

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

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
VIA TELECONFERENCE

October 21, 2020

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE ON SITE: Commissioners: Jim Zimmerman (*Southern Tulare County Citrus PCD - STCCPCD*).

Staff: Dr. Subhas Hajeri, Program Director/Plant Pathologist/Lab Manager; Karen Westerman, Field Operations Manager; Mia Neunzig, Administrative Manager. **Others:** Jill Barnier, Admin consultant

ATTENDANCE VIA TELECONFERENCE: Commissioners: Stan Ishii, James McKinney (*Central Valley PCD - CVPCD*); John Corkins, John Fisher, Jonathan Moody (*Kern County Citrus PCD – KCCPCD*); Steve Scarbrough (*Southern Tulare County Citrus PCD - STCCPCD*) **Others:** Lynn Lampe, CPA, M. Green and Company, Mary Quillin, CPA, M. Green and Company; Lisa Finke, Canine Detection Services; Christopher Greer, Assistant Agricultural Commissioner, County of Tulare.

Commissioners absent: None

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman John Fisher called the meeting to order at 12:31 p.m.

II. OPEN SESSION:

A. Public Comments: Chairman Fisher indicated that public comments would be welcome during the course of the meeting as each agenda item is addressed.

B. Minutes: Regular Meeting August 19, 2020: Commissioner Scarbrough asked to have the minutes adjusted to reflect that he was in attendance for that meeting. It was moved by Commissioner Corkins, seconded by Commissioner McKinney, to accept the minutes of the regular meeting (with the adjustment to the attendance) of August 19, 2020. The motion carried on a voice vote, all present voting AYE.

C. Presentation of 2019-20 Annual Audit: Lynn Lampe, CPA, of M. Green and Company and Mary Quillin, CPA of M. Green and Company, offered background information on the audit procedures and indicated that their work resulted in a “clean” opinion. Ms. Lampe and Ms. Quillin provided explanation on several pages of the audit and discussion followed as the pages were explained. Chairman Fisher thanked Jill Barnier and Ms. Lampe for their help in the audit process. It was moved by Commissioner Corkins, seconded by Commissioner Scarbrough to accept the audit as presented. The motion was carried on a voice vote, all present voting AYE.

D. Reports

1. Ag Commissioners/ CPDPC Grower Liaison(s): Christopher Greer- Reported ACP bulk citrus inspection currently has 3 full time staff and 30 additional staff. Tulare County started receiving citrus from Kern County. Two additional 5 acre parcels were notified of upcoming abatement with 60 acres in process. Performing services on Glassy Wing Sharp shooter traps –in Dinuba up to 1000 additional sites.

2. Pest Control District Updates:

Kern County- No update

Southern Tulare County- No update

Central Valley- Program Director Dr. Subhas Hajeri reported that a special meeting was held on 09/30/2020. Topics discussed were potential technologies available for early detection for both ACP and HLB. No action was taken at that meeting. A follow up meeting will be scheduled to finalize which technology or combination of technologies will be selected going forward.

COMMISSIONERS

CENTRAL VALLEY

Stan Ishii
James McKinney

SO. TULARE COUNTY

Steve Scarbrough
Jim Zimmerman

KERN COUNTY

John Corkins
John Fisher
Jonathan Moody

3. Departmental Operations

- a) Field Activities- August and September, 2020: Field Operations Manager Karen Westerman reviewed the field report. She also reported that her team is continuing to work on mapping and that 3 field crews started the fall season on October 19, 2020.
Program Director Dr. Subhas Hajeri explained the 19 additional collections taken in Ivanhoe were quick decline trees. Several growers in the area have approached the agency for diagnosis of declining trees in recent months. Since several trees didn't show classic quick-decline symptoms at bud-union, samples were taken for further analysis by sequencing at Dr. Yokomi lab.
- b) Laboratory Activities: Program Director Dr. Subhas Hajeri reviewed the written report.
- (i) Greenhouse / Screen house Activities- Dr. Hajeri reported the progress of Tulare County Pest Control District funded project. Titer of 9 different isolates of CTV in 6 different commercial cultivars are being monitored seasonally in the screenhouse.
 - (ii) Research Project Update- Dr. Hajeri reported that they are finishing up the first year and notice was received that they will be funding a second year.
- c) Administrative Activities:
- (i) Possibility of hosting canine detection team on-site: Program Director Dr. Subhas Hajeri explained that Lisa Finke had a HLB-MAC funding and trained three ACP detection dog teams, consisting of 3 handlers and 6 dogs. She is ready to deploy the trained dogs in commercial citrus ACP survey. She would like to utilize the extra space we have on-site to park a toy hauler trailer and board her dogs. Ms. Finke reported the CDFA will not allow live ACP to be transported to the groves. She explained that the best practice would be to take dead flash frozen ACP out to the field. In order for her to park a toy hauler trailer and board her dogs on our property, Ms. Finke is requesting that minor improvements to the property be made and paid for by the Agency, other items such as shade and cement slab for the dogs would be paid by her. Ms. Finke noted that part of the contract would include a reduce rate for any services she provides in the San Joaquin Valley. Chairman Fisher suggested she write up a proposal and email it to Dr. Hajeri and the Commissioners. Dr. Hajeri informed the board that he is submitting a grant to cover some of the costs that would be incurred by having Lisa Finke's team on premises. One option would be to build a bio-safety lab that would safely allow a live ACP flock to be maintained in a bio-safety lab. Dr. Hajeri will share final grant proposal with the board once it is submitted.
 - (ii) Income and Expenses: Reports were reviewed and Dr. Hajeri provided feedback as questions arose.
 - (iii) Review and Ratify Warrant List: Board discussed the costs related to Signal Communication and Zander Enterprise. It was moved by Commissioner Zimmerman, seconded by Commissioner McKinney, to ratify the warrant lists for August and September, 2020. The motion carried on a voice vote, all present voting AYE.
 - (iv) Capital Expenditures: There were no capital requests.

E. Announcements: Dr. Hajeri announced that there will be a CDFA meeting on 10/22/20 to discuss HLB efforts, the need for more traps and trap activity, and the potential need for utilizing our staff to service the traps.

III. ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Fisher adjourned the meeting at **1:40 p.m.**

** Note: Action is possible on any item contained in this agenda.*

John Fisher, Chairman

James McKinney, Secretary

Mia Neunzig, Recording Secretary/Admin Manager

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