

California Department of Food and Agriculture
Marketing Branch
Approval of Meeting Minutes and Actions

Program:	California Pistachio Research Board
Meeting Date:	June 8, 2023
Meeting Location:	Fresno, CA and via Teleconference

Notable Actions:

2023 0608	#06	Motion to approve funding for a small tree trunk shaker for the Reza Ehsani/Pat J. Brown research project in the amount of \$57,000.
2023 0608	#07	Motion to recommend approval of the 2023-2024 fiscal year budget as presented. [Approved by Department Order on July 19, 2023]
2023 0608	#08	Motion to recommend establishing an assessment rate of \$0.0015 per pound of assessable weight of pistachios for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. [Approved by Department Order on July 11, 2023]

APPROVED

SECRETARY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

BY: 

Joe Monson, Branch Chief
Marketing Branch

DATE: OCTOBER 9, 2023



**MEETING MINUTES
CALIFORNIA PISTACHIO RESEARCH BOARD
Board of Directors Meeting**

**June 8, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.
Fresno County Farm Bureau**

Roll Call

Chairman Tom Coleman called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. A complete board roster is shown below with an * indicating those in attendance. A quorum was established.

Members	Alternates	Advisory Committee
* Tom Coleman, Chairman	1 st Alternate	Robert Beede
* Gerrid Climer	* Erik Wilkins	Carl Fanucchi
Jeremy Blackwell	2 nd Alternate	Todd Fukuda
* Rob Goff	* Clay Beck	Mike Harvey
* Joey Mendonca	3 rd Alternate	Brad Higbee
* Brian O’Neill	* Joseph Coelho	Anthony Rabo
* Zack Raven	4 th Alternate	Rod Stiefvater
Mike Smith	* Michael Naito	
* Todd Tracy		
Christine Milgrom		

*indicates those members, alternates and advisors in attendance.

Others Present: Mirek Wilczek (CDFA), Laura Larsen, Cindy Dean and Bob Klein, Andrew Howe, Peter Albright, Monica Hopwood, Kirk Squire, Sergio Torres, Tania Kaur

Approval of the February 8, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Board Motion 2023-06-08 #1

It was moved by Rob Goff and seconded by Gerrid Climer to approve the February 8, 2023; minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Public Comments on Agenda Items

There were no comments on agenda items from the public.

CDFA Report

Mirek Wilczek CDFA representative noted that one of the newly nominated Board Members had not turned in their form 700 yet, which is a requirement of serving.

Manager’s Report

Bob Klein went over the following:

- 1) There is a USDA Water management meeting at Kearney Ag Center 6/12/23 from 10am-2pm, and he is unable to attend and needs someone to represent the SPRB. Joe Coelho will go and represent the CPRB.
- 2) Feelers sent out for potential candidates to replace Bob when he retires to all the Boards, the search committee will meet this afternoon.

Weather Stations

Sergio Torres the Territory Sales Manager from Wildeye was present, with his co-worker Tania Kaur. They demoed the user dashboard and fielded several questions from the board. It was noted that if Wildeye has email addresses that they can sign everyone up with their own individual credentials for customization. It was requested that each Board Member provide suggestions to Bob / Tom for the locations of the next 10 weather station installs.

CPRB Officer Election

Residing President Tom Coleman asked for nominations for Chairman of the Board, Vice Chairman / Treasurer. Tom Coleman was nominated for chairman of the CPRB Board. Gerrid Climer was nominated for the Vice-Chairman / Treasurer position.

Board Motion 2023-0608 #2

It was moved by Brian O'Neill and seconded by Zack Raven that Tom Coleman be Chairman of the CPRB Board. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Board Motion 2023-0608 #3

It was moved by Zack Raven and seconded by Brian O'Neill that Gerrid Climer be Vice-Chairman / Treasurer of the CPRB Board. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

New Proposals

The Board previously requested more information from researcher Dr. Richard Michelmore on his two proposals submitted for funding to the CPRB Board. HG- 2023-26 "Deployment of molecular markers to improve productivity of pistachio" -\$83,655.00 and HG2023-27 "Development of technology for rapid cycling pistachio – 75,655.00. Dr. Michelmore provided the additional information / clarification to the board. There was still some confusion, so Bob Klein answered question to clarify. There was a motion to not fund either project at this time.

Board Motion 2023-0608 #4

It was moved by Erik Wilkens and seconded by Rob Goff to not fund proposal HG-2023-26 for \$83,655.00 at this time. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Board Motion 2023-0608 #5

It was moved by Rob Goff and seconded by Brian O'Neill to not fund proposal HG-2023-27 for \$75,655.00 at this time. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Bob Klein went over the Reza Ehsani / Pat J. Brown Proposal which requested the CPRB Board cost share matching funds for a small tree trunk shaker – CPRB cost \$57,000.00. Tom Coleman requested a motion to fund the proposal.

Board Motion 2023-0608 #6

It was moved by Rob Goff and seconded by Gerrid Climer to approve and fund the Ehsani proposal for \$57,000.00. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Bob Klein went over the off season proposal Themis Michailides submitted "Needed Detailed information in Comparing the Efficacy of AF36 Prevail and the Afla-Guard Biocontrol Products Used to Reduce Aflatoxin Contamination" - \$73, 567.00. It was noted that a formal presentation was needed as there was too many questions from the Board to make a decision at this time.

Bob Klein went over the Land IQ mapping proposal submitted and it was decided that the CPRB does not want to fund it, that it should be presented to the ACP Board for funding.

2023-2024 Budget / Assessment Rate

Bob Klein went over the budget line items and the changes that were made. It was noted a new MOU will need to be put in place. It was discussed that there is no further endowment money allocated. Clarified that the weather stations were being put under the Education and Outreach section. There was discussion that the full budget is never spent and questions about the amount of carryover we can have from year to year. Mirek from the CDFA noted there is no limit on their end. But it is suggested that no more than a year and a half of budget be carried over to a new year.

Board Motion 2023-0608 #7

It was moved by Brian O’Neill and seconded by Rob Goff to approve the budget.

This action requires separate approval by the Department

There was discussion on what the 2023-2024 assessment rate should be set at based on the budget and carryover. It was decided to lower the assessment rate to \$0.0015 cents per pound for the 2023-2024 crop year.

Board Motion 2023-0608 #8

It was moved by Rob Goff and seconded by Clay Beck to lower the 2023-2024 crop assessment to .0015 cents percent per pound. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

This action requires separate approval by the Department

Other Business

Pat Brown will start moving equipment over to the Nickels Farm to avoid rising university costs. Chuck Burks may potentially submit a proposal for help to relocate chilling equipment to Parlier facility.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Topics for Future Consideration

Topics mentioned for future discussion: 1) Sustainability, 2) Nitrogen Research, 3) USDA researcher approached Joseph Coelho about a post emergent herbicide, 4) fertility, 5) Golden Hills physiology. It was suggested that everyone needs to rank their research interests for funding and submit to Bob Klein.

Scheduling of Future Meetings

No meetings were scheduled at this time.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:38am

Certification

I, Bob Klein, Manager of the California Pistachio Research Board, do hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing is a true and correct account of the meeting of the California Pistachio Research Board conducted on June 8, 2023.

Date: _____
Bob Klein, Manager - California Pistachio Research Board