

**CITRUS PEST DETECTION PROGRAM
CENTRAL CALIFORNIA TRISTEZA ERADICATION AGENCY**

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

December 20, 2017

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:** Marilyn Kinoshita, Tulare County Ag Commissioner; Judy Zaninovich, CPDPC Grower Liaison (Kern County). **Commissioner absent:** John Corkins (KCCPCD).

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Ishii called the meeting to order at 12:30 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 October 18, 2017 as presented. The motion carried on a voice vote, all present voting AYE. It was moved by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Moody, to approve the minutes of the special meeting of November 17, 2017 as presented. The motion carried on a voice vote, all present voting AYE.

C. Reports:

1. Ag Commissioners: Tulare County Ag Commissioner Marilyn Kinoshita reported that she has recently become a public member of the Citrus Research Board. She also reported that a new County Resolution has allocated \$250,000 for her department to use in abatement of abandoned citrus; four properties have been noticed to date. She gave an update on shipment tarping regulations, stating that 11 citations have been issued, with 40 more in process. Despite these numbers, Board members indicated that they are seeing more covered loads, and Judy Zaninovich reported that ACP finds at juice plants are down. Ms. Zaninovich went on to give a report on year-to-date ACP finds in Madera, Fresno, Tulare and Kern counties, noting that there have been significant reductions from the previous year. This is also true in southern California, although the total number of trees positive for HLB (and removed) has risen to 272 as of 12/8/17.

2. Pest Control District Updates: None of the pest control districts had anything new to report.

a. White Paper (draft): Potential for Regional, Cooperative Response to HLB: Program Manager Jill Barnier reported that Jim Rudig agreed to serve as a facilitator, assisted in organizing, and chaired a meeting held December 6, 2017. An initial draft of a White Paper reflecting the comments from that meeting as well as prior gatherings is now out to a small group for first review.

3. Departmental Operations:

a. Field Activities – October and November, 2017: Ms. Barnier noted that all aspects of the Production Report have been revised to reflect new field survey types as well as all laboratory testing types. She invited comments and suggestions that will improve clarity and ease of understanding.

Field Operations Manager Karen Westerman reviewed the written report of field activities. She reported that the training trip to Florida, for staff to have first-hand exposure to the appearance and impacts of ACP and HLB, was very worthwhile.

b. Laboratory Activities – October and November, 2017: Laboratory Operations Manager Subhas Hajeri reviewed the written report.

i. Update on Molecular Biology (PCR) Laboratory Activities: Dr. Hajeri explained that the current PCR testing capacity is estimated at 150 to 160 samples per day. Discussion ensued about the “bottleneck” resulting from the requirement to prepare tissue within a biosafety hood, and the fact that there are only two currently available. The Board directed staff to make a priority of finding a way to acquire and house additional hoods.

c. Greenhouse/Screenhouse Activities: Dr. Hajeri gave an update on Dr. Yokomi’s project, housed in the Agency’s screenhouse.

d. Administrative Activities:

i. Progress on Development of New Effective Plan Shifting Emphasis from CTV to HLB: The details of the new Effective Plan will likely be impacted by the White Paper (above); therefore, progress on the writing of the new Effective Plan is delayed pending completion of the White Paper.

ii. Amendment to Extend Agreement for Services with UC Riverside: Provision of MCA13 Antibody: Approve and Authorize Signature: **It was moved by Commissioner Moody, seconded by Commissioner Scarbrough, to approve the Agreement extension, and authorize the Program Manager to sign. 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 continues the conversion of paper maps to electronic format, the Florida team continues to utilize the resulting data to design the multi-pest risk-based survey model. Progress is being made in updating Agency workstations to accommodate ARC-GIS software, which will be necessary for full implementation of the risk-based model.

iv. Special District Risk Management Authority Updates:

- Proposed Bylaw Revisions for Review and Comment: The SDRMA Bylaw revisions were presented for review.

- Workers' Comp Resolution for Governing Body Member Coverage: Following review of the explanatory memo, **it was moved by Commissioner Zimmerman, seconded by Commissioner McKinney to adopt Resolution 2017-03, Declaring That Governing Body Members And Volunteers Shall Be Deemed To Be Employees Of The District For The Purpose Of Providing Workers' Compensation Coverage For Said Certain Individuals While Providing Their Services.** The motion carried on a roll call vote, each Commissioner present voting AYE.

v. Income and Expenses: October and November, 2017: Ms. Barnier reviewed the written reports.

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

vii. Capital Expenditures: None.

D. Announcements: None.

III. ADJOURNMENT: With wishes for happy holidays for everyone, Chairman Ishii adjourned the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

Stan Ishii, Chair

Jill Barnier, Assistant Secretary