

CITRUS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION, INC.

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

A teleconference meeting of the Board of Directors of the Citrus Research and Development Foundation, Inc. was held on Tuesday, January 26, 2021. The meeting was properly noticed and recorded. Board President David Howard called the meeting to order at 9:03 am. Roll was called, and a quorum was present. Board members present were Ned Hancock, Aaron Himrod, David Howard, Ron Mahan, Jeanna Mastrodicasa, Morgan McKenna, Pat Ouimet, Mathew Story, and John Updike. Also participating were Rick Dantzler, Bill Dawson, Steve Futch, Jim Graham, Audrey Nowicki, Brandon Page, Jim Syvertsen, and Deidra Whatley.

Other participants were Mike Aerts, Ute Albrecht, Yiannis Ampatzidis, Kim Bowman, Rhuanito Ferrarezi, Fred Gmitter, Michael Rogers, Ashley Robinson, Moira Sheehan, Steve Smith, Ed Stover, Callie Walker, Rosa Walsh, and Yu Wang.

Mr. Howard opened with the approval of the December 8, 2020 minutes. Mr. Mahan moved to approve the minutes of the December 8th Board meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Updike and it passed unanimously.

Next, Mr. Howard introduced Morgan McKenna and Mathew Story, the newly appointed Board members. Ms. McKenna and Mr. Story then each gave a brief background on themselves and their involvement in the citrus industry.

Executive Committee: Mr. Howard reported that the Executive Committee met on January 14, 2021. Mr. Howard reported the committee met primarily to discuss CRDF's involvement in the NIFA grant pre-application, which was due January 29, 2021. Mr. Dantzler detailed the conditions previously set by the Executive Committee for the project: a) permission from the University to proceed with the project; b) CRDF would not co-funding the project; c) provide specifics of the scientific design of the project's trials; and d) a Project Director must be hired to oversee the project. Dr. Ed Stover and Dr. Moira Sheehan gave presentations of their components of the NIFA preproposal. There were discussions of the phenotyping on the NIFA project and the proposed CRDF Scion Trial. Additional discussions centered on the Project Director hire. Mr. Hancock moved to submit the NIFA preproposal application timely under the conditions set forth by the Executive Committee, with the understanding there are many unknowns and that, if invited to submit a full proposal, formal approval by the Board would be required prior to submission. The motion was seconded by Mr. Updike and, with no further discussion, passed unanimously.

Mr. Howard asked Mr. Dantzler to report on the proposed CRDF Scion trial. Mr. Dantzler acknowledged Brandon Page for a presentation on the matter. Mr. Page reviewed the template to be used, which was similar to the one used for the rootstock trial nominations. He also stated that, at this time, it is premature to start Phase III trials, but the focus should be on a robust Stage II trial. The matter will come before the Select Committee on Plant Improvement next month prior to bringing

their nominations to the Board for consideration. Mr. Dantzler asked that any additional questions on the NIFA preapplication be forwarded to CRDF Staff.

Finance and Audit Committee: Chairman Ron Mahan reviewed the December 2020 Financial Statement and Summary, noting the addition of the NIFA grant funding that was not included when the original budget was approved. Mr. Mahan moved to accept the Financial Statements as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hancock and, with no discussion, the motion passed unanimously. In response to a question regarding the CRDF audit and Form 990, Mrs. Nowicki reported the audit had been submitted timely to the University and Form 990 had been filed.

Governance Committee: Mr. Howard stated that the Governance Committee had not met, and the Board would be considering committee appointments vacated by Mr. Black and others.

Research Management Committee: Dr. Ouimet reported Research Management Committee had not met. Mr. Howard reported the Board received a draft of the 2021 RFP priorities; any suggestions for additions should be shared with Mr. Dantzler.

Commercial Product Delivery Committee: Mr. Updike reported the Committee had not met but anticipated a meeting would be called for discussions of the priorities for the 2021RFP.

Select Committee on Plant Improvement: Mr. Dantzler reported on the January 19, 2021 meeting of the Select Committee on Plant Improvement, noting they approved a Breeding and Selection Program Outline for Board ratification. Mr. Updike moved to approve the Breeding Selection Outline and Mr. Mahan seconded. With no discussion the motion passed unanimously. The Select Committee provided a list of rootstock nominations and standards for the Phase III Field Trials for the consideration and ratification by the Board. Mr. Dantzler reported that of the thirty nominations (seventeen from USDA and thirteen from UF/IFAS), ten rootstocks are being recommended for approval. Mr. Mahan moved to accept the ten rootstock nominations and standards. Mr. Hancock seconded the motion, and with no discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

COO Report: Mr. Dantzler reported that Mike Sparks would be making the presentation on behalf of CRDF to the Senate Appropriations Committee on his behalf. He mentioned additional guidelines received for the MAC trials. Mr. Dantzler reported that CRDF Staff finished executing No Cost Extensions that were requested and was able to achieve a savings of \$22,000 in budget reductions in doing so. He also stated the tentative date of a potential Board retreat was February 23, 2021.

Special Presentation: I. Ampatzidis, Ph.D. presented his findings on project #18-033C, “Automated root mapping to enhance field trial evaluation of citrus rootstocks in the HLB era.”

Partnerships: Dr. Michael Rogers reported on year-end reporting and faculty was busy writing NIFA proposals. He also mentioned that the Citrus Agents had planned Virtual OJ Breaks during the month of February. The schedule of events and more information could be found their website.

Extension Agent Report: None.

New Business/Public Comments: None.

Future CRDF Meetings: CRDF Board of Directors Meeting, Tues., February 23, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

Minutes submitted by John Updike, Secretary.