

**CITRUS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION, INC.**  
**Minutes of the Governance Committee Meeting**  
**March 19, 2019**

A meeting of the Governance Committee of the Citrus Research and Development Foundation, Inc. was held on Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at the UF/IFAS Citrus Research and Education Center, Ben Hill Griffin Hall, Room 101 in Lake Alfred, Florida. The meeting was properly noticed and recorded. The meeting was called to order at 8:32 am by Chairman John Updike, Jr. Roll was called and a quorum was present. Committee members participating were Rob Atchley, Larry Black, Ned Hancock, Jeanna Mastrodicasa and John Updike, Jr. Committee member Bobby Barben was not present. Others participating were Brandy Brown, Rick Dantzler, Sharon Garrett (telephone), David Howard, Jerry Newlin, Audrey Nowicki, Pat Ouimet (telephone), Mike Sparks and Buddy Strickland (telephone).

Mr. Black moved to accept the minutes of the February 26, 2019 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hancock and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Updike opened the meeting with discussion of the Research Director position. Mr. Dantzler reported that thirteen applications were received and on February 25, the Search and Screen Committee conducted five phone interviews; of those five, two candidates were invited for in-person interviews. Dr. Luke Farno interviewed on Thursday, March 7, and Dr. Haiyan Jia interviewed on Monday, March 11. Mr. Dantzler gave a brief background of both candidates. During their interviews they met with several UF researchers and the Search and Screen Committee. Mr. Dantzler received feedback from the researchers and the committee members and their impressions of the two candidates. He reported he considered Dr. Jia the better qualified candidate for the position. Dr. Ouimet, Mr. Updike and Mr. Hancock provided their opinions of Dr. Jia in the role of the CRDF Research Director. Mr. Hancock made a motion to proceed with offering the Research Director position to Dr. Haiyan Jia. The motion was seconded by Mr. Black and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Dantzler reported on the Research Management Committee Non-Board Appointment Guidelines, stating it has not been updated since 2010. He discussed two minor updates to the guidelines, which are:

- Terms of non-Board members shall be for three years, expiring on June 30th of the last year of the term. For each non-board member who begins serving after June 30th of the year 2021, said member shall be allowed to serve only two consecutive three-year terms. A non-board member may be appointed for less than a three-year term and still be appointed to a full three-year term thereafter in order to complete the term of a departing non-board member who leaves prior to the expiration of his/her term. Also, a non-board member may be appointed for less than a three-year term and still be appointed to a full three-year term thereafter in order to further the goal of having staggered terms of non-board members.

- Recommendation of appointments of non-Board members to the RMC shall come from the Florida Citrus Production Managers Association and Florida Citrus Mutual, after consultation with other citrus organization, and are to be representative of all production areas of the state.

Mr. Dantzler discussed the CRaFT contract between CRDF and AHPIS. The current draft contract was provided in materials. Mr. Dantzler reported that the CRaFT program is an attempt to have 5,000 new citrus acres planted and to assist growers in that effort. To be able to qualify for funding, there must be a research component to the effort. To more accurately describe the work that will be done, “demonstration projects” has been incorporated into the documents as part of the scope of work.

Mike Sparks gave an update on discussions occurring in DC regarding the CRaFT program. He reported there is a lot of support for this program as it is moving forward, and all parties want to see the program get started quickly.

There was committee discussion about whether this funding will only cover planting costs, where the funding sources will come from, and concerns about detailing deliverables. Mr. Dantzler reported that the deliverables are going to be key and will need to be spelled out in the contract. He is working with staff to create specific forms for reporting purposes, as well.

Mr. Hancock made a motion to recommend that the COO continue to negotiate the draft CRaFT contract on behalf of CRDF. The motion was seconded by Mr. Black and it passed unanimously.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 am.

Minutes submitted by Brandy Brown