

**CITY OF REDLANDS  
CITRUS PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
Meeting of June 8, 2021  
MINUTES**

**1. Call to order at 4:03 pm - Attendance**

**Present:** Michael Day, Chair  
Heather Ross  
Rolland Moore  
Bill Oesterlein  
Sharon Pierce

**Absent:**  
Jack Steward

**City Council:** Jenna Guzman-Lowery

**FCS Staff:** Erik Reeves  
Joe Bierma  
Zach Labonte

**Farming/Packing companies:** John Gless, Jim Layes, Al Ruiz

**Guests:** None

This was conducted as a hybrid teleconference meeting in the Facilities & Community Services Department, Civic Center 35 Cajon Street, Redlands, California.

In compliance with public health recommendations to limit public gatherings during the Covid-19 pandemic and acting as the City of Redlands Emergency Services Director, City Manager Charles M. Duggan Jr., directed meetings of the City of Redlands be closed to the public until further notice or until the current local State of Emergency has been lifted. Public comments, up to 250 words and received by 5:00 P.M. the day before the meeting, were read aloud by the Commission Chair.

**2. Public Comments:** Two public comments was received about the citrus grove located at 301 West Palm Avenue. All two comments were read into the record.

**3. Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the April 12, 2021, meeting were approved (motioned by Commissioner Moore). The minutes of the May 11, 2021 could not be approved as they were not submitted. The items will be placed on the July agenda.

**4. Status Reports**

A. *Packinghouse report:* Al reported they picked 200 bins from Texas Grove (valencias), 88 bins from Judson Grove (halfway completed). City groves are 41% picked. Blocks left are Mullon Grove, ½ Judson Grove, 1-10 Grove, Palmetto Grove 23 acres of valencias (approx. 12 loads) left to pick. Brings us to 8000 field boxes in valencias (500 bins/10 loads fruit). Star Rubies have 1 block remaining at Mullon Grove (2.5 bins) with 80% picked with 125 bins (2.5 loads) left of fruit remaining. Jim reported pricing is holding firm on grapefruits.

B. *Farming report by John Gless:* John is meeting in the field weekly with City staff. Larry is treating for thrips, weeding and replanting, including Cara Cara. Filter repair occurred. Skirting & weeding on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue in process.

C. *Facilities & Community Services report:* Zach reported on grove walks and completed with ACP treatments. Planted at Lugonia, San Bernardino, Judson, Sessums, Pioneer East, Pioneer West, and W. Riverview. Transplant irrigation vandalism along 1-10 & California is an issue.

- D. *Individual Commissioner Reports*: Commissioner Day drives by 5<sup>th</sup> and mentioned the need for skirting & weeding. Similar concerns on homeless issues in the groves. Dead trees on Mullon and Prospect Park removed.
- E. *10 year citrus plan*: Commissioner Oesterlein requested pool prices for navels. Jim reported Sunkist is taking navels until July and will provide Bill with current average prices. Additionally requested 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter expenses. Commissioner Moore mentioned 10yr plan was to follow the health of grove during a 10yr period. Discussion was held to maintain a plan and template to monitor grove health over an extended period of time.

**5. Old Business**

- A. Continue update and discussion on education material mailer. Should be in this month's water bill and again in September. An insert should be once a year, information on website and included in water bill several times a year. Recommendation to include a list of licensed companies to spray for citrus on CPC webpage.
- B. Continue discussion and possible action on replanting of Texas and Palmetto groves. John recommends to prune Texas and it would produce again. Erik mentioned to include Lugonia in possible replanting as it has older trees and empty spots. Erik will update on Palmetto next month.
- C. Continue discussion and possible action on options for alternate uses for the Olive Avenue Grove. City requested it be tabled until July meeting.
- D. Continue discussion and possible action on request for proposal for ACP spraying. Need to develop a long term solution for spraying.
- E. Continued discussion and possible action on the Annual Report to City Council on June 15.
- F. Continue discussion and possible action on the Commission's role in private development applications. CPC developed development guidelines for small blocks to be farmed and should be expected to be followed by Planning. Regarding the grove in question on Palm, it is proposed that 80-100 trees left/replanted which makes it a commercial grove. Therefore, CPC has an advisory role in the guidelines it developed and how a developer plans in maintaining trees, etc.

**6. New Business**

- A. Discussion and possible action on a request for presentation regarding Tentative Tract Map No. 20305.
- B. Discussion and possible action on assistance to small private citrus grove owners. Commissioner Moore focused on request to access to infrastructure.

**7. Possible Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

- A. Addition of Lugonia to discussion and possible action on replanting
- B. History of packinghouses in area and services/costs offered

**8. 5:31 pm – Adjournment to the July 13, 2021 meeting at Council Chambers**

Minutes submitted by City of Redlands staff.