

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

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING

February 20, 2019

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: Commissioners: Central Valley PCD (CVPCD) – Stan Ishii, James McKinney; Kern County Citrus PCD (KCCPCD) – John Fisher, 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:** Lisa Finke and Ali Hayes, Canine Detection Services; Jim Gorden, grower; Christopher Greer, Tulare County Ag Commissioner's office; Judy Zaninovich, CPDPC Grower Liaison. **Commissioner absent:** John Corkins (KCCPCD).

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Ishii called the meeting to order at 12:33 p.m.

II. OPEN SESSION:

A. Public Comments: Attendees were introduced. 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 McKinney, to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of December 19, 2018 as presented. The motion carried on a voice vote, all present voting AYE.

C. Reports:

1. Ag Commissioners: Mr. Greer announced that March 29 will be the official last day of work for Ag Commissioner Marilyn Wright. Current Assistant Commissioner Tom Tucker has been appointed to take over the position beginning March 30, 2019. Mr. Greer gave an update on bulk citrus, indicating that three full-time inspectors are focused on movement compliance. From the start of the program to date, there have been 4,700 inspections, and 1,070 violations. A breakdown of violation type is available on request.

Judy Zaninovich reported that the total number of HLB-positive trees has risen to 1,088 to date, still all residential, with the majority in the Garden Grove/Anaheim region. She provided a handout giving an update on ACP detections in the San Joaquin valley from 2016 to date, noting that detection numbers have declined statewide. There was a discussion about *Tamarixia* releases and their efficacy. Mr. Gorden stressed the importance of keeping ACP populations at zero.

2. Pest Control District Updates: Commissioner Zimmerman reported on the January 25 meeting of the Southern Tulare County Citrus Pest Control District Board. Chairman Ishii reported on the February 7 meeting of the Central Valley Pest Control District Board. There had been no meeting of the Kern County Citrus Pest Control District Board.

3. Potential Collaboration with Proposed Project: HLB/MAC-funded "Asian Citrus Psyllid Detection Canines for California": Lisa Finke, president of Canine Detection Services based in Fresno, provided information on her background in dog training and experience with insect pest detection. Referring to the written document, she explained the proposal she has developed, with co-investigators Dr. Beth Grafton-Cardwell and Monique Rivera, to train dogs in California to detect ACP. The proposal has been submitted to the HLB-MAC program for funding consideration. There was discussion about methods, goals, and the potential for future collaboration with the Citrus Pest Detection Program.

4. Departmental Operations:

a. Field Activities – December 2018 and January 2019: Field Operations Manager Karen Westerman explained that no written report was provided because there was no field activity in December and January beyond mapping. Preparations are under way for the spring 2019 season, targeted to begin in late March or early April.

b. Laboratory Activities – December 2018 and January 2019: Similarly, Laboratory Operations Manager Subhas Hajeri noted that there were no laboratory production activities to warrant a written report, adding that regular staff members are working on updating procedures manuals, assisting with the mapping effort, and general laboratory maintenance. He mentioned the International Organization of Citrus Virologists (IOCV) and International Research Conference on HLB (IRCHLB) meetings coming up in Riverside March 10-15. He will make a presentation at the IOCV meeting, and there may be a visit to the Agency as part of the post-conference tour. In addition, he has been preparing an article on the Agency’s expanded service capabilities for the summer edition of *Citrograph*. Finally, he reported on recent work with Dr. Ray Yokomi and a Kern County grower using drone technology for grove study and validation.

i. Greenhouse/Screenhouse Activities: Dr. Hajeri reported that the heater provided by Dr. Yokomi’s research project has been protecting the screenhouse plants well against freeze damage. He commended Tony Patino and Larry Barnett for their efforts in keeping it fueled and ready to go, as well as for completion of a project to build and install insect screen frames for the greenhouse fans.

c. Administrative Activities:

i. Consider for Adoption: Updated Contract Services Fee Schedule: Ms. Barnier reviewed the written proposal, with differing rates for CTV and HLB-focused surveys, as well as reduced fees for JPA-participating District growers. There was discussion of the need to more aggressively get the word out about the availability of CPDP services, with suggestions including a postcard and/or newsletter mailing, website updates, and a “press release” to industry entities (i.e., CRB, CCM) for their newsletters. **It was moved by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Zimmerman, to adopt the fee schedule as follows, with an annual review. The motion carried on a voice vote, all present voting AYE.**

<u>Type of Service</u>	CTV Survey		ELISA		HLB Survey		PCR	
	Non JPA	JPA	Non JPA	JPA	Non JPA	JPA	Non JPA	JPA
Field Only	\$ 8.40	\$ 2.55			\$8.90	\$3.10		
Lab Processing & Testing Only			\$ 7.25	\$1.40			18.05	12.20
Full Service: Field and Lab	\$ 9.80 non-JPA;		\$3.95 JPA		\$ 21.10 non-JPA;		\$ 15.30 JPA	

ii. Appoint Ad-hoc Committee to Consider Future Program Management Options: Ms. Barnier announced her intention to retire at the end of the 2019-20 fiscal year, and requested Board input for transition direction and planning. Commissioners Fisher, Ishii, and Scarbrough volunteered to serve on an ad-hoc committee for this purpose.

iii. Income and Expenses: December 2018 and January 2019: Ms. Barnier reviewed the written reports, which reflect the budget revisions approved at the December 2018 meeting.

iv. Review and Ratify Warrant List – December 2018 and January 2019: **It was moved by Commissioner Scarbrough, seconded by Commissioner McKinney, to ratify the warrant list for December, 2018. The motion carried on a voice vote, all present voting AYE. It was moved by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Moody, to ratify the warrant list for January, 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 will be installed in March. Test results on all units continue to show reduction of nitrate to very low levels.

vi. Capital Expenditures: There were no capital requests.

D. Announcements: Ms. Barnier announced that she will be on vacation from February 22 through March 4.

III. ADJOURNMENT: After a canine demonstration, Chairman Ishii adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m.

Stan Ishii, Chair

James McKinney, Secretary

Jill Barnier, Assistant Secretary