A meeting of the Commercial Product Delivery Committee of the Citrus Research and Development Foundation, Inc. was held on Tuesday, May 17, 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 Vice-Chairman David Howard. Roll was called and a quorum was present. Committee members participating were: Dr. Timothy L. Anglea; Mr. Larry Black; Mr. Joe L. Davis, Jr.; Mr. David Howard; Mr. Ricke Kress; Mr. Peter McClure (telephone); Mr. Ben McLean (telephone); Mr. Jerry Newlin (telephone); Mr. Andy Rackley; Dr. Brian Scully; Ms. Shannon Shepp; and Mr. Tom Stopyra. Committee members Dr. Jackie Burns and Mr. Hugh Thompson did not participate. Other participants were: Dr. Christoph Andreas Braun (telephone); Dr. Harold Browning; Dr. Jim Dukowitz; Dr. Andreas Goertz (telephone); Mr. Ned Hancock (telephone); Mr. Mike Irey; Dr. Dirk Nennstiel (telephone); Dr. Stephanie Slinski. Others attending the meeting included Mr. Justin Cain, Dr. William Dawson, Ms. Audrey Nowicki, and Dr. Rosa Walsh.

Mr. Kress moved to accept the minutes of the February 22, 2016 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Black and passed unanimously.

Dr. Anglea initiated discussion of a Proposal for a Research Partnership by Bayer Crop Science representatives Dirk Nennstiel, Christoph Andreas Braun, and Andreas Goertz. Their three- to six-year proposal for sustainable citrus crop and management solutions to develop host, pathogen and vector technologies outlined five approaches and a three-phase plan with a Collaboration Model providing for Joint Steering Committee, dedicated personnel, development decision direction and return on investment for anti-bacterial solutions originating from the period of joint research. Several in-depth questions from the committee followed relative to the components proposed, available funding sources, and engaging other states and Brazil. Ms. Shepp made a motion to recommend the Board approve the next step of a face-to-face meeting with Bayer at which time questions submitted by the committee prior to the meeting can be addressed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Davis. Mr. Newlin proposed amending the motion to move forward with the in-person meeting inviting Texas, California and Brazilian representatives to participate in the discussions. The amendment to the motion was seconded by Dr. Scully and passed unanimously. The amended motion passed unanimously. All questions related to the proposal should be emailed to cpd@citrusrdf.org for compilation and delivery to Bayer Crop Science.

Current Project Updates
Dr. Slinski summarized progress on the trunk injection field trials currently being conducted on Project #15-048C Minter and made a request for additional funding in the amount of $3,750 to add a third application which would not extend the project. Mr. Kress made a motion to approve additional funding to Project #15-048C Minter in the amount of $3,750 for a third application. The motion was seconded by Mr. Black and passed unanimously.

Dr. Slinski presented a proposal from Dr. Laurene Tetard, UCF, to detect and quantify bactericidal absorption and movement in citrus. Mr. Newlin made a motion to recommend Board approval of the
Tetard proposal without the addition of indirect costs. The motion was seconded by Mr. Davis and passed unanimously.

Dr. Slinski presented a proposal for additional funding to project #15-032C Irey in the amount of $2,878 for the installation of PMA CLas detection/analysis in SGR PCR lab for HLB testing. Mr. Black made a motion to recommended Board approval in the amount of $2,878 additional funding for Project #15-032C Irey for the installation of PMA CLas detection. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rackley and passed with one abstention, by Mr. Kress.

Dr. Slinski summarized data being collected in bactericidal field trials. Mr. Newlin asked if there is a forum to add new compounds or materials to the trials should someone request their product be tested, noting the Foundation should be the clearing house for all of these to be sure nothing falls through the cracks.

Mr. Irey, Southern Gardens, presented a three-year proposal in the amount of $554,486 for the Use of RNAI delivered by the Citrus Tristeza Virus Viral Vector (CTVvv). The project will establish a small field trial to replicate and validate the greenhouse experiments to determine if a CTVvv together with RNAi can be used to specifically and economically control ACP without the use of or to augment traditional pesticides.

Mr. Stopryra made a motion to recommend Board support for the 3-year $554,486 proposal for Use of RNAI delivered by the Citrus Tristeza Virus Viral Vector to control the Asian Psyllid. The motion was seconded by Mr. Davis and passed with one abstention, by Mr. Kress.

Dr. Browning provided an update on the Section 18 Tree Health application.

Dr. Browning presented a proposal for additional support in the amount of $1,000 in Years 2 and 3 of Project #942.2C Yonce to cover costs of the additional scope of work requested in years 2 and 3 of the soil microbial field trial. Mr. Davis made a motion to recommend Board support the addition of $1,000 to Project #942.2C for the cost of additional scope of work requested. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kress and passed unanimously.

Dr. Browning presented the 2016 invited Proposal #16-011C Adair which extends Dr. Stansly’s previously funded field trial of reflective mulch at Vero Beach field sites for one year in the amount of $89,439. Ms. Shepp made a motion to recommend Board support of proposal #16-011C for one year in the amount of $89,439. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stopryra and passed unanimously.

Dr. Browning presented a proposal to extend project #943C Rogers for two additional years to coincide with the corresponding funding by MAC in the amount of $89,456/year. Mr. Davis moved to recommend Board support of additional two years of funding on Project #943C Rogers to support the scale-up of thermal therapy equipment. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kress and passed unanimously.

Proposal #16-013C Zale for continued funding of the MCTF was tabled until the June CPDC meeting.

Dr. Browning reported the Program Assistant position will be advertised, Dr. Slinski’s Bactericides Project Manager position is now converted to an employee of the Foundation, and an offer was made to the leading candidate for the Rootstocks Project Manager position.
Dr. Browning summarized the CPD budget planning, noting that the two Project Managers will be Foundation employees, and they are in the process of estimating FY 2016-17 hours by the contractors.

Dr. Browning reported the Board will hear the next steps in the Strategic Planning process and consider approval and actions going forward resulting from the process.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:50 pm.

Minutes submitted by Audrey Nowicki