

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

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2020

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE at 22847 Road 140, Tulare (CPDP office): **Staff:** Dr. Subhas Hajeri, Program Director; Karen Westerman, Field Operations Manager; Mia Neunzig, Administrative Manager; **Directors:** Jim Zimmerman, (STCCPCD) **Other:** Jill Barnier, Consultant

ATTENDANCE VIA TELECONFERENCE: **Directors:** Stan Ishii, James McKinney (Central Valley PCD - CVPCD); John Corkins, John Fisher (Kern County Citrus PCD – KCCPCD); Steve Scarbrough (Southern Tulare County Citrus PCD - STCCPCD); **Other:** Chris Edwards, Valley Expetec, Judy Zaninovich, CPDPC Grower Liaison: Tom Tucker, Tulare County Ag Commissioner; Victoria Hornbaker, CPDPC/CDFA; Dr. Georgios Vidalakis, TAC Chair/UC Riverside

Absent Directors: Jonathan Moody

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman John Fisher, Chair @ 10:02am

II. OPEN SESSION:

A. Public Comments:

None

B. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting, October 21, 2020 *

It was moved by Commissioner Scarbrough, seconded by Commissioner Ishii, to accept the minutes of the regular meeting on October 21, 2020. The motion carried on a roll calle vote, all in attendance voting AYE.

C. Reports

1. Ag Commissioners / CPDPC Grower Liaison(s)

Ag Commissioner Tom Tucker reported:

- In the last six months, there have been abatements at six properties.
- There has been constant monitoring of loads as they come in. They are monitoring for tarping all the way down to the beds.
- Growers completed treatment for Glassy-winged sharp shooter (GWSS) and they will be reimbursed.

CPDPC Grower Liaison Judy Zaninovich reported:

- GWSS treatment is almost double in Tulare County and Kern County. All materials used for the GWSS also work for ACP.
- Kern county has had 109 ACP detections recently (60% are in residential areas and 40% were in commercial groves). ACP populations are developing in residential and moving into commercial groves. There were 12 live detections (10 residential + 2 Commercial) this year.
- Numbers were the highest in many years but the situation is under control.
- Southern Tulare County had two detections in Strathmore (1 in residential property and 1 regulatory detection).
- Northern Tulare County has had one regulatory find. Yesterday a detection was found in Madera county.

2. Pest Control District Updates

Central Valley District: Commissioner McKinney reported they had a meeting on 09/30/20 to discuss potential methods for early detection for ACP/HLB. The district supported the trial of cylindrical trapping. Program Director Hajeri noted that STCCPCD would also be starting a trial for cylindrical traps.

Southern Tulare County District: Commissioner Zimmerman reported that the district had an in-person meeting at the agency on 11/17/20, the main topic was alternative ACP methods other districts are using. After the meeting the board members were given a tour of the Agency facilities.

Kern County District: Commissioner Corkins reported that the KCCPCD is still supporting residential tree removal program.

3. Departmental Operations

a. Cylindrical Traps for ACP Survey

Program Director Hajeri reported that Dr. Chandrika Ramadugu, scientist at UC Riverside worked on developing cylindrical traps for ACP. The available data suggest that the cylindrical traps are as good as sticky traps. Since viable ACP can be captured with cylindrical traps, captured ACP can be used in the lab to know the status of HLB bacteria. However, ACP trapped on sticky traps is not suitable for lab testing. Commissioner Zimmerman added that the cylindrical traps look promising based on the research so far. Program Director Hajeri explained that in addition to serving the cylindrical traps, some visual inspection would be done. If ACP is found during visual inspections, it will be reported promptly to CDFA sharing the details of the find. He informed the Commissioners that the cylindrical traps cost between \$15-\$20 per trap. There was discussion about how the traps work and the process after the trap is serviced. Victoria Hornbaker reported that CDFA would also be trying 50 cylindrical traps to compare with sticky traps. Program Director Hajeri noted that if KCCPCD also adopts a similar program to the other districts, it would increase Agency efficiency. Chairman Fisher and Commissioner Corkins suggested to go ahead with using cylindrical traps for ACP survey in KCCPCD.

b. ACP Detection Canines

Program Director Hajeri reported that Lisa Finke of Canine Detection Service trained dogs to detect ACP utilizing HLB-MAC funding. Since the funding ended in October, she has submitted an off-cycle proposal to the CRB, requesting gap funding for 3 months before CPDPC/CDFA would fund the canine team. CRB met on Monday 12/14/20 and decided to fund the dog team through gap funding for 3 months as requested. The plan is for the Agency to utilize the dogs in Kern County for ACP detection for these three months. Protocols will need to be finalized and best practices will need to be created for using the ACP detection canines in commercial citrus. CDFA would pick up funding after the 3 months. Commissioners discussed the steps involved in Agency finds, and when and how CDFA gets involved. Commissioner McKinney asked, "What would it take to have a MOU with CDFA in order for them to share the latest ACP find information?" Victoria Hornbaker replied that additional conversations would need to happen in order to move forward with an MOU between CCTEA & CDFA. She will look into that possibility.

c. Field Activities: October and November, 2020

Operation Manager Westerman reviewed written report. Crews started in the field on 10/19/20 and they worked through 12/11/20. Crews will begin working in January. They will be working with ACP detection canine team and serving cylindrical traps. There will also be 2 days of Croptix work as a follow up to last year's alert by Croptix sensor.

- d. Laboratory Activities: October and November, 2020
Program Director Hajeri went over the written report.
- i. Greenhouse / Screenhouse Activities
Nothing to report
 - ii. CRB-funded Research Project Update
The Agency is funded by CRB on two projects involving HLB & CTV. The grant for HLB is in year 2 of the funding cycle. We are working closely with CDFA on the HLB project. CTV is in year 1 of the project and working in collaboration with Dr. Yokomi, USDA-ARS, Parlier. The goal is to conduct a state-wide CTV survey to determine CTV status in different citrus growing regions of the state.
- e. Administrative Activities
- i. Update on IT Support
Chris Edwards gave an end of the year update. He recapped what has happened throughout the year. One major project they completed was to transition Agency computers to Windows Office 10. The upcoming projects are to work on a data management policy and to add additional security measures to all computers. The goal being to reduce the Agency's overall IT related risk level.
 - ii. Approve Amendment to Holiday Policy*
It was moved by Commissioner Corkins and seconded by Commissioner McKinney, to accept the amendment to the Holiday Policy. The motion carried on a roll call vote, all in attendance voting AYE.
 - iii. Income and Expenses: October and November, 2020
Program Director Hajeri reviewed the Income and Expense reports
 - iv. Review and Ratify Warrant List – October and November, 2020 *
It was moved by Commissioner Corkins and seconded by Commissioner Scarbrough, to approve the October and November Warrant lists. The motion carried on a roll call vote, all in attendance voting AYE.
 - v. Capital Expenditures: Approve acquisition of 2 vehicles *
Field Operation Manager Westerman reported on the memo. Commissioner Fisher reported that COVID vehicle requirements are three feet distance between passengers, all passengers must wear masks, and windows should be kept open if possible. The question was asked: when do we let go of older vehicles? Do we have a policy? The Commissioners suggested that we create a policy that outlines what specifications determine removal of a vehicle from our fleet.

It was moved by Commissioner Corkins and seconded by Commissioner Ishii, to approve acquisition of two vehicles. The motion carried on a roll call vote, all in attendance voting AYE

D. Announcements- New office hours: 7:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

Administrative Manager Neunzig reported the new office hours, let Commissioners know that annual training is needed, and that signatures were needed for various documentation.

III. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

John Fisher, Chairman

James McKinney, Secretary

Mia Neunzig, Recording Secretary/Admin Manager