

CALIFORNIA CITRUS NURSERY BOARD

MINUTES OF MEETING

December 5, 2006
Lindcove, California

A meeting of the California Citrus Nursery Board was called to order by Chairman Bob Zuckerman at 10:35 a.m. on Tuesday, December 5, 2006 at the Lindcove Research Station, Lindcove, California with the following in attendance:

Members

Don Dillon
Robert LoBue
Steve Maddock
Gary Moles
Tom Mulholland
Roger Smith
Bob Zuckerman

Guests

Beth Grafton-Cardwell-UC
Robert Krueger
Susan McCarthy--CDFA
Georgios Vidalakis--UCR

Staff

JD Allen
Jim Melban
Ken Melban
Jerry Munson

Alternates

*Larry Rose

Marketing Branch

Kathy Diaz-Cretu

*Alternate acting in lieu of a member.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

On a motion by Dillon and a second by Moles, the minutes of the meeting of August 15, 2006 were approved as mailed with the following corrections:

Revision #1: Georgios Vidalakis explained to the Board that the California Citrus Research Board had voted to ~~not~~ fund the California Citrus Clonal Protection Program, and was asking the Board for \$30,000 (proposal on file at Board office).

Revision #2: Board Action #06-11 Mullholland moved, seconded by Smith, to ~~change~~ **clarify that the ~~an~~ assessment ~~be~~ based on the first sale of a propagated citrus tree.**

Strikethrough: ~~ABC~~ = deletions

Bold: **ABC** = new language

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

POLICY MANUAL MINOR AMENDMENT

J. Melban explained that the California Department of Food and Agriculture requires each marketing order to adopt a policy manual. He said Monfort Management Services had developed a TABCOMP Policy Manual to cover all of their clients, and suggested CCNB adopt

the manual. He added that there would be an appendix specifically for the Board that they can revise as needed.

Board Action #06-14 Maddock moved, seconded by LoBue, that there exists a need to take immediate action on the proposed TABCOMP Policy Manual, and that the need for action came to the attention of the Board subsequent to the original agenda being posted for this meeting.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Board Action #06-15 Moles moved, seconded by Dillon, to adopt the TABCOMP Policy Manual (attached Exhibit "A").

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Smith noted that the TABCOMP Policy Manual addresses the publishing of an annual report, and he was inquiring when that would be released. K. Melban indicated the annual report is typically published shortly after the final research reports are completed.

RESEARCH REPORTS AND PROPOSAL

Beth Grafton-Cardwell reported on the ongoing CTV Index and Tree Removal project, and said this year's proposal is for the amount of \$11,160. She indicated Beth Grafton-Cardwell discussed the Red Scale work at the Lindcove Research Station. She added that two Tristeza infected trees were found in the Lindcove Station area and stressed how critical it is for clean up to occur, adding that more funding might be needed. In 2006, three trees were removed, two of which were from the California Citrus Clonal Protection Program. It is her opinion that this indicates the ¼ - ½ mile buffer is not adequate to protect the CCPP program. She indicated that a neighbor who had been somewhat uncooperative with the project in the past sold the property, and she is hopeful the new owner will be more amenable. A discussion ensued regarding the Asian Citrus Psyllid, which vectors the virus, raising questions about the screen size necessary to provide control, along with its effect on airflow to the trees.

Smith asked three questions which Cardwell agreed to find out the answers: 1) What is Tulare County's funding scheme and can they help with this? 2) Is the three trees sample enough, why not four or five? 3) Are there other possibilities for funding such as the University of California?

Rose asked about the composite testing and if larger testing could lower the costs, and if they were looking to catch false-positives and eliminate human error? Cardwell indicated she would follow-up on those questions.

Georgios Vidalakis reported on the testing of nursery owned citrus scion and seed source trees. He gave a power-point presentation reviewing the year's data. He said forty viroids were found, 19 being mild and 21 strong. Vidalakis was asked to determine if those trees which tested positive had tested positive in the past or if they were new. Smith asked if CDFA helps fund the testing, and Vidalakis indicated they do not.

A discussion took place regarding the necessity to increase greenhouse capacity within UC Riverside for the registration program. It was decided that Vidalakis would explore possibilities at UC Riverside and report back to the Board at the next meeting.

He said this year's ongoing project proposal was for the amount of \$71,232.32.

Vidalakis said that at the request of Ken Melban he had submitted a new proposal for the amount of \$31,068 entitled "Characterization of the Citrus Psorosis and Citrus Vein Enation Virus Isolates of the CCPP Disease Collection." A brief discussion ensued on the merits of this project.

SUSAN MCCARTHY - CDFA

McCarthy reported on the psorosis and viroid (PV) testing allotment. In addition, she asked for the Board's preference regarding the dissemination of tristeza testing results, and it was decided to continue with getting the results out by April.

FINANCIAL REPORT

K. Melban led the Board through the financial report (attached Exhibit "B"), reporting that everything was within budget. He said that CDFA was requesting authorization to expend the remaining monies on the previously funded projects and then transfer the balance of \$45,513.20 to the Board.

Board Action #06-16 Smith moved, seconded by Mulholland, to authorize the transfer of \$45,513.20 from CDFA to the CCNB, with the stipulation that the \$5,000, \$4,600 and \$80,100 be paid for the previously approved projects.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Diaz-Cretu indicated that the Board could now close the checking account with a balance of close to \$7,000 and transfer those monies to the TABCOMP account.

BUDGET WORKSHEET

K. Melban reported he was suggesting reducing the expected assessment income for 2006 from \$240,000 to \$220,000 based on the three quarters of reports and actual received assessments from prior years. He said it is very unusual to develop a proposed budget for the next fiscal year when no monies have been collected yet for the current year, and was suggesting the conservative \$220,000 projected assessment figure be utilized for 2007.

At this time the researchers and McCarthy were excused from the room.

Board Action #06-17 Moles moved, seconded by LoBue, to fund the Grafton-Cardwell CTV Index and Tree Removal project for the amount of \$11,160.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Board Action #06-18 Mulholland moved, seconded by Moles, to fund the Vidalakis testing of nursery owned citrus scion and seed source trees project in the amount of \$71,232.32.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Board Action #06-19 Smith moved, seconded by Mulholland, to not fund the Vidalakis project Characterization of the Citrus Psorosis and Citrus Vein Enation Virus Isolates of the CCP Disease Collection.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Board wanted to make it clear to Vidalakis that their decision to not fund the project was not necessarily an indication that the project was not important. Rather, they felt it important to allow the Request for Proposals to be developed and sent out to the researcher community as a whole to allow for project submissions and thereby avoid any apparent favoritism.

At this time staff was excused from the room and the Board went into executive session to discuss the management proposal.

After a brief discussion, staff, researchers and McCarthy were invited back into the meeting.

Board Action #06-20 Moles moved, seconded by Mulholland, to approve the following resolution:

RESOLUTION A

Crop Estimate and Rate of Assessment

WHEREAS, the California Citrus Nursery Board provides that the Board recommend a rate of assessment for each marketing season, and

WHEREAS, the Board has estimated a crop value of \$220,000,000 to be produced in the 2007 season, and

WHEREAS, the Board has considered the estimated expenditures in its preliminary 2007 budget,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board recommend to the Secretary that the assessment rate for the period January 1, 2007 thru December 31, 2007 be one percent (1.0 percent) of the first sale of propagated citrus.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Board Action #06-21 Dillon moved, seconded by Smith, to approve the following resolution:

RESOLUTION B

2007 Preliminary Budget

WHEREAS, it is estimated that there will be a carry-over of \$234,975 from the Board's 2006 budget, and

WHEREAS, the attached preliminary budget (Exhibit "C") reflects estimated income and expenditures for the 2007 marketing season,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board recommend the approval by the Department of Agriculture of the attached preliminary budget and authorization of the transfer of the estimated carry-over to the 2007 budget of the Board.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Board Action #06-22 Smith moved, seconded by Moles, to approve the following resolution:

RESOLUTION C

Retaining Monfort Management Services, Inc. to Supply Management Services for the 2007 Fiscal Year

WHEREAS, Monfort Management Services, Inc. has provided the necessary office facilities and staff services, and the Board Manager has performed in a satisfactory manner, and

WHEREAS, Monfort Management staff members are also involved in the management of other advisory boards or commissions, which allows MMS, Inc. to minimize the expenses of the involved board by the sharing of such expense items as multi-purpose trips, memberships, subscriptions, or certain purchases.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board approve the retention of Monfort Management Services, Inc. for the 2007 Marketing Season for a total amount of \$22,800, with the Board to be billed in twelve equal monthly installments of \$1,900, which shall cover the following:

1. The services of Jim Melban as Board Manager and JD Allen as Assistant Manager,
2. The services of MMS's secretarial, bookkeeping and clerical staff on an as-needed basis, and
3. The furnishing of Office space, utilities, special phone equipment, postage meter, mailing system, micro-computers and printers and other miscellaneous equipment, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that when appropriate opportunities arise for cost-sharing with the other boards managed by Monfort Management Services, Inc., an officer of MMS, Inc. be authorized to pro-rate such shared costs based on a suitable formula calculated to distribute the costs according to the benefit derived by each board involved. This distribution may be on an equal basis, a percentage of usage basis, or according to the direct benefit obtained by each board, based on such things as the time spent on a trip.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board recommend that the Department approve establishing a contractual relationship between the Board and Monfort Management covering the provision of the aforementioned services and facilities, and that the Board Chairman be authorized to sign said contract, and approve the appropriate invoices involved on behalf of the Board.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

Research – Chairman Dillon indicated he would work with the Research Committee to determine what the Request for Proposals should contain in terms of research priorities. He added they would establish a review committee that would rate the research proposals. The anticipated time line for the RFPs is they will be sent out mid to late September with a due date of November 1st. This will allow the Research Committee to review the proposals and make recommendations to the Board at the December annual meeting.

Industry – Chairman Mulholland said the Industry Committee will work to determine if greenhouses are aware of new varieties that get released.

Education – Chairman Moles noted the Education Committee will explore developing a web portal by which the Nursery Information Book could be accessed.

Board Chairman Zuckerman instructed the respective committee chairs to submit to him a list of recommended committee members by February 1st, 2007, with a limit of five official members per committee.

Policy Manual Appendix

K. Melban recommended the Board approve an appendix to the TABCOMP Policy Manual that will be more specific to the needs of the Board. J. Melban suggested that it be modified to authorize a specific budget to each committee. K. Melban indicated there was some concern among the members regarding member/alternate participation, and suggested the appendix would be the place to establish a policy by which to remove non-participating

members/alternates. After some discussion, it was decided to implement a policy that will *allow* for the removal of a Board member/alternate if they miss *two consecutive* meetings.

Board Action #06-23 Moles moved, seconded by Dillon, to approve the Policy Manual Appendix (Attached as Exhibit “D”) with the abovementioned changes.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEXT MEETING

There was no date set for the next meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:48 p.m.

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Certification of Minutes

I, Jim Melban, Manager of the California Citrus Nursery Board, do hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of a meeting of the California Citrus Nursery Board held in Lindcove, California on December 5, 2006.

Jim Melban, Manager