

CITRUS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION, INC.
Minutes of the
Research Management Committee Meeting
Wednesday, May 18, 2016

A meeting of the Research Management Committee of the Citrus Research and Development Foundation, Inc. was held on Wednesday, May 18, 2016. The meeting was properly noticed and recorded. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am by Chairman Bobby Barben. Roll was called and a quorum was present. Committee members participating were: Mr. Bill Barber; Mr. Bobby Barben; Mr. Tim Dooley; Mr. Steve Farr; Mr. David Howard; Mr. Joby Sherrod; Mr. Wayne Simmons; Mr. Jim Snively; and Mr. Mike Stewart. Mr. Larry Davis and Mr. Peter McClure did not participate. Also participating were: Dr. Harold Browning; Mr. Jerry Newlin (telephone); Dr. Stephanie Slinski; and Dr. Tom Turpen (telephone). Ms. Audrey Nowicki was also present.

Mr. Simmons moved to accept the minutes of the January 21, 2016 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Howard, and passed unanimously.

Dr. Browning and Mr. Barben gave a brief summary of the Scientific Advisory Board meeting held April 28 and 29, 2016 with five (5) SAB members, who reviewed current project progress reports and evaluated the new CATP proposals.

Mr. Barben introduced each of the seven (7) CATP16 proposals individually following each with discussion of the Scientific Advisory Board recommendations and individual Committee member reviews.

Mr. Snively moved to request Dr. Evan Johnson be directed to revise and re-submit proposal #16-008 providing missing details and focusing on the proof of concept of Objective 1 before moving to the other objectives. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stewart and passed unanimously.

Mr. Barber moved to request Dr. Nian Wang be directed to revise and re-submit proposal #16-005 with the addition of an entomologist and proof of concept of Objective 1 before additional scope is started. The motion was seconded by Mr. Snively and passed unanimously.

Further discussion centered on whether the Foundation should continue to fund basic research as proposed by Dr. Ping Duan (#16-006) and Dr. Stephen Lapointe (#16-004) in light of the level of funding available through USDA-NIFA and MAC, and the Foundation plan to hear more details of new partnership proposals focusing on new bactericide treatments and other short-medium term solutions.

Mr. Simmons made a motion to fund three (3) CATP16 proposals with scope and budget reductions as outlined by the Scientific Advisory Board: #16-007 Duan; #16-009 Triplett; and #16-001 Li; to not fund two (2) CATP16 proposals, #16-006 Duan and #16-004 Lapointe; and to request the PI's revise and re-submit two (2) CATP16 proposals, #16-008 Johnson and #16-005 Wang. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sherrod and passed unanimously.

Mr. Barben invited Dr. Megan Dewdney to provide an update to the committee on project #16-010C, Control Measures of Post Bloom Fruit Drop. Dr. Dewdney gave a presentation on recent findings of the effectiveness of products currently available for PFD, providing the

application methods and frequency needed for control, noting that application timing is of utmost importance.

Dr. Browning reviewed CRDF-funded project #910 Powell which is in the third and last year of funding. The original objectives have been met and Dr. Powell has received continuation funding from the MAC Group on the next phase of the project. Accordingly, staff is recommending the project be terminated. Mr. Snively made a motion to recommend the Board request staff to terminate project #910 Powell. The motion was seconded by Mr. Simmons and passed unanimously.

Dr. Browning reviewed CRDF-funded project #903 Gruber which is nearing the end of year 2 of a 3 year project. Upon Dr. Gruber's departure from UF, Dr. Boman who has since retired was approved as PI on the project. With little progress made in the first two years and progress reports indicating no difference between treatments, staff is recommending terminating the project instead of approving assignment of a third PI. Mr. Simmons made a motion to recommend the Board request staff to terminate project #903 Gruber-Boman. The motion was seconded by Mr. Farr and passed unanimously.

Other business:

Dr. Browning reported on the Strategic Planning ideas and the proposal to select an outside group to review the CRDF research portfolio and provide their perspective on the successes, failures and where future research should be focused.

Dr. Browning reported that discussions with the Scientific Advisory Board indicate minimal usefulness of the quarterly progress reports as they are currently submitted and their recommendation that an annual 3 to 4 page, more comprehensive report would better assist in evaluating progress of current research projects. A suggestion was made that staff review reports currently being submitted on Xylella research efforts which are more results-oriented and data intensive. The CRDF report form could then be adapted for CRDF projects.

Mr. Howard questioned the CRDF's position of funding indirect costs. Dr. Browning explained that UF recently informed the Foundation they will begin including 12% indirect costs to all projects effective July 1st. Contracts established for successful proposals results from the CATP 16 that are executed prior to July 1st will not be subject to the indirect cost charges.

Each of the committee members shared their recent grove experience with PFD in a round-table situation, focusing on their disease pressure, timing and application of curative treatments, and the level of success they observed. This stimulated discussion about what other research should be considered to address this sporadic disease, and a workshop to advance this discussion will be planned by CRDF.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:25 pm.

Minutes submitted by A. Nowicki