



Minutes of the Commercial Product Delivery Committee Meeting

Tuesday, June 15, 2021

A meeting of the Commercial Product Delivery Committee of the Citrus Research and Development Foundation, Inc. was held on June 15, 2021. The meeting was properly noticed and recorded. The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by Chairman John Updike, Jr. Roll was called, and a quorum was present. Committee members participating were Larry Black, Holly Chamberlain, Greg Hodges, Josh Kellam, Jeanna Mastrodicasa, Morgan McKenna, Brian Scully, and John Updike. Also participating were Rob Atchley, Rick Dantzler, Steve Futch, Jim Graham, Aaron Himrod, David Howard, Mike Irely, Audrey Nowicki, Brandon Page, Jim Syvertsen, Rosa Walsh, and Deidra Whatley.

Mr. Updike entertained a motion for the November 17, 2020 meeting minutes. Ms. Chamberlain moved to accept the minutes as presented. Seconded by Mr. Black, the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Dantzler reviewed membership of the Commercial Product Delivery Committee, noting that Mr. Eyrich's term concluded at the end of June and would not be returning due to relocation. Ms. Friend's term also concluded at the end of June; she is willing to continue to serve on the Committee for another term. He asked for suggestions for new qualified members as the committee is not limited in the number of members it may have.

Mr. Updike proceeded to the consideration of continued funding of the Southern Gardens Citrus Diagnostic Lab and Mr. Irely's proposal #21-002C in the amount of \$524,635. Mr. Dantzler noted that CRAFT will be using the services of SGCDL in the next couple years. Mr. Black moved to recommend Project 21-002C to the Board for approval of continued funding. The motion was seconded by Ms. Chamberlain and passed unanimously.

Mr. Updike opened the discussion of the 2021 Large-Scale Field Trial RFP. Mr. Dantzler mentioned that, other than the increase in the appropriation from \$3 million to \$5 million, there was nothing significantly different in the language of the RFP from those previously released. He mentioned that Ms. Carlson had requested the timeframe be adjusted for approval at the August 18, 2021 CRDF Board meeting to allow CRAFT time to announce their RFP and process applications timely. Mr. Kellam moved to advance the 2021 Large-Scale Field Trials RFP to the Board for approval. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hodges and passed unanimously.

Mr. Updike asked Mr. Page to present the Scion Trial budget. Mr. Page discussed the structure of the scion trials and grower-cooperator incentives, with a proposed budget of \$142,200 over four years. Mr. Black moved to recommend the Scion trial budget to the Board for approval. Dr. Scully seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mr. Updike proposed a potential CRDF Scion Trial II that, as soon as productive scions are identified, next steps to efficiently propagate the

budwood begin immediately to scale up quickly to meet the demand for the product. Discussion followed that this could be structured as a directed research project by CRDF. Dr. Scully reported that USDA is working toward that goal with one of Dr. Stover's scions identified in the CRDF Scion Trial.

Mr. Page reported on the status of the Phase Three Field Trials. He is working to get an East Coast site by replacing Swingle with sour orange. The deposit has been made with Agromillora and the trees should be planted shortly; he noted they are working around a shortage in the seed supply for the number of trees ordered. The Ridge and flatwoods trial sites have been identified. There is a potential third site that has not yet been conclusively identified, possibly in Zolfo for Vernia, and he is looking for a site for Hamlins and Valencias. The question came up whether it would be helpful to offer a grower incentive for the scion sites, noting some growers are hesitant to plant Hamlins at this time since they did not perform well in previous trials.

Mr. Dantzler gave an update on the 2Blades Foundation's genetically modified canker-resistant Duncan grapefruit tree and CRDF's option to pursue the non-exclusive licensure of the GMO product within the State of Florida. The discussion failed to advance to the Board for lack of a motion, noting it would be more marketable if it were HLB resistant.

In new business, Mr. Dantzler discussed the legislative proviso language and a potential presentation to the DOC of CRDF's funding process to satisfy the consultation language.

Mr. Dantzler discussed peptides with a number of companies developing them and the status of their regulatory process, and the potential for CRDF test them using the hairy root assay. He also spoke to the Board's approval of the purchase of peptides to Dr. Jin, UC Riverside, for Dr. Megan Dewdney and Dr. Greg McCollum to apply to trees this growing season. Lastly, he reported on a tree-injection company in the Midwest that received Board approved of travel funding to test trees in Florida.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Deidra Whatley