CITRUS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION, INC. Minutes of Closed Executive Committee Meeting March 27, 2017

A closed meeting of the Executive Committee of the Citrus Research and Development Foundation, Inc. was held on Monday, March 27, 2017 at the University of Florida, IFAS, CREC, Ben Hill Griffin Hall, in Lake Alfred, Florida. The meeting was called to order at 2:05 pm by Chairman Tom Jerkins. Roll was called and a quorum was present. Executive Committee members present were: Mr. Tom Jerkins; Mr. Ricke Kress; Dr. Jeanna Mastrodicasa; Mr. Jerry Newlin; and Mr. Hugh Thompson. Mr. Bobby Barben, Mr. Larry Black, Mr. Dan Botts, Dr. Harold Browning, Mr. Joe Davis, Jr., Mr. Ned Hancock, Dr. Greg Hodges (telephone), Mr. Bo Meador, Mr. Kent Morgan, Mr. Taw Richardson, Mr. Bob Shatters, Mr. Wayne Simmons, Dr. Stephanie Slinski, Mr. Ed Stover and Mr. Mark Trimmer also participated.

The initial agenda item was an in-depth data presentation from AgroSource Incorporated on their multi-year bactericide field trials. This presentation represented the most comprehensive set of data on field use of oxytetracycline and streptomycin in Florida commercial citrus. The presentation informed the committee on the metrics that indicate effects of treatment on CLas titer reduction, tree health measurements and fruit yield and quality. Business confidential data from the research team were provided to update the committee on this CRDF-funded project.

Following this presentation, the COO provided feedback to the Executive Committee on progress with the CRDF/Bayer CropScience partnership negotiation, indicating that progress is being made in business terms of agreement for this project.

An update on the research considerations surrounding abandoned grove removal and associated high Asian citrus psyllid populations was provided. CRDF efforts to address increasing ACP populations have raised many questions among growers and researchers, leading to the need for further discussion of this topic by both Research Management and Commercial Product Delivery Committees.

Finally, the COO reported on efforts to improve flow and content of committee and board meetings, which are becoming increasingly challenged due to the stress of the impacts of HLB and the uncertainty of forward directions. The Executive Committee was requested to work with committee chairs and others engaged in conduct of CRDF meetings to maintain momentum and to conduct business according to standard business practices.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 pm.

Minutes submitted by Harold Browning