

Oregon Sweet Cherry Commission
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BUDGET HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Columbia Gorge Community College, Bldg 1, Rm 1.166
400 E Scenic Dr, The Dalles, OR 97058
Tuesday, June 5, 2018, 2:00 P.M.

Call to Order/Introductions

Dan Crouse, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. the following Commissioners consisting of a quorum, including Dan, were present: Jim Markman, Ryan Bond, Megan Thompson, Les Stephens, Steve Sandau, Kris Brunner Stacey Cooper, Brad Pickering, and Andrea Galloway.

Kris Anderson, ODA Commodity Commission Program Manager, Steve Castagnoli and Ashley Thompson, MCAREC, Jeff Heater and Eric Shrum, Western Ag, Julie Hoffman and Will Wise, Oregon Beef Council, Ruth De LaRosa, INB Bank, Mike Willet, Washington Tree Fruit Research Commission, Tom Kubitz, Seneca Foods and Dana Branson, OSCC Administrator were also present. Mike Omeg, Orchard View Farms, joined the meeting in progress.

The minutes of the regular meeting held on April 26, 2018 were emailed in advance and available at the meeting. *Megan Thompson moved and Brad Pickering seconded to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.* The minutes of the Special meeting on May 1, 2018, the Administrator Replacement Committee Special meeting on May 15, 2018 and the Special meeting held on May 17, 2018 were emailed in advance and available at the meeting. *Megan Thompson moved and Stacey Cooper seconded to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.*

The financial statements for April and May were emailed in advance and available at the meeting. There were no questions. *Ryan Bond moved and Megan Thompson seconded to accept the financial reports for April and May as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.*

ODA Report

Kris Anderson reported applications for the open Commission positions Producer 4 and 5 have been received as well as two applications for the Public Member. Producer position 8, which is a partial two-year term, has not been applied for yet. Dana will canvas for an applicant

from the Hood River area. Kris anticipates appointments early next week.

Administrator's Activity Report

Dana reminded the Commissioners to send in any expense reimbursement requests for this fiscal year before June 30.

AgLink has contacted OSCC again this year regarding sponsorship of the Denim & Diamonds fundraiser for the Adopt-a-Farmer program. The event will be held in Salem this year. After some discussion *Ryan Bond moved and Les Stephens seconded to sponsor at \$2,000. The motion carried unanimously with Megan Thompson abstaining because she is on the board at Ag Link.*

OSCC has been approached about buying an ad in the Growing Oregon magazine again this year. Last year a one-third-page ad with no online component was purchased. After discussion *Ryan Bond moved and Megan Thompson seconded to purchase a one-third-page ad along with the online presence this year. The motion carried unanimously.*

The 2018-19 Budget Hearing was opened at 2:19 p.m.

Dana reported that the two Administrative Rule changes one to increase the processed cherry assessment rate and the other to revise the OSCC representation and number of Commissioners have both been filed. The assessment rate increase has been communicated to handlers and the effective date for Commission changes will be June 30, 2018.

Research Committee Report

Eric Shrum co-Chair of the Research Committee said the new breeder, Per McCord, is getting settled into the job in Prosser. He's learning that creating new varieties will not be easy as there was not a good take on the cross pollinations. The test block looks good – much improved over past years. The junk trees have been removed. Better data will be collected and more information will flow. Eric is going up Thursday, June 7 to begin evaluating fruit harvest. The money requested for the program will be increasing this year as WSU is in money trouble.

5 State Meeting Report

Megan Thompson attended the 5 State meeting on May 15th. The crop estimate is still in flux. The information out of Wenatchee was incomplete at the time of the meeting. The original estimate was 20.5

million boxes at the meeting, but has gone up about another 3-4 million in subsequent rounds. The export tariff situation is uncertain and will affect sales. The last of California's short crop will overlap with the start of the Northwest's.

Chairman's Report

Northwest Horticultural Council's (NHC) merger with Northwest Fruit Exporters is complete. Two more trustees will be added to the council. Food Safety regulations continue to be pushed back. Kate Woods is on top of the situation if you have any questions. NHC is working on the export tariff situation as it continues to evolve. They are also staying in the discussions on labor and immigration. It's better to be at the table to express views than not. Barbara Madden has been hired for Science Advisory position at NHC. Dan asked for a volunteer to be on the Science Advisory Committee to replace him because he will be the Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the next two years. Jeff Heater agreed to take the Science Advisory Committee position.

The Budget hearing closed at 2:40 p.m. *Brad Pickering moved and Megan Thompson seconded to approve the proposed budget. The motion carried unanimously.*

The 2018-19 Operations Plan was emailed prior to the meeting. There were no questions. *Stacey Cooper moved and Andrea Galloway seconded to approve the Operations Plan as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.*

The nominations for officers for next year are Ryan Bond, Chairman, Stacey Cooper, Vice-Chairwoman and Brad Pickering, Secretary/Treasurer. *Megan Thompson moved and Stacey Cooper seconded to approve the officers as listed. The motion carried unanimously.*

NCGIF Report

Stacey Cooper met with the representatives of the National Cherry Growers & Industries Foundation. They voted to move the reserves left in the organization under the management of the Washington State Fruit Commission. The money will be used in case of an 'emergency' or situation that might arise affecting the cherry industry. The website will be maintained through the end of this year and a couple of promotional projects already in progress with Jim Beam will be completed. The OSCC is allocated to have two representatives. Stacey is willing to continue and Megan Thompson agreed to serve. *Andrea Galloway moved and Ryan Bond seconded to approve Stacey*

and Megan as OSCC representatives to NCGIF. The motion carried unanimously.

OSU Research & Extension Report

Steve Castagnoli said Mateus Pasa is settling in, assessing the trials started by Todd Einhorn in the breeding block. He is strong in the area of plant growth regulators. Steve is continuing to work on post-doc extensions for the current researchers. He is planning a Field Day in the second half of July time frame. There is a crop at the station with a light Regina set and a reasonable Lapin set. The pears look OK.

Ashley Thompson said she's working with OSU and WSU. She's hoping to organize a fruit school with meetings in The Dalles and Hood River on water and pest management among the topics. The Hood River Extension office will be closed on Fridays as a cost saving measure. Funding was not cut as much as first anticipated, which is good news. Hood River will not be going out for a service district this year.

Contract Extension for Administrator

A draft of Dana's contract extension was emailed in advance of the meeting and hard copies were passed out. The extension will be through December to help with the transition of the work to Julie Hoffman of the Oregon Beef Council. Kris Anderson went through the details of the work elements. The monthly amount that Dana will invoice to the Beef Council was established and a clarification of the end deliverable was made. The 2018-19 budget categories approved earlier in the meeting were adjusted for the amount of the extension by reducing the amount of the emergency fund and increasing the Administrative Services expense. *Megan Thompson moved and Ryan Bond seconded to adopt the revised budget. The motion carried unanimously. Ryan Bond moved and Kris Brunner seconded to approve the contract extension for Dana Branson with the amendments discussed. The motion carried unanimously.*

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Wednesday, August 15, 2018 beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Food Innovation Center, 1207 NW Naito Pkwy, Portland, OR.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:21 p.m.