

PENNSYLVANIA POTATO RESEARCH PROGRAM BOARD MEETING
Minutes of the July 9, 2020 Skype Board Meeting

Public notice of the July 9, 2020 Pennsylvania Potato Research Program Board Meeting was provided as stipulated by the Sunshine Law.

CALL TO ORDER

Mark Troyer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Board members in attendance (in addition to Mr. Troyer) included Nolan Masser, Vice Chair; Jonathan Blass, Secretary Treasurer; Bryan Bender, James Benshoff, Keith Masser, and Valery Robbins.

Absent were Mark Farabaugh, Joseph Farabaugh, and Bryan Beck.

Also attending were Patrick Andrews, Chief of Market Development; Lindsay Young, Senior Manager, McKonly and Asbury Accountants; Dr. Xinshun Qu, Researcher, PSU; Michael Peck, Researcher, PSU; Nathan Tallman, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers.

Laura England, Director, Bureau of Market Development, was not present at the commencement of the meeting.

Char Riley, Department of Agriculture Liaison PDA and ACMA; and John Howard, Esquire, Chief Counsel, were not present.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 30, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

RESOLUTION 2020.06-APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Presented by: Keith Masser

Seconded by: Jonathan Blass

Passed: Unanimously

To approve Minutes of the January 30, 2020 meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORT/ASSESSMENT REPORT

Lindsay Young, Senior Manager, McKonly and Asbury Accountants, referred Board members to the Potato Research Program Income Statement for period ending May 31, 2020 for further discussion of assessment, interest, miscellaneous income, and expenditures. She noted assets, liabilities, and a fund balance of approximately \$12,000 on the Balance Sheet as of May 31, 2020, and compared those figures to the QuickBooks balance sheet as of the same date. Ms. Young referred to the Profit and Loss Report from July 2019 through May of 2020 for further discussion.

Ms. Young discussed the Potato Assessment Report as of May 31, 2020, indicating a total collection amount of \$39,328 for the 2018 marketing season; \$6,636 collected from 14 growers with zero (0) delinquent remaining; and a total collection amount of \$40,557.92 for the 2019 marketing season, \$18,163.92 collected from 18 growers with zero (0) delinquents.

Ms. Young indicated there was not a current budget on file for the '19-'20 Fiscal Year and desired to obtain one to report the actual '20-'21 Budget. Mr. Andrews explained the annual July meeting is when the Board creates a budget for the coming year after it approves the financial report and uses the report to review actual expenses from the previous year, has further discussion, and determines a budget for this year. There was further discussion regarding the Fund Balance.

RESOLUTION 2020.07-APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT/ASSESSMENT REPORT

Presented by: Keith Masser

Seconded by: Jonathan Blass

Passed: Unanimously

To approve the Financial and Assessment Reports as presented.

BUDGET FOR 2020-2021

Board members discussed the 2020-2021 budget.

Ms. Young noted the following amounts to be budgeted for the '20-'21 year: \$30,000 in Assessments; Mileage, \$1,025; Per Diem, \$575; Advisory Board, \$125; Research, \$30,000; Postage and Printing, \$200; Accounting Fees, \$1,200; Bank Fees, 0; Delinquency Fees 0; Miscellaneous Expenses, \$250; \$30,000 plus \$3,375 overhead for a total of \$33,375.

Laura England, Director, Bureau of Market Development, entered the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

RESOLUTION 2020.08-APPROVAL OF 2020-2021 BUDGET

Presented by: Keith Masser

Seconded by: Nolan Masser

Passed: Unanimously

To approve the 2020-2021 Budget as presented.

REFERENDUM 2021

Mr. Andrews explained the Board's referendum would be coming up in 2021 and would involve publication in the Pennsylvania Bulletin as a referendum, sending ballots out to all growers, receiving the votes, counting them, and publishing the results by the end of June. He indicated the date may be 2022 but stated a confirmation email would be sent to all members.

Mr. Andrews noted that member term expirations should be discussed yearly as Board members renew or new members come on board.

RESOLUTION 2020.09-APPROVAL OF BOARD OFFICERS

Presented by: Keith Masser

Seconded by: James Benshoff

Passed: Unanimously

To retain Mark Troyer as Chair; Nolan Masser as Vice Chair; and Jonathan Blass as Secretary/Treasurer for 2021. All agreed to retain their positions.

WELCOMING JAMES BENSHOFF

Chair Troyer welcomed James Benshoff, as the newest member of the Potato Research Program Board. Mr. Benshoff provided a brief history of his sixth generation potato/vegetable growing background.

RESEARCH COVID-10 UPDATE

Michael Peck, Researcher, Penn State University, updated members on the variety trials. He indicated the University of Maine, Cornell University, USDA Beltsville, USDA Idaho, Colorado State University, Michigan State University, North Carolina State University potato breeding programs and Solanum International, Hanse Seed companies provided seed.

He discussed the different varieties of round white, red skinned, and russets planted at Rock Springs and 32 varieties of trials planted May 27 at the Mark Troyer Farm in Erie County and May 12 at the Gary Hunsinger Farm in Northampton County.

Mr. Peck noted another trial working with SMI and the Potato Co-Op with regard to three varieties of russets planted in three locations, including SMI, Rock Springs and Long Farms in Potter County. He was also working with Dwight Lingenfelter on an herbicide trial at Rock Springs.

He asked members to let him know if there were other varieties for him to evaluate, maybe more yellow flesh and red potato variety.

Ms. Robbins requested a list of the actual varieties being trialed.

Dr. Xinshun Qu, Researcher, PSU, commented on the current varieties and those that would be researched next year.

NEW BUSINESS

None

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 4, 2021, 7:30 to 10:00 at the Hershey Lodge, Cocoa Suite No. 6.

ADJOURNMENT

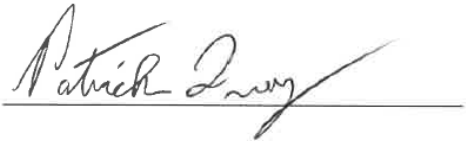
RESOLUTION 2020.10- ADJOURNMENT

Presented by: Jonathan Blass

Seconded by: Keith Masser

Passed: Unanimously

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Patrick Troy", is written over a horizontal line.

Patrick Troy

July 9, 2020

