

OREGON SWEET CHERRY COMMISSION
1827 NE 44TH Ave, Ste 315, Portland, OR 97213
Phone (503) 274-5458

REGULAR MEETING

Date: Wednesday, October 10, 2018

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place: Mid-Columbia Ag Research & Extension Center
Extension Annex Meeting Room
2990 Experiment Station Dr. Hoop River, OR 97031

Call to Order/Introductions

Ryan Bond, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The following Commissioners consisting of a quorum, including Ryan were present: Megan Thompson, Stacey Cooper, Kirk Lloyd, Steve Sandau, Jeff Heater, and Brad Pickering. Mike Omeg joined the meeting at 10:30 am and Wade Root arrived at 10:45 am. Kris Brunner and Les Stephens were unable to attend.

Dana Branson, Will Wise, Oregon Beef Council, BJ Thurlby and James Michael, NW Cherries promotion team were also present. Kris Anderson, Oregon Department of Ag joined the meeting at 10:30 am.

The minutes of the regular meeting held on August 15, 2018 were emailed and in the meeting books distributed to the attendees. *Megan Thompson moved and Steve Sandau second to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.*

Financials Statements – July, August & September

The financial statement for July was emailed in advance and was printed in the meeting books along with August and September financial statements. Julie Hoffman reported that the July statement was incomplete as the interest was not booked and was not approved at the August meeting. *Megan Thompson moved that the July financial statement be accepted as submitted. Jeff Heater seconded the motion and motion carried unanimously.*

The financial statements for August and September were emailed in advance and were printed in the meeting books. *Steve Sandau moved that the August and September financial statements be accepted as submitted. Megan Thompson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.*

Administrator's Activity Report

Crop & Assessment Estimate for 2018: The crop and assessment estimate for 2018, with actual assessments collection as of October 9, 2018 with a 3-year history was handed out to the Commissioners. The fresh cherry tonnage estimate was 40,579 tons and actual collected to date was on 40,172 total tons of fresh cherries.

Collection Update: Julie Hoffman reported that all the handlers have completed their reports and there were just a few small producers still out. She will be following up with each producer that has not responded. This is for Fresh Cherries that were due by October 1, 2018 and Brine, Frozen and Canned have until December 15, 2018.

Denim & Diamonds – Friday Nov 16, 2018, Salem Oregon Reported to the commissioners the date and location of this event. OSCC has purchased a table of 10 seats. Kris Anderson encouraged the commission to make these tickets available to producers. Steve Sandau said the he would take 2 tickets, Megan Thompson 2 tickets, Tom Brateng 2 tickets, Stacey Cooper 2 and Ryan Bond also plan on attending for a total of 10 seats.

Summer Ag Institute Request for funds Dana Branson reported that in the past the Oregon Sweet Cherry Commission had funded each session of the SAI program for \$150.00. *Jeff Heater moved that we fund the same as past years for a total of \$300.00 Megan Thompson seconded the motion and motion carried unanimously.*

Oregon State Investment Pool

At the August 15 meeting the commission requested that Julie Hoffman research other secure financial institutions suitable to the State of Oregon to hold reserves to receive the highest market rate of interest. Other commissions, for example the Oregon Wheat Commission utilize the Local Government Investment Pool thru the

State Treasury Department of Oregon. Julie reported that the current interest rate as of October 1, 2018 was 2.50 % and that if we applied and were accepted that the funds are liquid and may be transferred online the next day after requesting.

Megan Thompson moved, and Kirk Lloyd seconded the motion that the OSCC apply to the State Treasurer for the Local Government Investment Pool and once approved we place all excess funds over \$250,000 in the Oregon State Investment Pool. Motion carried unanimously.

Stacey Cooper moved that at the acceptance to the Oregon State Investment Pool that we close the Cascade Central Credit Union account. Jeff Heater seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Research Review scheduled for Hood River on November 13th and 14th. Dana Branson will be communicating with all the commissioners as to their need for hotel rooms and their attendance plans.

Chairman's Report

Invitation to a roundtable discussion on water use and irrigation technology – Ryan Bond attended this roundtable on August 31, 2018 at Oregon State University with the Department of Applied Economics. This is the first of two-roundtable meetings with the second to be scheduled next year. They are looking at all crops in the Northwest and their needs. The Oregon Wheat Commission and the Potato Commission were also represented. They will look at key factors influencing farmer water use and irrigation technology adopted on the U.S. west coast.

Invitation to a meeting with OSU President Ed Ray Oct 4, 2018

Ryan Bond and Eric Schrum attended a meeting that was held with the Oregon Beef Council at President Ed Ray's office on October 4, 2018. This was a productive meeting and President Ray updated everyone on the budget challenges that are looming for the funding of the Oregon State Extension programs. It is projected that there will be a 5% reduction in funding. Will Wise of the Oregon Beef Council thanked Ryan and Eric for participating and felt it was a successful meeting.

Research Committed Reporting – 2019 Pre-Proposals and voting

Eric Schrum, research committee chairman was not able to attend, and Jeff Heater reported the list of Pre-Proposals that were chosen to present at the Research Review in November. Below is the chart of the top ten proposals voted on by the committee.

Final Ranking - OSCC and WTFRC Combined

PI	Org.	Project Title
Grove	WSU- Prosser	Fungicide resistance: a vital need to protect PNW cherries from mildew
McCord	WSU - Prosser	Supporting a robust PNW sweet cherry breeding and genetics program
McCord	WSU- Prosser	Equipping the re-launched PNW cherry breeding program.
Sallato	WSU - Prosser	Nutrient management for fruit quality in cherries
Peace	WSU - Pullman	Durable genetic solutions to powdery mildew infection in sweet cherry
Peace	WSU - Pullman	Faster cherry breeding with genetic factors for short juvenility
Akbari	UC San Diego	Engineered transgenic D. suzukii for wild population suppression
McCord	WSU - Prosser	DNA tests and automated analysis for cracking and storage disorders
Sallato	WSU - Prosser	Rootstock influence on nutrient absorption and partitioning
Whiting	WSU - Prosser	Targets and tools for post-bloom thinning

NW Cherries 2018 Season Review

BJ Thurlby of NW Cherries reported that the 2018 crop was the second highest in history. The Northwest shipped over 25 million 20 lb. boxes. The estimate was 92% of actual harvest. The California crop overlapped the NW for 25 days. Even though with the overlap of California the demand was high, and crop was of good quality. The 4th of July resulted in a great demand and sell through. He reported that the Rainer crop was the highest in several years. Six of the last ten years the total cherry crop has been over 20 million boxes. Keith could not attend with an export summary. Four things helped with exporting this year.

1. Strong Demand.
2. No retail tariff on Mexico and Canada

3. Minimal impact on China Imports as the tariff did not begin until mid-July. This encouraged purchases before the tariffs began.
4. Exceptional Cherry Quality.

James Michael gave a report on the various domestic ad and promotion campaigns for the season. NW Cherries were in strong demand.

Meeting recessed at Noon

Meeting resumed at 12:21 pm.

ODA Report – Kris Anderson

Kris handed out a list of trade mission opportunities provided by Theresa Yoshioka.

Kris reported that the Oregon Department of Agriculture will be helping Commissions to apply for tariff relief thru the Farm Service Agency. The Potato, Seafood and Hazelnut commissions will be applying for relief funds.

The Commodity Commission Advisory committee will be holding a meeting on November 1, 2018 in Salem. This meeting is open to all commissioners

There have also been two new Board of Agriculture appointees.

OSU Research Report

Steve Castagnoli emailed a report to Jeff Heater and reported that Mateus has will return in November 2018.

NW Horticultural Council – Dan Crouse

Dan Crouse was unable to attend this meeting and emailed a report that Ryan Bond read to the Commissioners.

The NHC has been busy as always. Keeping up with tariffs, MRL's, NAFTA replacement agreements as well as all trade partners and markets. On the USMCA (US, Mexico and Canada) agreements it appears to be just about what we all hoped for; a resumption of trade that protects both the US and our Mexican and Canadian neighbors from unfair practices and keeps those important markets open for us all. As most of you have been hearing, the Congress is way more interested in running for re-election than getting any substantive legislation passed. There has been no more mention of an immigration bill coming up for discussion for example.

About tariffs, the NHC did get involved with USDA on the Market Facilitation Program which will produce payments to both apple and sweet cherry growers for tariff caused price reductions on produce exported to China this year. Also, there will be a purchase of some commodities (apples for sure) for the school lunch program. Also, the council has been involved in mitigation activities between FDA and Washington state agriculture departments and others in dealing with a raw sewage spill in the Yakima valley that continues to complicate many growers and shippers' lives and has caused some fruit to be held for a while as residue testing is done on some lots. Never a dull moment.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Tuesday December 11, 2018 beginning at 10:00 am at the Second-floor Classroom, Food Innovation Center, 1207 NW Naito Pkwy, Portland, OR 97209

Meeting adjourned at 12:35 pm

Administrator, Julie Hoffman_____

