

CITRUS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION, INC.

Minutes of the

Commercial Product Delivery Committee Meeting

Monday, December 2, 2019

A meeting of the Commercial Product Delivery Committee of the Citrus Research and Development Foundation, Inc. was held on Monday December 2, 2019 at the UF/IFAS CREC in Lake Alfred, FL in Ben Hill Griffin Hall, Room 103. The meeting was properly noticed and recorded. The meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m. by Vice Chair Holly Chamberlin. Roll was called, and a quorum was present. Committee members participating were Holly Chamberlin, Alec Hayes, Greg Hodges, Jeanna Mastrodicasa, Brian Scully, Shannon Shepp, Tom Stopyra, and John Updike. Other participants were Rob Atchley, Rick Dantzler, Ned Hancock, Jim Syvertsen, Rosa Walsh, and Deidra Whatley.

Mr. Stopyra moved to accept the minutes of the October 16, 2019 CPDC meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Updike and, with no discussion, passed unanimously.

Ms. Chamberlain asked Mr. Dantzler to begin the discussion of continuation funding of the Transformation Labs, noting the conditions for funding year one of both projects. Dr. Orbovic and Dr. Zale were given an opportunity to update the committee on the work taking place in their labs.

Mr. Dantzler explained the actions taken by CRDF during year one, noting an outside panel of five experts in transformation labs reviewed the setup and operations of the two labs. After two days of visiting the labs and interviewing most of the researchers who utilize their services, the panelists issued their report in April 2019, which the committee recommended Mr. Dantzler share with the University for response.

Dr. Rogers responded on behalf of UF on November 11, 2019. Since the current funding for the two labs expires on December 31, 2019, a decision must be made whether the committee will recommend continued funding to the Board. Ms. Chamberlain suggested temporarily funding the two labs for three months while exploring the idea of consolidating the two tissue transformation labs. Mr. Stopyra reminded the committee that the discussion of temporary funding had been considered previously, and at that time Dr. Zale felt that she may lose dedicated scientists in her lab if there was no guarantee of job stability.

Dr. Scully questioned how long the transformation labs had been funded by CRDF. Dr. Zale stated that the mature tissue transformation lab has been in operation since 2011, and Dr. Orbovic's lab was in existence prior to the 2009 inception of CRDF. With both labs having been funded for approximately 7-9 years at approximately \$450,000 annually, or \$3-4 million dollars overall, Dr. Scully questioned what has been produced in that timeframe that meets the very critical mission of CRDF, or if there has been a viable commercial impact of these technologies to the industry. Dr. Scully noted that there is a breakdown in the chain of custody of these technologies since the PIs of both labs have reported that, while they are performing their duties, at times the scientists receiving their materials for the next step of testing are not continuing the process timely. Another key breakdown is

that the transformation labs were not being utilized by all researchers that need the service, with some preferring to do their own.

After further discussion of programs versus projects and cost sharing responsibilities, Mr. Dantzler noted the University's response, which included the creation of an internal committee to review each of the recommendations in the report and, over time, work through them to alleviate the need for CRDF funding. Ms. Chamberlin noted that the review panel did not suggest combining the two labs but assigning a single supervisor over the two labs.

Ms. Chamberlin asked if funding could be extended long enough to allow the University to act on the review panel's recommendations for the labs. Ms. Shepp moved to continue funding both Transformation Labs for one additional year, with a request for a six-month interim report from the University of progress made towards implementing the review panel's recommendations. The motion was seconded by Dr. Scully, and without further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Chamberlin asked Mr. Dantzler to provide an update on the Bayer Joint Steering Committee meeting. Mr. Dantzler gave an overview of the discussion with three SAB members invited to review the project with Dr. Manker. He reported on the progress meeting held November 14, 2019 with CRDF, Bayer, and CRB, at which time Dr. Manker gave a full project update. Mr. Dantzler noted that Dr. Klein was invited to the meeting since CRB was invited to co-fund the Bayer project from July through December 2020, in the event the CRDF Board voted to continue. Questions from the Committee addressed additional potential funding sources, including federal funding that Mr. Dantzler would explore during travel to Washington, DC later in the week.

Ms. Chamberlin proceeded to the next item on the agenda, and Mr. Dantzler introduced Mr. Gee Roe. Mr. Roe spoke to the Committee regarding the possibility of IR-4 considering an OTC trunk injection modality project. Mr. Roe has a registrant in Palm Beach County who is willing to make the recommendation to IR-4 and is seeking letters of support from different citrus industry groups. The committee suggested that he appeal to the Florida Citrus Processors Organization for its endorsement of an IR-4 application to develop an OTC trunk injection device for citrus. It would be a Section 3. While he initially hoped that CRDF support the concept, after the discussion it was decided that the processors would be a more appropriate avenue to consult initially before CRDF gives it further consideration.

Discussions continued regarding identifying solutions for successful yields in the HLB era and, if growers have found this solution, whether they would be willing to share the information.

With no further discussion the meeting was adjourned at 4:09 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Deidra Whatley