



Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting Tuesday, April 25, 2023

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Citrus Research and Development Foundation, Inc. was held on Tuesday, April 25, 2023, in the Le Mans Room, Seven Sebring Raceway Hotel, 150 Midway Drive, Sebring, Florida 33870. The meeting was properly noticed and recorded. President Morgan Porter called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Roll was called and a quorum was present. Board members present were Rob Atchley, Chris Gunter, George Hamner, Aaron Himrod, David Howard, Deeley Hunt, Ron Mahan, Jeanna Mastrodicasa, Morgan Porter, Eric Rohrig, Joby Sherrod, and John Updike.

Also participating were Rick Dantzler, Bill Dawson, Steve Futch, Jim Graham, Audrey Nowicki, Brandon Page, Jim Syvertsen, Barbara Thompson, and Rosa Walsh.

President Morgan Porter noted the minutes from the March 28, 2023 board meeting were provided in the materials for review and approval. Mr. Mahan made a motion to accept the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Mr. Atchley and passed unanimously.

There were no Public Comments.

The Executive Committee did not meet.

Finance and Audit Committee: Mr. Mahan reported that the committee met prior to the Board meeting. He provided a summary of the March 31, 2023, Financial Statement and made a motion to accept the Financial Statement as read. The motion was seconded by Mr. Himrod and passed unanimously.

Mr. Mahan noted a recommendation by the committee to increase the educational session sponsorship to Florida Citrus Mutual for this year's Annual Conference by \$10,000. Mr. Hamner made a motion to increase the CRDF sponsorship from \$10,000 to \$20,000. The motion was seconded by Mr. Howard and, after discussion, passed with one no vote.

Governance Committee: Did not meet.

Research Management Committee: Mr. Updike brought the recommendations of the RMC for the preproposals that were received in response to the RFP.

The first preproposal was from Ozgur Batuman. It was noted that this preproposal was similar to the Stelinski proposal that had been funded. Mr. Updike made a motion to ask for a full proposal, adding imidacloprid and streptomycin to the project. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hamner and passed unanimously.

Mr. Updike made a motion to ask for a full proposal from Zhenli He, requesting that he be more specific in the full proposal. The motion was seconded by Mr. Howard and passed unanimously.

Mr. Updike made a motion to ask for a full proposal from Nabil Killiny. The motion was seconded by Mr. Atchley and passed unanimously.

There was no action taken on the Madhurababu Kunta preproposal.

Mr. Dantzler noted the recommendation that Amit Levy's preproposal needed to provide proof of concept and adjust the budget accordingly. Mr. Updike made a motion to ask for a full proposal from Dr. Levy with these contingencies. The motion was seconded by Mr. Atchley and passed unanimously.

Mr. Updike made a motion to ask for a full proposal from K. Mandadi, which includes a list of the compounds being used. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mahan and passed unanimously.

The preproposal by Ching-Hong Yang had not been recommended by RMC and subsequently was not moved forward by the Board.

Mr. Updike made a motion to run an RFP on essential oils, utilizing not only Dr. Scully's list but include other products that have been registered recently. Mr. Dantzler noted that Dr. Yu Wang is preparing a preproposal that would fit this RFP. The motion was seconded by Mr. Himrod and passed unanimously.

Mr. Updike introduced Yong Ping Duan's preproposal identifying CCMV virus in escape trees. A discussion ensued in the recent exercise to identify escape trees, how many have been identified and are still flourishing? There are currently four or five in the pipeline. Mr. Himrod made a motion to invite a full proposal from Dr. Duan. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sherrod and passed unanimously.

Mr. Updike noted the RMC recommended year 2 funding of Dr. Santra's Project 22-002, 'Management of tree health and huanglongbing disease pressure using advanced Zn formulations.' Mr. Howard made a motion to move forward, seconded by Mr. Hamner. After discussion of the details of the project, the motion was withdrawn pending further clarification by staff.

Mr. Dantzler presented the language in our policy for assisting companies with commercialization. It was decided that no action was required.

COO Report: None

Partnership Updates:

Matt Joyner, Florida Citrus Mutual - In Mr. Joyner's absence, Ms. Wood noted that \$8 million was being allocated from the Legislature with \$5 million going to CRAFT and \$3 million going to CRDF.

Dr. Michael Rogers noted that Dr. Kirsten Pelz-Stelinski accepted the Center Director position with UF/IFAS at the Mid-Florida Research and Education Center in Apopka as of August 1, 2023. Her lab and research projects will remain intact going forward with oversight from Dr. Lukasz Stelinski.

New Business: None.

Public Comments: None

Future Meeting: Tuesday, May 23, 2023 – UF-/IFAS, CREC, Lake Alfred, Florida

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

Minutes submitted by John Updike, Secretary.