

OREGON SWEET CHERRY COMMISSION
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REGULAR MEETING

Date: Wednesday, August 15, 2018

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Place: Second-floor Classroom, Food Innovation Center
1207 NW Naito Pkwy, Portland, OR 97209

Call to Order/Introductions

Ryan Bond, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. The following Commissioners consisting of a quorum, including Ryan were present: Mike Omeg, Megan Thompson, Stacey Cooper, Kirk Lloyd, Les Stephens, Steve Sandau, Wade Root and Jeff Heater. Kris Brunner and Brad Pickering were unable to attend.

Kris Anderson, Ashley Thompson (*OSU Fruit Tree Extension Faculty Wasco & Hood River Counties*), Steve Castagnoli (*Director, OSU-MCAREC*), Eric Garman, ODA Trade Development Mgr., David Lane, ODA Agriculture Development & Marketing Mgr. and Gabrielle Redhead – *SCBG Program Mgr.* were also present.

Erica Garman and David Lane came to introduce themselves and did not stay for whole meeting.

The minutes of the budget hearing and regular meeting held on June 5, 2018 were emailed and in the meeting books distributed to the attendees. *Megan Thompson moved and Stacey Cooper second to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.*

Financials Statements – June & July

The financial statements for June were emailed in advance and were printed in the meeting books along with July's financial statement. Julie Hoffman reported that the July statement was incomplete as the interest was not booked. *Jeff Heater moved that the June financial statement be accepted as submitted, and that the July statement will be submitted for approval with adjustments at the October meeting. Les Stephen seconded the motion and motion carried unanimously.*

Administrator's Activity Report

Crop & Assessment Estimate for 2018: The crop and assessment estimate for 2018 was handed out to the Commissioners. This is compiled from a survey of direct handlers. The commissioners have requested a report of 3 years of history to be emailed. Julie Hoffman will complete this report for the commissioners.

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. The administration office will be compiling the list of interested attendees.

Invitation to a roundtable discussion on water use and irrigation technology – This roundtable will take place on August 31, 2018 at Oregon State University with the Department of Applied Economics. Steve Sandau and Ryan Bond are planning on attending. This will be attended by representatives from various agriculture commodity groups including the Oregon Wheat Commission and the Oregon Potato Commission. 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 5, 2018

Will Wise and the Oregon Beef Council in conjunction with their research meeting on the campus of Oregon State University has scheduled a meeting with President Ed Ray at 3:00 pm on October 5, 2018. There is room for 2-3 Oregon Sweet Cherry Commissioners to attend. Ryan Bond, Eric Shrum and Megan Thompson are planning on attending.

Specialty Crop Block Grant Program – Gabrielle Redhead

Gabrielle Redhead, Program Manager of the SCBG program presented history and information on the funding of specialty crop grants. She explained grants may be applied for research projects and marketing efforts. An example of a successful application was to the Oregon Processed Vegetable Commission for the development of a robot to cut broccoli. This also included a grant for seed development at OSU to adapt seed to produce broccoli with a larger head to make it easier to machine cut. Projects are required to benefit the entire industry, especially if partnering with a private company.

Chairman's Report

Ryan read an email he received from John Carter reporting on the BPAC meeting. John attended the BPAC meeting on August 7, 2018. Per McCord, the new breeder at WSU lead the discussion and gave suggestions to improve the breeding program and reported on current selections. He suggested that the selection process be refined to more closely follow the grower guidelines for promotion to the next level of review. Growers have expressed desire for earlier season over Bing timing. To improve early season success, he probably will add embryo recovery to the protocol.

The checking account at Cascade Central Credit Union is no longer needed and should be closed. *Megan Thompson moved, and Jeff Heater seconded the motion to authorize Dana/Julie to close the account. Motion carried unanimously.* The commission requested that Julie 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 will have a report at the October meeting.

ODA Report – Kris Anderson

Kris handed out a list of trade mission opportunities provided by Theresa Yoshioka. Kris explained the ethics training and sexual harassment training that will be available to the commissioners via iLearn. The Trawl Commission will be completing the training as a test. Kris will send an email when the training module is ready.

Kris is also working on a template for administration rules regarding the response to a public records request.

The Department of Ag has requested that Kris ask the Commissions to set up their meeting schedule on an annual basis to be loaded in the state calendar. This will help Kris schedule her attendance of Commission meetings more efficiently. She suggested that we present to the Commission a calendar going back through the last couple of years of meeting dates to look at for scheduling. The dates may be changed if necessary.

No Research Committee Report

The Research review will be held in Hood River on November 13th and 14th.

OSU Research Report

Steve Castagnoli reported that the commercial harvest went well and that the Bartlett's are picked. He is working on Post-docs extensions. The money to fund is there and Delila has some Visa issues to resolve. Matteis has returned to Brazil to take care of some personal matters. Steve is coordinating the program in his absence. Both Steve and Ashley participated via polycom in the BPAC meeting. John Carter provided a good summary. The new Dean of Ag at OSU will be Alan Sams who will be on campus on October 31, 2018. Dr Sams comes from Texas A & M and is receiving praise from the Oregon Agriculture community.

Ashley Thompson reported that she is working on producing Cherry Fruit School tentatively scheduled for March 12 and 13th, 2019 at the Columbia Gorge Discovery Center in The Dalles. She asked if the commissioners were interested in a pruning tour? The consensus is that they are. She is also preparing a survey to assess knowledge and interest of growers to help her assess her progress. She asked the commissioners to complete the survey when it comes and to encourage others to do the same. Orchard View Farms is working with her on mulch research and Jay Pscheidt is working on research for cherry virus.

NW Horticultural Council – Dan Crouse

Dan participated in the teleconference meeting: The bill introduced by Congressman Bob Goodlatte was discussed. It will contain E-Verify and will change the H2A program to be called H3C. Any new legislation would most likely

include E-Verify but the new H3C program would make it easier for the current work force to comply.

Dan reported on the roundtable meeting that was held in Bend with Greg Walden and FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb. Congressman Walden brought Oregon agriculture groups together with Commissioner Gottlieb to discuss issues with our western surface water supplies and the proposed inspection criteria of the Food Safety Modernization Act, FSMA. Some of the inspection criteria has been relaxed in part due to the lack of people trained to carry them out. The eastern Oregon onion producers have been working with Congressman Walden and other agriculture groups to help smooth out some of the inevitable wrinkles in the act. The OSCC commissioners expressed interest in writing a letter of support for working with the FDA to make the FSMA easier to comply with. Julie will consult with Kate Woods at the NW Horticultural Council about writing a letter.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

There was no new business.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Wednesday October 10, 2018 beginning at 10:00 am at the Hood River Extension Service meeting room, 2990 Experiment Station Dr. Hood River, OR.