



Minutes of the Research Management and Commercial Product Delivery Committees
Joint Meeting
Monday, July 19, 2021

A joint meeting of the Research Management and Commercial Product Delivery Committees of the Citrus Research and Development Foundation, Inc. was held on Monday, July 19, 2021, at the Hampton Inn Conference Room, located at 22900 US Hwy 27, Lake Wales, Florida. The meeting was properly noticed and recorded. The meeting was called to order at 11:12 a.m. by Chairman Pat Ouimet. Roll was called and quorum were present with each Committee. Committee members participating for Research Management were Bobby Barben, Steve Farr, Aaron Himrod, Tom Obreza, Pat Ouimet, Daniel Scott, Joby Sherrod, Wayne Simmons, Mathew Story, and Forest Taylor. Committee members participating for Commercial Product Delivery were Alex Brown, Holly Chamberlain, Kelly Friend, Greg Hodges, Jeanna Mastrodicasa, Morgan McKenna, Brian Scully, Josh Snively, and John Updike. Also participating were Kristen Carlson, Rick Dantzler, Bill Dawson, Steve Futch, Jim Graham, Ned Hancock, Catherine Hatcher, David Howard, Mike Irey, Tom Mitchell, Audrey Nowicki, Brandon Page, Mike Sparks, Jim Syvertsen, John Updike, Deidra Whatley, and Tamara Wood.

Mr. Dantzler explained that the purpose of the meeting was to review the projects listed for potential termination. He explained the procedure for termination of projects and the contractual requirements.

Staff began with Dr. Gmitter's Part A Project 18-011, which expires January 31, 2022. Staff gave a summary on the project's progress and the objectives met, noting that the collection of data was lacking. Mr. Barben moved for the continuation of Project 18-011 with the contingency of ensuring the data is collected in full by the completion of the project. The motion was seconded by Mr. Himrod. Discussion included Dr. Grosser's Project Part B 18-039 in this matter and motion. The motion was restated to read "moved to continue Projects 18-011 and 18-039 contingent upon the collection of all data by the natural termination date (January 31, 2022) of projects," and with no further discussion the motion passed with one abstention by Ms. Friend.

Staff explained Dr. Diepenbrock's Project 20-002C, noting the project is timely with quarterly reports which are focused, and which contain quality data. The project had met objectives to date and was making progress. Mr. Updike moved to continue Project 20-002C. The motion was seconded by Mr. Story and with no discussion passed with one abstention by Ms. Friend.

Staff reported next on Project 19-009 by Dr. Johnson, noting that the researcher's quarterly reports had been tardy and inadequate in substance. Dr. Scully moved for a reduction of the project to \$100,000.00 and the motion was seconded by Dr. Mastrodicasa. Mr. Dantzler spoke to the encumbrance of staff salaries on a full project basis; the motion was withdrawn by Dr. Scully. Mr.

Simmons moved to terminate Project 19-009. The motion was seconded by Mr. Updike and passed with one abstention by Ms. Friend.

Dr. Ferrarezi's Project 20-003 was reviewed next. Staff summarized the project objectives and reported the PI would be leaving the University soon and there was no co-PI listed on the project. There was discussion regarding collaborator(s) and staff on the project, as well as the important subject matter of the research. Dr. Scully moved to terminate Project 20-003 at the end of year one, December 31, 2021. The motion was seconded by Mr. Updike. Discussion centered on the lack of confidence of the reassignment of the Project to other researchers, CRAFT, and expenses to grower cooperators. It was also mentioned that the topic will continue to resurface and that the nitrogen and phosphorous regulatory standards needed to be updated for the industry. Following the discussion, the motion passed with Ms. Friend abstaining.

Staff reviewed Dr. Dutt's Project 18-007 and noted the project lacked consistency and the objectives lacked collected data, although there was discussion surrounding the importance of the research and whether it would transfer into field studies. Dr. Scully moved to terminate Project 18-007. The motion was seconded by Mr. Simmons and passed with one abstention by Ms. Friend.

Staff summarized Dr. Ferrarezi's Project 18-037C, discussing the combinations of rootstocks and scions, the locations, and the collaborators/cooperators on the project. Dr. Ferrarezi's departure from the University caused concern as to successful continuation. Dr. Scully was unsure what was planted where but noted the trees themselves likely were not even of fruit bearing age. There was additional discussion regarding the rootstocks and scion components to the project. Dr. Scully moved to continue Project 18-037 objectives that targeted grapefruit combinations in trials 1 and 2, with funding prorated accordingly. The motion was seconded by Mr. Updike and with no further discussion passed with one abstention by Ms. Friend.

Staff reported on Dr. Gmitter's Project 18-010 and stated that although the project was slow to start progress had been made. He also noted that there was no posted expectation as to when collected data would be shared among other researchers. Mr. Himrod moved to continue Project 18-010 through its term of July 31, 2022. The motion was seconded by Mr. Simmons and passed with one abstention by Ms. Friend.

Staff gave an update on Dr. Johnson's Project 19-010 and the fungicides being utilized. There was discussion on the importance of the work and whether the project was salvageable. Mr. Dantzer suggested sending correspondence to the researcher expressing the concern of the Committees and Board and requesting more action by the PI on this important project. The committees agreed and no action was taken for termination of Project 19-010.

Staff reviewed Dr. Stelinski's Project 19-002. It was reported the project was on target and the objectives were progressing accordingly. Dr. Scully moved for the continuation of Project 19-002. The motion was seconded by Mr. Himrod and passed with one abstention from Ms. Friend.

Staff discussed Dr. Johnson's Project 20-004 that started January 1, 2021. They explained the project was slow to start due to tree plantings and was essentially just getting started. There was discussion regarding the acids being studied and the importance to growers for nutrient management. Mr. Barben moved to continue Project 20-004. The motion was seconded by Mr. Himrod and passed with one abstention by Ms. Friend.

Dr. Tripti's Project 20-011 was reviewed next by Staff, which started January 1, 2021. It was reported that the progress reports filed indicate the project appears to just be getting started. Dr. Mastrodicasa noted that progress has ramped up based on spending for the past quarter. There was strong discussion regarding the validity and need for Project 20-011. Mr. Simmons made a motion to terminate Project 20-011, seconded by Dr. Scully. There was discussion regarding justification of termination and possible ways to scale back the project. The motion for termination of Project 20-011 failed; the project will continue.

Staff reported on Dr. Leslie's Project 20-015, summarizing the work and noting there was an expectation of EPA approval on the product for use in March, 2022. With little discussion Dr. Scully moved for continuation of Project 20-015. The motion was seconded by Mr. Himrod and passed with one abstention by Ms. Friend.

After a brief recess, the meeting was called back to order by Mr. Updike. Mr. Dantzler explained there had been four no-cost extension requests received recently and each needed to be reviewed and upon individually.

The first project to be reviewed was Dr. Wang's Project 18-025. Dr. Dawson explained CRISPR in greater detail and noted there was progress on the research. Mr. Dantzler reported on the remaining balance in the budget for the extension. Dr. Scully moved to approve the no-cost extension for Project 18-025. The motion was seconded by Dr. Mastrodicasa and passed unanimously.

The second project reviewed was Dr. Wang's Project 18-026. Mrs. Nowicki reported on the remaining balance of funding on the project for the extension. Staff discussed the objectives, noting that the merits were not as clear as Project 18-025. After discussion surrounding the remaining objectives, Mr. Simmons moved to grant the no-cost extension for Project 18-026. The motion was seconded by Dr. Scully and passed unanimously.

The third project to be considered for a no-cost extension was Dr. Wang's Project 18-064. Staff explained the scientific aspects of the project and Mrs. Nowicki gave a financial update of the remaining project funding for the extension. It was reported that the researcher had completed a regimen of their objectives and wished to continue to see if there were residuals long term. While the researcher requested a 12-month extension, no-cost extensions are considered at six-month increments. Mr. Simmons moved to grant the no-cost extension for Project 18-064. The motion was seconded by Ms. McKenna and passed with one opposing vote by Dr. Ouimet.

The fourth project reviewed for extension was Dr. Elizabeth Roger's Project 18-019. Staff reviewed the project and explained that there was slow down on objectives due to Covid-19 related matters. Mrs. Nowicki gave a breakdown of costs and the remaining funding for the extension. Mr. Simmons moved to grant the extension for Project 18-019. The motion was seconded by Mr. Barben and passed with one abstention by Dr. Scully.

The final project considered for no-cost extension was Dr. Jones' Project 18-013. Staff discussed some of the details of the project for the Committee, as well as the financial position of the contract. Discussions focused on transitioning of objectives and value to the industry. Mr. Himrod moved to deny the no-cost extension. The motion was seconded by Dr. Mastrodicasa and passed with one opposing vote by Dr. Ouimet.

Next, Mr. Updike brought for consideration additional funding for Mr. Ireys Southern Gardens Diagnostic Lab Project 21-002C to cover year two costs. Mr. Updike explained that the year 2 fringes in the amount of \$39,481 had been omitted from the original proposal budget. Dr. Scully moved to recommend to the Board to approve the omitted second year costs, adding \$39,491 to the project budget. The motion was seconded by Mr. Himrod and passed unanimously.

Mr. Page gave a status update regarding the trunk injection devices from the Midwest company.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:46 p.m.
Minutes submitted by Deidra Whatley