Citrus Preservation Commission – Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the regular meeting of the City of Redlands Citrus Preservation Commission held on Tuesday, December 13, 2016, at 4:00 pm in the Municipal Utilities and Engineering Department Conference Room, 35 Cajon Street, Suite 15-A, Redlands, are as follows:

Members: Bill Oesterlein Peter Buoye Jack Steward Andrew Irvin

Rolland Moore Bob Crim Michael Day

<u>City Staff:</u> Rick Cross Jon Harrison

Farming/Packing Companies: Chuck Hills Roy Bettencourt

Guests: Dennis Bell

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:04 pm by Chairman Buoye.

2. Public Comments: None

3. Approval of Minutes:

A. The minutes of the November 8, 2016, meeting was approved as written. M/S/P.

- 4. Status Reports:
 - A. Packing House Report Roy provided the following updates:
 - 1. The Navel harvest has started at four locations around the City. The yields so far have been upwards of 50% less than a year ago.
 - 2. The yields elsewhere for Sunkist houses are also down from last year.
 - 3. The export and domestic prices for Navels are good right now, at \$12-15/carton.
 - B. Farming Report- Chuck provided the following updates:
 - 1. There are lots of fruit splits this season, and in areas with a lot of fruit on the ground, these areas are being prioritized for harvest, so as to prevent fruit theft.
 - 2. The fruit set this year has been much more sporadic than last year.
 - 3. The ACP sprays are finished, and pre-emergent weed treatments may begin next week if there is enough rain from a storm expected later in the week.
 - 4. With the cooler weather and rain forecast, irrigation activities have slowed.

- C. Individual Commissioner's Reports:
 - 1. Peter asked Chuck to have a leaking valve at Lugonia repaired.
 - 2. The Mullen grove looks good, with a nice fruit set.
 - 3. The 5th Ave grove also looks good, with no ACP issues noted.
- D. QOL Staff Report on the Grove Fund Budget:
 - 1. City staff discussed the fund budget and provided a ledger sheet.
- 5. Old Business:
 - A. Project update on the Best property:
 - 1. The grove project should go out to bid next month.
 - B. Project update on the West Riverview property:
 - 1. Two bids were received for the project. Jacinto Farming was the low bidder. The property should be planted in April 2017.
- 6. New Business:
 - A. Planting Subcommittee Update:
 - 1. Andrew provided an update for the group. The subcommittee met and developed a set of guidelines to assist City staff with evaluating planting plans submitted for developments that include citrus plantings. It was recommended by the Commission that City staff implement the guidelines.
- 7. Possible Agenda Items for the Next Meeting:
- 8. Adjournment at 5:20 pm to the Next Meeting, January 10, 2017.

Respectfully submitted, Bill Oesterlein Commission Secretary