

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

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

August 15, 2018

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:** Tom Tucker, Tulare County Ag Commissioner's office; Dr. Ray Yokomi, USDA-ARS; Judy Zaninovich, CPDPC Grower Liaison. **Commissioner absent:** John Corkins (KCCPCD).

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Ishii called the meeting to order at 12:32 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 Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Scarbrough, to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of June 20, 2018 as presented. The motion carried on a voice vote, all present voting AYE.

C. Reports:

1. Ag Commissioners: Tom Tucker presented information about Tulare County's ACP bulk citrus inspections and related violations. Judy Zaninovich added a report on ACP finds from Madera through Kern counties. Numbers have been very low this year, which is consistent with lower numbers statewide. There was discussion about the current parameters for follow up testing after ACP finds. HLB-positive trees removed in southern California now exceed 800, all still in urban settings.

2. Pest Control District Updates: There was nothing to report from the KCCPCD or STCCPCD. Chairman Ishii reported that the CVPCD Board will meet August 17.

3. Departmental Operations:

a. Field Activities – June and July 2018: Field Operations Manager Karen Westerman reviewed the written report of field activities. She provided copies of an Agency manual section map along with the corresponding electronic map to show the progress toward automating this critical Agency function, and explained additional improvements in process.

b. Laboratory Activities – June and July 2018: Laboratory Operations Manager Subhas Hajeri reviewed the written report of activities in both PCR and ELISA labs. He explained that the CDFA contract for ACP testing has expired, and CDFA has elected not to renew at this time due to a shortage of samples.

i. Greenhouse/Screenhouse Activities: Dr. Ray Yokomi reviewed the purpose and progress of his CTV project to identify the virulence and impact of potentially severe strains in a field-like setting. The study is funded by the Tulare County Pest Control District and conducted in the Agency screenhouse. Dr. Yokomi would like to continue to collect data for another year or two for comparison to preliminary information.

c. Administrative Activities:

i. Consider for Approval: Request for Cooperative Hiring to Complete Research Project(s): Dr. Yokomi explained that he has some funding available to complete the screenhouse project as well as related work, but faces time constraints for spending the funds and significant hiring delays with USDA. He proposed an Interagency Fund Transfer Agreement (for which he already has tentative approval) whereby the Agency would be the employing party, to be fully reimbursed through his funding sources, for the federal fiscal year (10/1/18 through 9/30/19). The individual hired would be selected by Dr. Yokomi and assigned to work under his supervision at his Parlier ARS facility. **It was moved by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner McKinney, to approve this arrangement. The motion carried on a voice vote, all present voting AYE.**

ii. Update on Risk-based Survey Model Development Project: Ms. Barnier referred to the significant progress made in the mapping conversion effort, and discussed how the related information is incorporated into the risk based survey model.

iii. Income and Expenses: June and July 2018: Ms. Barnier reviewed the income and expense reports. She pointed out June billings for contract services and assessment contributions, and noted that final figures from this report are expected to match final audit figures. She reported that the auditors will be on site August 27-30 to complete their field work. Turning to the July report, Ms. Barnier pointed out new reporting categories (Lab supplies split into ELISA/general and PCR accounts; and Water System, broken out of Professional-other and Building Maintenance).

iv. Review and Ratify Warrant Lists – June and July 2018: After review, **it was moved by Commissioner Scarbrough, seconded by Commissioner Zimmerman, to ratify payment of the bills as listed on the warrant list for June. The motion carried on a voice vote, all present voting AYE. It was moved by Commissioner Moody, seconded by Commissioner McKinney, to ratify payment of the bills as listed on the warrant list for July. The motion carried on a voice vote, all present voting AYE.**

v. Water System Treatment Update: Ms. Barnier reported that the initial point-of-use RO treatment unit is performing very well. She explained that the State Water Resources Control Board has established a stringent testing regimen for this initial unit, so that future installations of the same model will not have to be as thoroughly proven.

vi. Capital Expenditures: Telephone System Renewal; Air Conditioner Replacement: Ms. Barnier reviewed the explanatory memo provided. **It was moved by Commissioner Fisher, seconded by Commissioner Scarbrough, to approve the staff recommendations to 1) accept a bid from Grissom Wallace Communications Inc. totaling \$8,180.50 to renew the telephone system; and 2) to accept the bid from Canby's ACS Inc. for \$5,428 for a replacement air conditioner. The motion carried on a voice vote, all present voting AYE.**

D. Announcements: Ms. Barnier pointed out informational fliers about upcoming events.

III. ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Ishii adjourned the meeting at 2:14 p.m.

Stan Ishii, Chair

James McKinney, Secretary

Jill Barnier, Assistant Secretary