

**CITRUS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION, INC.**  
**Minutes of the Governance Committee Meeting**  
**May 25, 2021**

A teleconference meeting of the Governance Committee of the Citrus Research and Development Foundation, Inc. was held on Tuesday, May 25, 2021. The meeting was properly noticed and recorded. The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by Chairman Ned Hancock. Roll was called and a quorum was present. Committee members participating were Rob Atchley, Ned Hancock, Jeanna Mastrodicasa, and John Updike. Also present were Rick Dantzler, David Howard, Audrey Nowicki, Mike Sparks, and Deidra Whatley.

Mr. Updike moved to accept the minutes of the April 27, 2021 meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Mastrodicasa and, with no discussion, passed unanimously.

Mr. Hancock reported on the COO review and explained that, in his opinion, the scores fell in line where expected, a lot of positivity, as well as room for growth in some areas. He also noted that Mr. Dantzler had been given a copy of the COO review. Mr. Dantzler spoke to his appreciation of the candor of the Board members and of his commitment to address the areas where there was room for improvement. Mr. Hancock suggested a later discussion on the structure of the organization and the need for one chief science officer. Mr. Updike moved to approve the COO annual review for approval by the Board. The motion was seconded by Dr. Mastrodicasa. There was a suggestion regarding a strategic planning session for Fall 2021.

Mr. Hancock read the proviso language which requires consultation with the Department of Citrus. Mr. Dantzler spoke to conversations he had with Shannon Shepp, DOC, regarding options to comply with the directive. Ms. Shepp suggested the creation of an Advisory Committee comprised of members of the Citrus Commission and CRDF Board members to meet quarterly to discuss processes, funding procedures, projects in the pipeline, etc. Mr. Dantzler suggested laying out the different scenarios to Sen. Ben Albritton at the June CRDF Board meeting and asking his and/or the Legislature' intention with the language. Mr. Hancock suggested sharing the minutes of CRDF meetings, including the financial summaries, with Ms. Shepp and the Commission for dissemination and review.

Mr. Hancock asked Mr. Dantzler to discuss the Amendment for CRAFT Research Agreement 20-021C. Mr. Dantzler explained that the change increases the reimbursement payout from \$1,000 per program acre to \$1,150 per program acre to assist CRAFT with a funding shortfall, essentially amounting to a reallocation within budget. After discussion, Mr. Atchley moved to accept the amendment. The motion was seconded by Dr. Mastrodicasa and passed unanimously. Mr. Dantzler noted that there may be a need to expand the next year RFP to include other citrus disease related field trial projects.

The final item on the agenda was the Florida Citrus Mutual/CRDF Educational Sessions. A virtual Educational Seminar took place in lieu of the 2020 annual conference for which CRDF paid \$10,000. CRDF received a quote for a 2021 Virtual Education Session in the same amount. Mr. Dantzler and Florida Citrus Mutual have discussed the possibility of two separate educational sessions at \$5,000 per event. Mr. Dantzler noted a potential session where field trials around the state would be highlighted and grower cooperators would be interviewed. Mrs. Nowicki explained the impact holding the sessions in July/August 2021 and a potential for the usual Annual Grower Meeting the following June would require allocating \$20,000 in the FY21-22 CRDF budget. The Finance and Audit Committee will address the matter when they meet to approve next year's budget. Dr. Mastrodicasa asked that the event, with Citrus Expo and other similar sessions, be calendared appropriately as to not compete with them.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Deidra Whatley