

DATE: March 08, 2010

TO: Budget & Personnel Committee (CWB)
Bill Carriere, Chairperson
Jack Mariani
Jack Gilbert

CC: Debbie Wray, USDA

FROM: Dennis A. Balint

SUBJECT: Minutes of the meeting of the CWB Budget & Personnel Committee, March 08, 2010 teleconference at the offices of the California Walnut Board

MINUTES

Chairperson Bill Carriere called the meeting to order at 9:31 A.M. The role was called by Mr. Balint. In attendance were Jack Gilbert, Bill Carriere and Jack Mariani (all via telephone). Also in attendance were Debbie Wray (USDA) and Dennis Balint.

The first order of business was the approval of the minutes of the last meeting which was held on December 8, 2009. Mr. Mariani moved to accept the minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gilbert and passed unanimously via a roll call vote.

Mr. Balint explained that two new hires (Technical Support Director, Assistant Marketing Director, International) were imminent. The cost (salary and non-salaried costs) would be within the parameters approved by the Committee and included in the 2009/10 budget. Mr. Balint indicated that details of the costs would be discussed in the Executive Session.

There was then a discussion on the crop number the CWB should use for budgeting purposes (2010/11 crop-year). The alternatives were discussed by the committee including a three year rolling average, the last crop-year actual and an average of the past two crops rounded down. Mr. Gilbert stated that the crop for

2010/11 was likely to be larger than the 2009/10 crop. Therefore, the use of a three year rolling average would understate the most probable result. Ms. Wray stated that we must have reasonable cause to support the estimate we choose. Mr. Balint indicated that the trend indicates higher crops in the future and the Committee/Board would likely revisit this issue next year.

Mr. Mariani moved to set the crop estimate for the purposes of budgeting at the most recent two-year average, rounded down (435,000 tons). The motion was seconded by Mr. Gilbert. A roll call vote was taken and all votes supported the motion.

Chairman Carriere asked if there was any other business. There was none. He stated that the time and place of the next meeting would be at the call of the Chairman working with staff.

Chairperson Carriere announced that an executive session was necessary. Chairperson Carriere reconvened the open session at 9:50 A.M and reported that during the executive session, the committee had voted to approve the compensation package, including salary and non-salaried cost via roll call vote. The discussion and actions taken are summarized in a separate set of executive session minutes.

Mr. Carriere adjourned the meeting at 9:52 A.M.