

CITRUS PEST DETECTION PROGRAM
CENTRAL CALIFORNIA TRISTEZA ERADICATION AGENCY

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING
22847 Road 140, Tulare, California

February 21, 2018

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: Commissioners: Central Valley PCD (CVPCD) – Stan Ishii, Dennis McFarlin (alternate); Kern County Citrus PCD (KCCPCD) – Jonathan Moody; Southern Tulare County Citrus PCD (STCCPCD) – Steve Scarbrough, Jim Zimmerman. **Staff:** Jill Barnier, Program Manager; Dr. Subhas Hajeri, Plant Pathologist/Lab Operations Manager; Karen Westerman, Field Operations Manager. **Others:** Chris Greer, Tulare County Ag Commissioner’s office; **Commissioner absent:** John Corkins, John Fisher (KCCPCD); James McKinney (CVPCD).

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Ishii called the meeting to order at 12:41 p.m.

II. OPEN SESSION:

A. Public Comments: Chairman Ishii indicated that public comments would be welcome during the course of the meeting as each agenda item was addressed.

B. Minutes: It was moved by Commissioner Scarbrough, seconded by Commissioner Zimmerman, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 20, 2017 as presented. The motion carried on a voice vote, all present voting AYE.

C. Reports:

1. Ag Commissioners: Chris Greer of the Tulare County Ag Commissioner’s office reported that they are making progress with abatements, with most owners being cooperative. Most non-cooperation seems to be due to communication issues. Two inspectors (one full time and one part-time) are assigned to ACP bulk movement regulations enforcement. There were 110 notices of violation in January, most related to tarping, and compliance is improving. There have been no ACP finds in Tulare County since November 22, 2017.

2. Pest Control District Updates: Representatives of each pest control district reported that their Boards met. Each reviewed the White Paper and Effective Plan drafts, and had operational updates and fiscal reports.

a. **White Paper Presentation:** While the KCCPCD Board had suggested adding more specified targeted objectives, the consensus overall was that the flexibility reflected is important. It was moved by Commissioner Moody, seconded by Commissioner Scarbrough, to formally accept the *White Paper: Central Valley Pest Control Districts and the Fight Against HLB* as foundational guidance for operational activities. The motion carried on a voice vote, each member present voting AYE.

3. Departmental Operations:

a. **Field Activities – December 2017 and January 2018:** Field Operations Manager Karen Westerman reviewed the written report of field activities. She reported that preparations for the spring season are under way. Plans for a training trip to southern California, for seasonal staff to have first-hand exposure to ACP, are being

coordinated with Joanne O'Sullivan, Beth Grafton-Cardwell's Ventura ACP scout. Survey start date is waiting on sufficient titer.

b. Laboratory Activities – December 2017 and January 2018: Laboratory Operations Manager Subhas Hajeri reviewed the written report.

i. Update on Molecular Biology (PCR) Laboratory, Grant-related Activities, and CDFA Agreement for ACP Sample Testing: Dr. Hajeri reported that PCR testing of ACP samples submitted by CDFA has begun. Five plates have been run to date, with another four expected tomorrow.

ii. Greenhouse/Screenhouse Activities: Ms. Barnier reported that the renovation work on the greenhouse cooling system is expected during the first two weeks of March. Dr. Hajeri reported that Dr. Yokomi's project trees housed in the Agency's screenhouse have suffered only minor freeze damage on the newest flush. The next samples for the project will be taken in March.

c. Administrative Activities:

i. Draft Effective Plan Shifting Emphasis from CTV to HLB: Ms. Barnier reported that the draft has been provided to Dr. Georgios Vidalakis, TAC chair, for review. A TAC meeting for full committee review and recommendation has been scheduled for Thursday, March 29. The TAC's recommendation will then come to the Board of Commissioners at the April 18 meeting.

ii. Review and Approve Budget Revisions for Remainder of FY 2017-2018: Ms. Barnier explained the significant changes to the budget. **It was moved by Commissioner Scarbrough, seconded by Commissioner alternate McFarlin, to approve the budget revisions resulting in a new total budget of \$2,058,978. The motion carried on a voice vote, all present voting AYE.**

iii. Update on Risk-based Survey Model Development Project: Ms. Barnier reported that as the local staff map conversion to electronic format is ongoing. ARC-GIS software has been acquired, and local staff is working to learn this new application.

iv. Income and Expenses: December 2017 and January 2018: Ms. Barnier reviewed the written reports. She noted that the budget approved revisions will appear on the Income and Expense reports beginning with February 2018.

v. Review and Ratify Warrant Lists – December 2017 and January 2018: **It was moved by Commissioner Zimmerman, seconded by Commissioner Moody, to ratify payment of the bills as listed on the warrant lists for December 2017 and January 2018. The motion carried on a voice vote, all present voting AYE.**

vi. Capital Expenditure(s): Ratify Purchase of Biosafety Work Hood(s): Ms. Barnier referenced the explanatory memo and quotes provided. She stated that in response to the Board's direction at the December meeting, space has been identified and prepared to accommodate four more biosafety work hoods. Dr.

Hajeri has been diligent in shopping features and price. It is management's recommendation to acquire two hoods now, and provide for two more in the next fiscal year. **It was moved by Commissioner Moody, seconded by Commissioner Scarbrough, to approve purchase of two hoods from Pro-Lab Diagnostics, at a cost up to \$14,500. The motion carried on a voice vote, each member present voting AYE.**

D. **Announcements:** None.

III. **ADJOURNMENT:** Chairman Ishii adjourned the meeting at 2:05 p.m.

Stan Ishii, Chair

Jill Barnier, Assistant Secretary