

**CITRUS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION, INC.**

**Minutes of the  
Research Management Committee Meeting  
Friday, August 21, 2020**

A Zoom teleconference meeting of the Research Management Committee of the Citrus Research and Development Foundation, Inc. was held on Friday, August 21, 2020. The meeting was properly noticed and recorded. The meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Chairman Pat Ouimet. Roll was called and a quorum was present. Committee members participating were Bobby Barben, Tim Dooley, Steve Farr, Aaron Himrod, Sean McCoy, Tom Obreza, Pat Ouimet, Daniel Scott, Joby Sherrod, Wayne Simmons, Jim Snively, Buddy Strickland, and Forest Taylor. Also participating were Rob Atchley, Rick Dantzler, Bill Dawson, Steve Futch, Jim Graham, David Howard, Audrey Nowicki, Josh Snively, Jim Syvertsen, John Updike, and Deidra Whatley.

Dr. Ouimet opened the meeting with the approval of the minutes of the June 12, 2020 RMC meeting. Mr. Snively made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Simmons and, without discussion, passed unanimously.

Dr. Ouimet moved on to the 2020 Nutrition RFP review. Prior to discussing the full proposals, Dr. Ouimet reported on her experience listening to the SAB as they reviewed the full proposals.

Mr. Dantzler then reported on how the financial situation for CRDF has changed over the past few years. He discussed what funding had been allocated in CRDF's FY20-21 budget for the 2020 Nutrition RFP, savings CRDF had realized recently to ensure funding had been spent efficiently, and with the budgeted funding available, that the Committee could decide to fund all or none of the proposals. Mr. Dantzler also mentioned that CRDF had received many off-cycle proposals which will be considered, that he expected to receive several more, and he anticipated convening a joint meeting of the Research Management and Commercial Product Delivery Committees for discussion of such off-cycle proposals.

Dr. Ouimet explained how each proposal would be brought for review and discussion by the Committee based on their overall ranking, highest to lowest, based on the scores by Scientific Advisory Board members.

Each of the highest ranked proposals were discussed in depth. CRDF staff also shared the SAB comments, contingencies, and other facts based on scientific merit. Dr. Ouimet asked the Committee to opine on the middle to lower ranked proposals; there was no discussion. After rigorous discussion of the top ranked and lowest ranked proposals a new one to ten ranking was presented. Mr. Simmons moved to disregard proposals ranked six through ten and only consider the proposals ranked one through five to recommend to the Board for funding. Mr. Snively seconded the motion, and with no discussion the motion passed unanimously.

Further discussion was had regarding first year budget totals for the five proposals recommended for funding. Mrs. Nowicki stated that the first-year requested budgets for the proposals was approximately \$528,000.00, but with delayed starts and other extenuating circumstances the actual costs that would be incurred in FY 2020-2021 s were well within the funding approved in the budget by the Board for the Nutrition RFP.

Dr. Ouimet then suggested that each proposal be voted on individually. Mr. Dantzler suggested adding the contingencies for each proposal to the motion. Concerns were raised regarding COVID-19 setbacks on current projects and the effect that might have on the proposed projects. Dr. Syvertsen reported that some progress reports from current projects had been slow to arrive due to the COVID-19 shut down, some objectives had been halted, and no-cost extensions had been discussed on a few projects.

Dr. Ouimet called for a motion on the first proposal, 20-011, from Dr. Tripti Vashisth. Mr. Simmons moved to advance proposal 20-011 to the Board for funding. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCoy. Before the motion could be fully voted on, Mr. Howard wanted to ensure the comments and contingencies would be included in each motion. Mrs. Nowicki determined the correct ranking for the proposals and Mr. Sherrod recommended that the Committee vote on the top five proposals collectively to recommend to the Board for funding. The contingencies were once again discussed and Dr. Ouimet requested Mr. Dantzler act as CRDF has historically and go through the deficiencies/contingencies with each PI individually. Mr. Strickland moved to advance the top five proposals, 20-011, 20-008, 20-004, 20-007 and 20-003, to the Board of Directors for funding. The motion was seconded by Mr. Barben and, without discussion, passed unanimously.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Deidra Whatley