proposed FY 23/24 Fund Agreement authorizing six monthly transfers of \$238,154.00 from July 15, 2023, through December 15, 2023, as needed. The motion was seconded by Ron Dalforno and passed unanimously.

**VOTES:**

**YES**

Zach Bagley  
Darryl Bettencourt  
Dan Burns  
Mario Caimotto  
Ron Dalforno  
Joseph Nicholl  
Kyle Perez  
Jennifer Sanders

**NO**

None

**ABSTENTION**

None

**DISCUSSION OF ASSESMENT RATES**

The Board decided that based on current fiscal matters, an assessment rate increase is not required at this time but will be revisited in the future.

**HEMP AS A NEW COMMODITY FOR ASSESMENTS – Michelle Dennis**

The Program is currently reviewing the hemp damage assessment and working on determining the hemp susceptibility rating.

Discussion followed.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

None.

**AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

- Extending Nansen Lab Research Contract
- Discussion of Assessment Rates
- Public Outreach Update
- Program Operational Resources Update
- RFP Proposals for BCTV Research

**ADJOURN**

Mr. Bettencourt adjourned the meeting at 11:14 am.

Lauren Murphy  
Secretary to the Board