

**CITRUS PEST DETECTION PROGRAM**  
**CENTRAL CALIFORNIA TRISTEZA ERADICATION AGENCY**  
**22847 Road 140, Tulare, California**

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

**April 17, 2019**

**MINUTES**

**ATTENDANCE: Commissioners:** Stan Ishii, James McKinney (*Central Valley PCD - CVPCD*); John Fisher, Jonathan Moody (*Kern County Citrus PCD – KCCPCD*); Steve Scarbrough, Jim Zimmerman (*Southern Tulare County Citrus PCD - STCCPCD*). **Staff:** Jill Barnier, Program Manager; Dr. Subhas Hajeri, Plant Pathologist/Lab Operations Manager; Karen Westerman, Field Operations Manager. **Others:** Tom Tucker, Tulare County Ag Commissioner; Judy Zaninovich, CPDPC Grower Liaison. **Commissioner absent:** John Corkins (*KCCPCD*).

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Ishii called the meeting to order at 12:22 p.m.

**II. CLOSED SESSION: Public Employment: Government Code Section 54957 – Title: Program Manager:** The Board entered closed session to receive a report from the ad-hoc committee.

**III. OPEN SESSION:** The Board entered open session at 12:51 p.m. Chairman Ishii reported that no action was taken in closed 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 Fisher, seconded by Commissioner McKinney, to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of February 20, 2019 as presented. The motion carried on a voice vote, all present voting AYE.

**C. Reports:**

**1. Ag Commissioners:** Tom Tucker was welcomed as the new Tulare County Agricultural Commissioner. Mr. Tucker stated that bloom has been declared in Tulare County districts, and distributed written materials regarding spray regulations during this period. He gave an update on bulk citrus load inspections, indicating that they are still working on improving tarping compliance. He reported on progress with abandoned/neglected citrus, with 56 parcels representing about 800 acres having been abated, and 21 parcels still in progress.

Judy Zaninovich provided a handout summarizing HLB finds in the LA basin region and giving an update on ACP detections in the southern San Joaquin valley. She reviewed the CDFA ACP response program, which now emphasizes more live sample testing and less trapping. She noted that a “State of HLB” meeting will be held Thursday, April 18 in Exeter.

**2. Pest Control District Updates:** District Board meetings are scheduled as follows: KCCPCD – Thursday, May 2; STCCPCD, Friday, April 26; CVPCD, Thursday, April 25.

**3. Departmental Operations:**

a. Field Activities – February and March 2019: Field Operations Manager Karen Westerman reviewed the written report. She reported that seven seasonal field crews returned to work on April 8, and are currently assigned to CTV survey. She is working with the ACP scout in Ventura County to plan a refresher training visit for field staff before HLB survey begins.

b. Laboratory Activities – February and March 2019: Laboratory Operations Manager Subhas Hajeri reviewed the written report. He reported that laboratory seasonal staff returned to work

on April 15. The current focus is on ELISA testing, until field crews begin HLB survey. Dr. Hajeri reviewed the HLB inspection and sampling strategies. He explained that grading categories reflecting tree stress and grove condition have been added to the inspection report. These will provide important information to improve the risk-based model.

i. Greenhouse/Screenhouse Activities: Nothing new to report.

c. Administrative Activities:

i. Report on IOCV/IRCHLB in Riverside, CA March 10-15, 2019: Ms. Barnier provided background information on the format and topics of the Conference. Dr. Hajeri shared insights from the content of presentations. Specifically, he was prompted to develop a research proposal to study the best tissue (roots, leaves, fruit) for PCR detection of HLB at various times of year. The proposal has been submitted to the Citrus Research Board.

ii. Adopt Preliminary Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020: Ms. Barnier reviewed in detail the preliminary proposed budget, noting that it anticipates a slightly reduced number of HLB samples, but an increased number of blocks to be inspected. **It was moved by Commissioner Scarbrough, seconded by Commissioner Zimmerman, to adopt the proposed budget as presented. The motion carried on a voice vote, all present voting AYE.**

iii. Income and Expenses: February and March 2019: Ms. Barnier reviewed the written reports.

iv. Review and Ratify Warrant List – February and March 2019: **It was moved by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Moody, to ratify the warrant lists for February and March, 2019. The motion carried on a voice vote, all present voting AYE.**

v. Water System Treatment Update: Ms. Barnier reported that the fourth (and final) point-of-use RO nitrate treatment unit was installed in early March, and testing has begun. Test results on all units continue to show reduction of nitrate to very low levels.

vi. Capital Expenditures: Purchase of Replacement Vehicle: Ms. Barnier reported that the 2003 model pickups are beginning to exhibit mechanical issues. In keeping with the practice of the last few years, the budget provides for acquisition of a new vehicle, to maintain a regular rotation of the fleet. She requested approval to pursue purchase of a new pickup. **It was moved by Commissioner Scarbrough, seconded by Commissioner McKinney, to approve purchase of a new pickup, not to exceed \$34,000. The motion carried on a voice vote, all present voting AYE.**

D. Announcements: None.

III. ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Ishii adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m.

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Stan Ishii, Chair

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James McKinney, Secretary

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Jill Barnier, Assistant Secretary