

FINAL
VIRGINIA POTATO BOARD MEETING
Eastern Shore Agricultural Research and Education Center
Painter, Virginia
February 21, 2022

I. **Attendance**

Board Members Present

David Long
Mark Hickman
Ron Bailey
Bill Floyd

Board Members On Phone *did not participate in voting

Bruce Richardson
John Holland

Board Members Absent

Jimmy Holland

Guests

Ursula Deitch
Dr. Mark Reiter
Dr. Vijay Singh
Dr. Tom Kuhar (on phone)
Dr. Emmanuel Torres-Quezada
Cirrea Upshur – VDACS
Melissa Ball – VDACS
Heather Wheeler - VDACS

II. **Call To Order** – Chairman Richardson called the meeting to order at 8:44 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

III. **Election of Officers** – Ron Bailey nominated Mark Hickman for Chairman. Bill Floyd seconded the nomination. The Board voted unanimously to approve the nomination. After discussing the position of Vice Chair, Ron Bailey motioned that Mark Hickman serve as the Chairman with no Vice Chairman. Bill Floyd seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. **Reading and Approval of Minutes** – Bill Floyd moved to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2021 meeting minutes as presented. Ron Bailey seconded and the minutes were approved unanimously.

V. **Financial Statement** – Heather Wheeler presented the financial statement that reflected revenues and expenditures as of December 31, 2021. Receipts of \$10,371.81 were reported from July 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021. A cash account balance \$ 44,248.74 was reported, with grant obligations of \$11,940.14 outstanding. Rone Bailey moved to approve the financial statement and Bill Floyd seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

V. **Old Business**- none

VI- **New Business**

A. Project Proposals

Dr. Tom Kuhar presented his research proposal for examining *Are foliar insecticide sprays necessary for controlling late season potato beetles on commercial farms and continued work with wireworm trapping.*

Project 1: On-farm trials on the need for late-season foliar insecticides.

Project 2: Correlating wireworm adult beetle catch with larval densities in fields.

Requested: \$4,000.

Dr. Emmanuel Torres-Quezada presented his research proposal for *Cover Crop Mixes for Nematode Management in Potato Production.*

Objective 1: Evaluate the effect of cover crop mixes on plant parasitic nematode populations under greenhouse conditions.

Objective 2: Assess the potential of cover crop mixes for nematode management on potato productions.

Requested: \$3,000.

Dr. Vinjay Singh presented his research proposal for *Investigating herbicide programs and sprout-inhibitors for controlling volunteer potatoes*

Objective 1: Field studies to evaluate herbicides for controlling volunteer potato plants

Objective 2: Greenhouse studies to evaluate sprout-stop (sprout inhibitor) for controlling volunteer potato plants.

Requested: \$3,958.

After discussion the projects were evaluated individually:

Dr. Kuhar - Ron Bailey made a motion to approve \$2,000 for research associated with Project 2 of the proposal (wireworm study). Bill Floyd seconded that the project be funded at \$2,000. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Torres-Quezada - David Long moved to approve the proposal for the full amount of \$3,000, Ron Bailey seconded that the project be fully funded. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Singh - David Long Moved to approve the proposal for the full amount of \$3,958, Ron Bailey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of allocating funds for a local promotion. Ron Bailey moved to continue a \$5,000.00 marketing fund that could be used if a promotion opportunity arises. Bill Floyd seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Seed Inspection Report –

Cirrea Upshur reported that the inspection period is looking good. All seed inspections will be handled the same way this year.

VII. Other New Business- The Board discussed the need to resume a fall dinner meeting to be held with the staff of the Research Center to help indicate what studies are needed. The target date of the meeting should be around December 1 with an additional Board meeting occurring the first week of February.

VIII. Public comment-There was not public comment.

Next meeting-Board instructed the program manager to schedule a meeting in October-November.

Adjourn: Bill Floyd made a motion to adjourn at 10:01am. Ron Bailey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

.