



Minutes of the Finance and Audit Committee Meeting Tuesday, January 25, 2022

A meeting of the Finance and Audit Committee of the Citrus Research and Development Foundation, Inc. was held on Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at Ben Hill Griffin Hall, Room 103, 700 Experiment Station Road, Lake Alfred, FL. The meeting was properly noticed and recorded. The meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m. by Chairman Ron Mahan. Roll was called, and a quorum was present. Finance and Audit Committee members present were Rob Atchley, Ron Mahan and Jeanna Mastrodicasa. Also participating Rick Dantzler, Bill Dawson, Chris Gunter, Gio Ijpkemeule, Audrey Nowicki, Mike Sparks, Matt Story, Callie Walker, and Deidra Whatley.

Dr. Mastrodicasa moved that the minutes from the September 28, 2021, Finance and Audit committee meeting be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Atchley and passed unanimously.

Mr. Mahan recognized Ms. Nowicki to review the Statement of Financial position for the month ending December 31, 2021. Ms. Nowicki reported that there was nothing out of the ordinary on the December financial summary. The Citrus Marketing Order and CRDF's authorization to spend \$1.9 million of the current \$2.9 million in the Box Tax balance in the current fiscal year was discussed at length, leading to discussion of the Grower Referendum vote this Spring. There is a need for the various grower organizations to inform members of CRDF's support and belief in its mission.

Federal funding availability was discussed in reference to the CRAFT program; as well, as Dr. Mastrodicasa discussed UF/IFAS's limited opportunities to request funding in Tallahassee.

Mr. Dantzler reported that Dr. Sheehan's invoice was received for her services regarding the Plant Improvement Panel Review, noting that while the agreement provided for \$200/hour, not to exceed \$1,000.00 per day, Dr. Sheehan billed at \$70/hour, which is Cornell University's outside consultation rate, and included her dates of service beginning January 1, 2021. It was necessary to amend Dr. Sheehan's agreement from an auditing standpoint. Mr. Atchley moved to amend Dr. Sheehan's agreement and scope of services to \$70/hour with a start date of January 2021. The motion was seconded by Dr. Mastrodicasa and passed unanimously.

Mr. Dantzler discussed the AgerPoint contract, noting that the Board had approved \$17,500.00 for LIDAR technology in FY2122 budget. AgerPoint was proposing a three-year contract at \$20,000/year. After discussion, Dr. Mastrodicasa moved to recommend approving a one-year contract in the amount of \$20,000.00 for the LIDAR technology during FY2122. Mr. Atchley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Mahan mentioned that ordinarily 2022 was the year to request bids for performance of CRDF's audit and website maintenance. He recommended that Staff reach out to Bunting, Tripp & Ingley,

LLP and Frankel Media Group, who are currently providing these services, and request another year at the current contractual rate due to uncertainty of CRDF's future and the status of the Grower Referendum.

Dr. Mastrodicasa moved to approve the December Financial Statement as presented. The motion was seconded by Dr. Atchley and passed unanimously.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:43 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Deidra Whatley