

## Citrus Preservation Commission – Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the regular meeting of the City of Redlands Citrus Preservation Commission held on Tuesday, December 8, 2015 at 4:00 pm in the City Manager's Conference Room, 35 Cajon Street, Suite 200, Redlands, are as follows:

Members: Bill Oesterlein                      Andrew Irvin  
                    Rolland Moore                      Gary McCormick                      Jack Steward

City Staff: Ashley Johnson

Farming/Packing Companies: Chuck Hills                      Daryl Perricone

Guests: Dennis Bell

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Vice Chair Andrew Irvin.
2. Public Comments:
  - A. Dennis had a question for Daryl on the potential effects of El Nino on the fruit harvest. Daryl provided a satisfactory answer to Dennis.
3. Approval of Minutes:
  - A. The minutes of November 10, 2015, meeting was approved as written, with two minor spelling corrections. M/S/P.
4. New Business:
  - A. Packing House Report: Daryl provided the following updates:
    1. The first Navels of the season have been harvested from the Lugonia grove. The next grove will likely be Riverview.
    2. The fruit size right now is peaking on the larger sizes (72's, 88's, 113's), with the larger fruit on the younger trees.
    3. The FOB prices are currently in the \$17's for export and the \$13's for domestic.
    4. The export demand is for larger fruit. With that in mind, Daryl plans to harvest the larger Navels by the end of December or first of January to meet the demand of the Chinese New Year market.
    5. The color change in the fruit has been slow this season due to the warm weather.

B. Farming Report- Chuck provided the following updates:

1. The Palmetto grove has been hedged for the first time in many years.
2. Irrigation continues in all groves because of the lack of rainfall.
3. Crews are busy cutting suckers off the trees.
4. ACP and 2,4-D sprays should be finished soon.
5. The yearly issue with tumbleweeds has risen again. City staff will look into it.
6. Chuck would like the CPC to become more involved with the Planning Commission on decisions involving actions near city owned groves, as well as, recommendations made by the Planning Commission for residential or commercial citrus plantings.

C. Individual Commissioner Reports:

1. The issue of sucker growth at the 5<sup>th</sup> Ave grove was addressed earlier by Chuck.

D. Staff Report on First Fiscal Quarter of 2015/16:

1. Ashley discussed the revised quarterly financial statement that staff developed in response to the commission's request last meeting.
2. The 2015 Annual Citrus Report will be prepared next month.

5. Old Business:

A. Discussion of 14 acres of land near Nevada St and Palmetto Ave:

1. The acreage in question is owned by the City.
2. Water shares are available for the property; however, it is likely the City will eventually want to use the site for another purposes, such as recycling efforts.

B. General Discussions:

1. City staff was advised that the campers have returned to the I-10 grove.
2. Andrew gave a brief update on the potential for Viticulture in Yucaipa.
3. Gary provided the group with an updated map of the City owned groves.

6. Future agenda items:

A. Possible land acquisitions

B. Future grove management by City staff

C. Need to educate "ranchette" owners on the importance of the history of citrus in the area and the need to maintain it as long as possible.

7. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 pm.

8. The Next Meeting date will be January 12, 2016.

Respectfully submitted

Bill Oesterlein  
Commission Secretary