

CITRUS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION, INC.
Commercial Product Delivery Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2016

A meeting of the Commercial Product Delivery Committee of the Citrus Research and Development Foundation, Inc. was held on Tuesday, January 19, 2016 in Ben Hill Griffin Hall at the UF-IFAS, CREC, in Lake Alfred, Florida. The meeting was properly noticed and recorded. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am by Chairman Ben McLean. Roll was called and a quorum was present. Committee members participating were: Dr. Timothy Anglea; Mr. Larry Black; Dr. Jackie Burns; Mr. Joe L. Davis, Jr.; Mr. David Howard; Mr. Ricke Kress (telephone); Mr. Peter McClure (telephone); Mr. Ben McLean; Mr. Jerry Newlin; Mr. Andy Rackley (telephone); Dr. Brian Scully; Ms. Shannon Shepp (telephone); and Mr. Hugh W. Thompson. Mr. Tom Stopyra did not participate. Other participants were: Dr. Harold Browning; Dr. Jim Dukowitz (telephone); Dr. Stephanie Slinski; Dr. James Syvertsen; and Dr. Tom Turpen (telephone).

Others attending the meeting included: Mr. Tim Airhart; Dr. Lisa Conti (telephone); Ms. Brandi Goller; Mr. Alec Hayes (telephone); Ms. Audrey Nowicki; Mr. Brandon Page; and Dr. Michael Rogers.

Mr. Black moved to accept the minutes of the December 7, 2015 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Newlin and passed unanimously.

Dr. Slinski and Mr. Rackley reported on the Section 18 Tree Health application. There was discussion on the need for growers to receive clear and specific use instructions.

Dr. Browning reported on the Commissioner's response to the decreasing crop forecast, a legislative plan which will authorize a cost share program for tree removal for growers. The goal is to have the program in place by July to assist growers with the cost of removal of unmanaged citrus.

Dr. Turpen and Dr. Dukowitz reported that partners are being sought as the psyllid shield model is being advanced. Mr. Kress reported that Southern Gardens is developing a proposal from the regulatory, agricultural and legal perspectives to provide the Board a full overview of what is involved in the initial field trial of RNAi candidates for presentation in February.

Dr. Browning reported on the portfolio review of CPD projects conducted by Program Managers and the reviewed recommendations made for each project. The overview included continuing as well as ending projects. Program managers reported on the progress and discussions held with investigators as well as review of progress reports. Nine projects that had potential for continued value were coded green on the portfolio presentation, outlining basis for consideration of

recommendation for continuation. The substantial differences between crop consultants in the three field trials of soil microbials was discussed. Discussion also included reviewing results at end of the second year data and yield analysis. Mr. Newlin suggested site visits to these trials, which can be coordinated by the Program Manager.

Dr. Santra's work with T-Sol® was discussed and its relation to other work conducted by that program.

Project management recommendation for eight projects coded yellow were noted, outlining the conditions under which each was recommended for extension or renewal.

If the materials being considered under the Section 18 application to the EPA are approved, there may be specific requirements for these projects over the next year. Once these needs are identified, CRDF can determine the funding needs for this follow-up. Asked if staff is satisfied with the level of cooperation by the registrants, Dr. Browning felt they have exceeded expectations during development and submission of the Section 18 Petition.

Dr. Browning indicated discussion is occurring with Dr. Ping Duan and a grower to develop potential objectives for a project studying seedling variability in CLas susceptibility in field plantings showing HLB tolerance.

The last eight projects in the portfolio coded red will reach their completion date on or before June 30, 2016. Project Managers recommended that this set of projects does not appear to warrant further consideration. Some of these projects have alternative funding or have reached logical endpoints.

Mr. Davis made a motion to accept the recommendations from the Project Management team to invite follow-up proposals (green), continue evaluating the need for continued work (yellow), and to not invite follow-on proposals for those identified during the review as not warranting further effort. The motion was seconded by Mr. Black and passed unanimously.

Dr. Browning continued the discussion on the service and support projects noting the first nine (light green) were recommended to continue with three new projects for the *L crescens* assay, Mature Citrus Transformation Facility, and support for UF to continue to monitor the thermal therapy field trials having the same recommendation to continue.

Three projects in the yellow zone were recommended to have follow-up discussion with investigators before being invited for full proposals. Three additional potential new projects were proposed to support areas where additional support capacity is needed to overcome R&D delays, provide for the design of a process for comparison of resistant rootstocks and scions, and to identify and document effective management systems to share with growers. The recommendation for the final six projects in the service and support portfolio (red) was to discontinue funding by CRDF since they are either reaching their useful end or being funded by other sources.

The committee recommended one of the projects, the support of the Mid Florida Citrus Foundation, be considered further funding in light of the need for additional field trial space by various researchers. Mr. McLean will contact MFCF representatives to discuss further needs for research field trial support and will report back to the Committee.

Mr. Black made a motion to move forward with Staff recommendations for the service and support projects as discussed. The motions was seconded by Dr. Scully and passed unanimously.

Dr. Browning reported on the next steps for the Knowledge Mapping recommendations for resistant/tolerant rootstocks and scions. Dr. Browning proposed establishment of an advisory committee comprised of five grower representatives (Mr. Bill Barber, Mr. Joby Sherrod, Mr. Peter McClure, Mr. Mike Stewart, and Mr. Tim Dooley), institutional representatives (Dr. Brian Scully and Dr. Michael Rogers), and Mr. Peter Chaires representing New Varieties Development and Management Corporation. Three outside advisors representing other fruit crops were proposed to assist with the implementation of a new approach to accelerate testing and release of resistant citrus materials. Dr. Ralph Scorza, Dr. Mikeal Roose, and one additional member are recommended to participate as advisors outside of the review committee. The proposed advisory committee would meet annually to review candidate rootstocks or scions in alternate years to be included in CRDF-organized field trials. Mr. Newlin suggested a nurseryman with tissue culture experience be included and suggested Mr. Phil Rucks.

Another committee has been suggested that could provide annual evaluation of breeding field trials to make sure progress is being made and best performers are moving forward. Dr. Browning will distribute the list of advisory committee candidates for the CPDC to provide feedback at the next CPDC meeting.

Mr. Howard made a motion to proceed with contacting the recommended list of advisory committee members. Seconded by Mr. Davis, the motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Browning provided an update on the Strategic Planning process, noting that the Business Talent Group had interviewed over forty individuals and will meet with the Executive Committee on February 10th to present and discuss their findings going forward. The planning findings and recommendations will be presented to the Board on February 23rd.

Dr. Browning updated the committee on the hiring of project managers for bactericides and for delivering HLB resistant plants.

New Business:

Discussion was held on several active ingredients with potential to impact CLas titer in infected trees and the desire to follow up on several leads.

Mr. Howard noted that the NAREEE Citrus Disease Subcommittee will meet next month and requested that any gaps that should be considered to add to Tom Jerkins the RFP be communicated to the CRDF representatives on NAREEE (Joe Davis, Jr, David Howard, Rick Kress and Tom Jerkins).

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 pm.

Minutes submitted by Audrey Nowicki