A meeting of the Governance Committee of the Citrus Research and Development Foundation, Inc. was held on Wednesday, June 29, 2016 in the Building 7124 Conference Room at 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 Ricke Kress. Roll was called and a quorum was present. Committee members participating were: Mr. Ned Hancock; Mr. Tom Jerkins; Mr. Ricke Kress; Dr. Jeanna Mastrodicasa (telephone); and Mr. Jerry Newlin. Dr. Harold Browning and Dr. Jackie Burns (telephone) also participated. Ms. Audrey Nowicki was in attendance.

Mr. Hancock moved to accept the minutes of the June 8, 2016 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Newlin and passed unanimously.

The primary agenda item for this meeting was to discuss the dissemination of information on the proposed imposition of Indirect Cost (IDC) by University of Florida on research project awards from CRDF and other Florida agricultural commodity groups. Chairman Kress suggested a list of materials that may be useful informing citrus growers and support organizations on the issues related to CRDF, potential impacts on the current year budget, and additional information that explains how IDC fits into IFAS and UF funding strategies and investment in research infrastructure. Also included was an overview of the in-kind services afforded to CRDF as a DSO of the University of Florida, including space, utilities and support services. The committee reached agreement on the types of information and content that should be distributed to Florida citrus organizations, including grower associations, packer and processor support groups and citrus nursery organizations.

Mr. Hancock suggested language for a cover letter which advises recipients that CRDF currently has policy which prohibits IDC on sponsored research, and that the Governance Committee and Board will need to take specific action to modify this policy. Thus, CRDF felt it necessary to inform citrus growers of this proposal and to seek guidance on how to proceed. It was agreed that a draft communication would be reviewed by the Chairman prior to the distribution with the assembled materials.

Mr. Newlin made a motion to disseminate the IDC information collected back to the industry, and follow up with a meeting in July for action to bring before the Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hancock and, after discussion, passed unanimously.

A brief discussion was held regarding the primary responsibilities of the COO, wherein four areas of priority effort are being expended. These represent operation of the organization and funding processes, technical support to HLB solutions; oversight of project managers and partnerships; and communication and fundraising. Additional discussion will occur at subsequent meetings to address how additional expertise can be considered to support the current CRDF portfolio and direction.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.

Minutes submitted by Audrey Nowicki