

MEETING MINUTES
CALIFORNIA PISTACHIO RESEARCH BOARD
Board of Directors Meeting

March 31, 2025 at 10:00AM
Zoom

Roll Call

Chairman Tom Coleman called the zoom meeting to order at 10:03 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	* Joseph Coelho	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	* Todd Tracy	Anthony Rabo
* Zack Raven	4 th Alternate	*Rod Stiefvater
Mike Smith	Michael Naito	
* Erik Wilkins		
* Christine Milgrom (Public Member)		

*Indicates those members, alternates and advisors in attendance.

Others Present: Mirek Wilczek (CDFA), Stephen Vasquez, Laura Larsen, Kirk Squire, Jeff Anderson, Andrew Howe, Mitchell Keenan, Daniel Palla, Hiroki Hiura

Approval of the February 13, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Board Motion 2025-03-31 #1

It was moved by Erik Wilkins and seconded Gerrid Climer to approve the February 13, 2025; minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Public Comments on Agenda Items

No Comments

CDFA Report

Mirek Wilczek CDFA representative noted that Form 700 is due on April 2nd.

Manager's Report

Stephen Vasquez had nothing to report

Revised Proposal Review

Stephen presented revisions of two research proposals from Bob Van Steenwyk and Georgia Drakakaki. He also presented three new research proposals for Gerhard Gries, Andrea Joyce, and Giulia Marino.

- 1) Bob Van Steenwyk-UC Berkeley: Evaluation of currently registered insecticides for *Carpophilus truncatus* control

Board Motion 2025-03-31 #2

It was moved by Joey Mendonca and seconded by Gerrid Climer that the Board fund Bob Steenwyk's research proposal for a total of \$40,006 for one year.

- 2) Georgia Drakakaki-UC Davis: Understanding pistachio nut blanking and embryo development in relation to phytohormone and irrigation towards improving nut quality and yield.

The board declined funding the revised research proposal.

- 3) Giulia Marino-UC Davis: Clonal propagation of UC experimental rootstock selection to develop field evaluation trials with existing commercial rootstocks

Board Motion 2025-03-31 #3

It was moved by Gerrid Climer and seconded by Zack Raven that the Board fund Giulia Marino's research proposal for a total of \$21,442 for one year.

- 4) Gerhard Gries-Simon Fraser University, Canada: Identification, field-testing, and operational development of the sex pheromone of female Gill's mealybugs, *Ferrisia gilli*

Board Motion 2025-03-31 #4

It was moved by Gerrid Climer and seconded by Joe Coelho that the Board fund Gerhard Gries research proposal for a total of \$132,384 for one year.

- 5) Andrea Joyce-UC Merced: Revisiting damage of key insect pest and new invasive Carpophilus beetle during pistachio growing season

Board Motion 2025-03-31 #5

It was moved by Rob Goff and seconded by Brian O'Neill that the Board fund Andrea Joyce's research proposal for a total of \$60,000 for one year.

Other Business

Stephen provided an overview on Alternaria and tenuazonic acid mycotoxin. There was discussion on the importance of this mycotoxin within the export market of pistachios. Stephen proposed that a roundtable discussion is created to discuss Gill's Mealybug management and MRL's. The board provided inputs on this topic and agreed with the recommendation for further discussion amongst the industry. Lastly, Stephen provided an overview of the UC Westside irrigation trial. Rod Stiefvater, Brian O'Neill, Joe Coelho and Erik Wilkins volunteered to participate in a meeting with May Culumber to discuss approaches and value of the trial for the pistachio industry. Stephen will be organizing that meeting at a future date.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Topics for Future Consideration

None

Scheduling of Future Meetings

No future meetings were scheduled at this time.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:13 A.M.

Certification

I, Stephen Vasquez, Executive Director, 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 March 31, 2025.

Date

Stephen Vasquez, Executive Director California Pistachio Research Board