

**California Department of Food and Agriculture
2012 Specialty Crop Technical Review Committee
Sacramento, CA
June 7, 2012**

Public Meeting Minutes

Committee Members Present

Joel Kimmelshue
John Beck
Garry Pearson
Julia Inestroza
Bertha Hurd

CDFA Staff

Kathy Alameda	Faye Ison	Carrie Graham
Crystal Myers	Troy West	Mari McNeill
Sue Ichiho	Marco Coelho	Nicole Takehara Martucci
Monica Aguirre	Sarah Smith	Monica Pedigo
Carrie James	Jacqueline Castro	

Introductions and Opening Remarks

Sandra Schubert, California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Undersecretary, welcomed all those in attendance. Undersecretary Schubert gave brief remarks on the importance of the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (SCBGP) to California and a Farm Bill update.

Joel Kimmelshue presented himself as the Chair of the 2012 SCBGP Technical Review Committee (TRC). Kimmelshue briefly described the SCBGP review process. Kimmelshue also indicated that in Phase I CDFA received nearly 240 concept proposals totaling \$55 million and in Phase II received 133 grant proposals totaling \$32.7 million. CDFA has a total of \$17 million available to be awarded under the 2012 SCBGP. He described the process for the public meeting and stated that a representative from each of the subcommittees would present their recommendations to CDFA.

Specialty Crop Block Grant Subcommittees Reports

Each subcommittee presented a brief summary, commented on the review process and submitted the following Subcommittee Grant Proposal recommendations to the Technical Review Committee Chair.

- Plant Health & Pest Challenges – John Beck stated that the committee was well represented by industry members. The subcommittee reviewed 57 concept proposals totaling \$13.1 million and 33 grant proposals totaling \$8.2 million. Beck made a motion to submit the Plant & Health Challenges recommendations. Motion was seconded by Garry Pearson. Motion was opened for discussion. Motion passed.
- Environmental Concerns and Conservation – Kimmelshue stated that the subcommittee reviewed 48 concept proposals totaling \$12.4 million and 27 grant proposals totaling \$7.4 million. Kimmelshue made a motion to submit the Environmental Concerns and Conservation recommendations. Motion was seconded by Pearson. Motion was opened for discussion. Motion passed.
- Agriculture Education & Outreach – Pearson stated that the subcommittee reviewed 38 concept proposals totaling \$6.8 million and 21 grant proposals totaling \$4.1 million. Pearson made a

motion to submit the Agriculture Education & Outreach recommendations. Motion was seconded by Julia Inestroza. Motion was opened for discussion. Motion passed.

- International Trade & Market Enhancement – Inestroza stated that the subcommittee reviewed 57 concept proposals totaling \$13.4 million and 32 grant proposals totaling \$7.5. Inestroza made a motion to submit the International Trade & Market Enhancement recommendations. Motion was seconded by Bertha Hurd. Motion was opened for discussion. Motion passed.
- Food Security and Healthy Eating – Hurd stated that the subcommittee reviewed 37 concept proposals totaling \$9.3 million and 20 grant proposals totaling \$5.4. Hurd made a motion to submit the Food Security and Healthy Eating recommendations. Motion was seconded by Pearson. Motion was opened for discussion. Motion passed.

Public Comment

The meeting was opened for public comments. No comments were voiced.

Final Motion

Kimmelshue motioned to submit the entire SCGBP Technical Review Committee recommendations to CDFA. The motion was seconded by Beck. Motion was opened for discussion. Motion passed vote.

Closing Remarks

Undersecretary Schubert closed the meeting by commenting on the broad representation of agriculture and interests of the technical review committee. She thanked all reviewers and CDFA staff for their time commitment and hard work and encouraged new reviewers and current reviewers to participate in next year's solicitation SCBGP process.