

CITRUS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION, INC.

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

May 23, 2017

A Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Citrus Research and Development Foundation, Inc. was held on Tuesday, May 23, 2017 at the University of Florida, IFAS, CREC, Ben Hill Griffin Hall, in Lake Alfred, Florida. The meeting was properly noticed and recorded. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by President Tom Jerkins. Roll was called and a quorum was present. Board members present were: Mr. Larry Black; Dr. Jackie Burns; Mr. Joe Davis, Jr.; Mr. Ned Hancock; Dr. Greg Hodges (telephone); Mr. Tom Jerkins; Mr. Ricke Kress; Dr. Jeanna Mastrodicasa; Mr. Ben McLean (telephone); Mr. Jerry Newlin (telephone); Mr. Wayne Simmons; and Mr. Hugh Thompson. Mr. Bobby Barben did not participate. Also participating were: Dr. Harold Browning (telephone); Ms. Brandi Goller; and Mr. Mike Sparks.

Also in attendance were: Ms. Brandy Brown, Dr. Jim Dukowitz (telephone); Mr. Tim Eyrich; Ms. Sharon Garrett (telephone); Dr. Catherine Hatcher; Dr. Susan Logue; Mr. Andrew Meadows; Mr. Ernie Neff; Ms. Audrey Nowicki (telephone); Dr. Pat Ouimet; Dr. Michael Rogers; Mr. Justin Smith; Mr. Steve Smith; Dr. Tom Turpen (telephone) and Dr. Rosa Walsh.

Mr. Kress moved to accept the Minutes of the April 25, 2017 Board of Directors meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hancock and passed unanimously.

Finance and Audit Committee: Chairman Hugh Thompson reviewed the Financial Summary and Accompanying Statements. Mr. Black moved to approve the financial statements as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hancock and passed unanimously.

Ms. Goller presented an overview the FY 2017-18 Operating Budget, including revisions recommended by the Finance and Audit Committee. Mr. Davis moved to accept the FY 2017-18 Operating Budget as revised. The motion was seconded by Mr. Black and passed unanimously.

Long Term Research Funding and Legislative Matters: Mr. Mike Sparks gave an update on Legislative and funding issues, focusing on both state and federal activities related to citrus.

Governance Committee: Chairman Ricke Kress reported the conflict of interest process has been completed.

Mr. Kress stated the committee would meet June 14, 2017 in Bonita Springs at 8:30 a.m. prior to the Board meeting. Ms. Shannon Shepp of the Department of Citrus and Mr. Mike Sparks of Florida Citrus Mutual will be invited to attend and provide industry input on Board member term limits related to the significant pending turnover in CRDF board membership.

Mr. Kress presented an amendment to the by-laws creating Emeritus Directors as revised by the Governance committee. Mr. Kress made a motion to open discussion about the emeritus status with revisions. The motion was seconded by Dr. Mastrodicasa. A revision was discussed to include that a Board member must complete a second term before being eligible to request Emeritus Director status. Additional wording revisions were proposed. The motion was tabled to allow revision and for review by Counsel. The revised amendment will be reconsidered at the next Governance meeting.

Mr. Kress presented a resolution to designate banking authority. Mr. Hancock made a motion to approve the resolution to designate banking authority as stated. The motion was seconded by Dr. Mastrodicasa and passed unanimously.

Mr. Kress gave an update on the status of the Senior Program Manager position. The Governance Committee is recommending the field trial staff, currently under contract with UF, be converted to CRDF staff effective with the appointment of the Senior Program Manager. Mr. Hancock made a motion to approve the move of the field trial staff to CRDF effective with the appointment of the Senior Program Manager. The motion was seconded by Mr. Davis and passed unanimously.

Dr. Mastrodicasa discussed Senate Bill 374 relating to university direct-support organization, pending signature by the Governor, lines 2578-2631

<https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2017/374/BillText/er/HTML>. Dr. Mastrodicasa will update the committee once the bill is signed and the University of Florida, Board of Trustees have met to discuss.

Research Management Committee: Dr. Browning discussed upcoming Plant Improvement meetings, Tuesday, May 30, 2017 for Rootstocks and Monday, June 12, 2017 for Scions.

Commercial Product Delivery Committee: Chairman Ben McLean reported on the May 16th CPDC Meeting and gave project updates and recommendations.

Mr. McLean made a motion to approve the continuation of the biopesticides trial with a proposed budget of \$42,954 for year two. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kress and passed with one opposing vote.

Mr. McLean discussed the two PCR lab proposals. Project #17-002C Irely “Continued support of the Southern Gardens diagnostic labs” for \$451,953 for two years and project #17-003C Batuman “Continuation of diagnostic service for growers for detection of HLB in citrus and psyllid to aid in management decisions” for \$644,913 for two years. Mr. McLean made a motion to support Project #17-002C Irely, for \$451,953 for two years and not support funding of Project #17-003C Batuman, for \$644,913 for two years. The motion was seconded by Mr. Davis and passed. Mr. Kress abstained.

Mr. McLean made a motion to approve \$500 additional funding for Project #16-025.2C Booker for laser ablation. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hancock and passed unanimously.

Mr. McLean made a motion to approve work plans by Dr. Jim Syvertsen for horticultural field trial support and associated operating budget for FY 2017-18. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kress and passed unanimously.

Mr. Davis made a motion to accept the extension of the TIG contract for one quarter as discussed and recommended by CPDC for FY 2017-18. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kress and passed unanimously.

Mr. Hancock gave a brief update on the Grower Experience Forensics. The first scheduled meeting is May 31, 2017.

Mr. Thompson requested the Finance and Audit Committee create a policy to set staff funding limit approval levels for existing contracts.

COO Report: Dr. Browning referenced the Quarterly Project Managers Report in the materials and encouraged the board to review the report.

Future CRDF Meetings:

Governance Meeting – June 14, 2017 @ 8:30 am in Bonita Springs

Box Tax Advisory Meeting – June 14, 2017 @ 9:30 am in Bonita Springs

Board of Directors Meeting – June 14, 2017 @ 9:45 am in Bonita Springs

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Brandy Brown