CITY OF REDLANDS CITRUS PRESERVATION COMMISSION Regular Meeting of September 8, 2020 MINUTES

1. Call to order at 4:15 pm - Attendance

Present: Michael Day, Chair Absent:

Rolland Moore Kyle Kenison Heather Ross Libb Cook Bill Oesterlein Jack Steward

Councilmember Momberger

QOL Staff: Zach LaBonte

Erik Reeves Director Boatman Jocelynn Santa Cruz

Farming/Packing companies: Larry Jacinto

Guests: none

This was conducted as a teleconference meeting in the Facilities & Community Services Department, Civic Center 35 Cajon Street, Redlands, California.

In compliance with public health recommendations to limit public gatherings during the Covid-19 pandemic and acting as the City of Redlands Emergency Services Director, City Manager Charles M. Duggan Jr., directed meetings of the City of Redlands be closed to the public until further notice or until the current local State of Emergency has been lifted. Public comments, up to 250 words and received by 5:00 P.M. the day before the meeting, were read aloud by the Commission Chair.

- **Public comments:** Dennis Bell questioned the ability of public providing comment if they are not allowed to meet in person; indicated the issue is more of a first amendment issue than a health issue.
- **3. Approval of Minutes:** approval of minutes of the regular meeting of March 10, 2020, were approved with a motion from Commissioner Moore, motion carried.

4. Status Reports

- A. Packinghouse report: Larry Jacinto reported quarantined fruit was sent to Villa Park. Psyllid spraying is up-to-date; flea bane is being sprayed for as well. Fruit size was bigger this year. Frost guard was sprayed in July.
- B. Facilities & Community Services report: Zach reported homeless issue at I-10 and CA grove is being addressed. Director Boatman provided information on Citrus fund; there is an estimated \$531,000 reserved for projects and funds designated in 2019 to assist with new groves.
- C. Individual Commissioner Reports: Commissioner Steward provided his report ahead of the meeting to Chairman Day; groves all look well maintained; trees are filling in well. Larry added a suggestion to skirt trees after picking. Chairman Day asked if bubblers were switched out to sprinklers in the groves; Larry will check and provide feedback.
- D. 10 year citrus plan: Commissioner Oesterlein commented that the Revenue vs Expense numbers still need to be updated.

5. Old Business

- A. Discussion and possible action for re-planting the lower 11 acres at Prospect Park brief discussion and recommendation on this item is not to plant lemons or anything else for the time being. In our district this grove produces smaller quantity than groves up north; not as much production produced in our district.
- B. Discussion on and update on replanting Texas and Palmetto is to replant grove with late naval, bold root stock, reconfigure design and irrigation. Commissioner Moore motioned to replant grove and seconded by Commissioner Oesterlein, motion carried.
- C. Discussion and update on planting at Palmetto east of the landfill is not recommended at this time.
- D. Discussion and review of 2018/2019 grove analysis was discussed by Director Boatman he provided information on Citrus fund; there is an estimated \$531,000 reserved for projects and funds designated in 2019 to assist with new groves.
- E. Discussion and possible action on replanting underperforming groves is to evaluate all underperforming groves, replant with navals. Groves that are doing well are carrying underperforming groves right now so there is no sharp increase in profit.
 - Commissioner Oesterlein motioned to liquidate Olive Ave grove to market for sale, retain earnings for future grove funds, Chairman Day seconded the motioned, motion carried.
 - Commissioner Moore motioned to decrease tree spacing at Mountain View grove and seconded by Commissioner Oesterlein, motion carried.
- F. Update on a second round of ACP/HLB educational material being mailed out with utility billing. Staff will work on a flier, in English and Spanish, to be reviewed by the utility insert committee for future utility bill mailing. Staff to provide update at October meeting.
- 5:46 pm Adjournment to regular meeting October 13, 2020
 Minutes submitted by City of Redlands staff.