

OREGON SWEET CHERRY COMMISSION
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SPECIAL MEETING COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL

Date: Tuesday, June 27, 2017

Time: 5:00 P.M.

Place: Call in Number 866-672-9151

At prompt enter Conference Code: 5413865798 followed by #

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m. with Dan Crouse, Chairman; Commissioners Kris Brunner, Steve Sandau, Megan Thompson, Andrea Galloway, Leonard Aubert, Jim Markman, Stacey Cooper and Ryan Bond; Brad Pickering, Commissioner starting his term July 1, 2017; Kris Anderson, Commodity Commission Program Manager; Sue Root, Oregon Cherry Growers; and Dana Branson, Administrator, on the call.

Dana shared that the purpose of this meeting was for the Commission to discuss the reasons for reducing the brine assessment rate and to adopt a motion authorizing her to start the process of an Administrative Rule Amendment, if that's what the Commission decided to do. A decision on a specific rate of reduction cannot be made at this time; it has to be made after the Administrative Rule Hearing. Kris Anderson explained further that after a discussion with Anika Marriot, Oregon Department of Justice (DOJ), Anika preferred that the explanation submitted for the rule amendment be written with a possible range of amounts. This will allow room for discussion and adjustment after receiving input at the Administrative Rule Hearing.

Dana read an explanation written by Dan Crouse of the series of events that brought the suggestion for a reduction in the brine assessment rate to mind. In general, two amounts of possible reduction surfaced since the April meeting. The first one is to reduce the brine assessment rate by \$5.50 per ton because this is the amount that has been spent with National Cherry Growers & Industries Foundation for promotion activities. The second amount was a reduction of \$3.25 per ton, which would bring the contribution from brine growers equal to that of fresh growers or \$9.00 per ton for research, education and administration.

After discussion Andrea moved to begin the Administrative Rule Change process to reduce the brine assessment rate by an amount of between \$3.25 and \$5.50 per ton or some other amount. Steve Sandau seconded the motion. A roll call vote produced seven in favor with Stacey Cooper and Ryan Bond opposed. The motion carried.

There was discussion regarding dates for a public hearing, adoption of a revised rule and coordinating those with the regular August Commission meeting. The earliest a public hearing can be held is August 22. Kris said the hearing and the meeting, where an amended rule could be adopted, can be held on the same day if the Commissioners wanted to do that. The next meeting had been scheduled for August 16 in Hood River. To facilitate the Administrative Rule Hearing and commission action on any amendment, the date will be changed to Tuesday, August 22, in Portland. Dana will see if the Food Innovation Center facility is available that day.

The meeting adjourned at 5:34 p.m.