

**CITY OF REDLANDS
CITRUS PRESERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting of February 8, 2022
MINUTES**

1. Call to order at 4:05 pm - Attendance

Present: Michael Day, Chair
Roger Hardy
Rolland Moore
Bill Oesterlein
Heather Ross
Marc Shaw
Jack Steward

City Council: none

FCS Staff: Chris Boatman, Zach LaBonte, Tricia Swope

Farming/Packing companies: John Gless, Jim Layes

Guests: Dennis Bell, Iris Chu, Al Jaya

2. Public Comments: Iris Chu, how city can support small groves and orange waste from city grove pickings.

3. Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Steward motioned to accept January 11, 2021 minutes. Commissioner Hardy motioned to second.

4. Status Reports

A. *Packinghouse report:* 1 jib block remaining (University Grove). Not much change since January for estimate sheets. In general, better than last year. Returning focus to domestic sales due to export containers delays which impacted Sunkist charter and loss of product. Navel orange prices gone up and domestic prices are higher. Need to finish Sessum, West and East Riverview, Pioneer and University Groves. Currently 31% picked. Interest in Valencias already but not ready to start on that.

B. *Farming report by John Gless:* John is meeting in the field weekly with City staff. Spraying what needs to get sprayed before harvest. Larry Jacinto is skirting after. With increased temperatures, watering groves. Will have early bloom. Fertilizer end of Feb/beginning of March.

C. *Facilities & Community Services report:* Irrigation full time. Lost a few trees on Riverview due to wind. Community outreach for growers with Sandra Zwaal for week of February 21st at Community Center on Lugonia. Train on California needs to finish fencing before City will finishing executing plans.

- i. Update on commission recommendation for replanting of Lugonia Grove.
 - a. Replanting of Lugonia Grove bid on to go to Feb 15th City Council meeting. \$300K for tree acquisition, irrigation, installation grinding, replanting, water of 2200 trees.

D. *Individual Commissioner Reports:* no issues.

5. Old Business

A. Discussion and possible action regarding packinghouses in the Redlands area (attachment B)
On Average, Villa Park outperforms Redlands Foothill for all citrus varieties the City owns. City hasn't been picking with Redlands Packing House since 2012.

Motion: Commissioner Hardy motioned for City to remain with Villa Park given the information provided by Foothill Gove and Villa Park. Commissioner Oesterlein Bill 2nd. Passes

B, Review of Citrus Division Fund balance (attachment C)
As of December 31, 2021. Analysis report will be produced annual in the fall. Month to month views will only be trend reports.

- C. Discussion and possible action regarding creation of a subcommittee for items related to private commercial groves.

Commissioner Ross to send out invite for committee members to share ideas as well meet as a subcommittee to discuss.

6. New Business

- A. No new business

7. Possible Agenda Items for Next Meeting

A. Replacement of City Council liaison? Jenna has not officially resigned. Commissioner Day will call Mayor Barich to follow up with.

B. Farm Bureau Executive Director (Maggie O'Neill) to make presentation in March or April meeting. San Bernardino ACP task force new AG Commissioner (Angela) to give quick update. (grower list for citrus)

C. Request to have Commissioner Day present Annual Report on April 19, 2022 to City Council.

8. 5:18 pm – Adjournment to the March 8, 2022 meeting at Council Chambers