

MINUTES
Endowment Task Force
January 26, 2010
Reedley, California

Research Subcommittee Chairman Bill Chandler called the meeting of the Endowment Task Force to order on January 26, 2010, at 11:45 a.m. in the Conference Room of the California Tree Fruit Agreement in Reedley, California.

Task Force Members Present:

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| Bill Chandler | Rod Milton | Bill Tos |
| Bob Dick | Michael Reimer | |

Task Force Members Absent:

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| Eric Gaarde | Ryan Metzler | Wayne Stogbauer |
| Harold McClarty | Rod Riffel | |

Government Representatives Present:

Jerry Simmons, USDA

Others Present:

Gary Van Sickle Eric Wuhl

Minutes

The Chairman stated the group did not have a quorum, and would not be able to approve the November 4, 2009 meeting minutes and the December 1, 2009 teleconference minutes.

Recommendation to the Research Subcommittee

The Chairman indicated that while he was still very supportive of the potential of an endowment, and felt it was needed, he would also like to have a research person stationed at Kearney Agriculture Center on behalf of the industry. He explained that at the December 2009 CTFA fall meeting, the group had a split vote in regards to moving forward on the endowment. He said by not having a clear mandate for the endowment, it would be best to put it on hold. In response to a question regarding how the endowment could be paid, Mr. Van Sickle reminded it could be paid for by assessments with a specific line item or from unexpended funds that would be put into a contingency fund at the end of each season.

Mr. Bill Tos asked what the reasons were for the industry's position on the endowment. Mr. Michael Reimer stated that many do not want to spend money, but there were passionate thoughts on both sides of the issue. He also noted that at this same meeting it was difficult to get the domestic marketing budgets approved for the federal programs. He indicated the opinions were not on the specifics of the endowment, but it was on the conceptual aspect of the endowment.

Again, the Chairman summarized it was an economical issue with most people, and suggested, based on the straw poll at that meeting, it would be best to table the endowment for 18-24 months. Although a quorum was not present at today's meeting, there was consensus by those present to recommend to the Research Subcommittee the endowment project be tabled. Mr. Rod Milton also suggested industry members keep open minds regarding this or similar programs that could be used to help the industry. He noted there could be value in some areas, such as those involving invasive pests. Again, he stated money is tight, and the best course of action would be to table the endowment and review it at a later date. He indicated the division at the fall meeting clearly indicated this is not the time to move forward on this project.

Alternatives/Issues to Discuss

The Chairman asked if there was any further discussion. Hearing none, he adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary W. Van Sickle

GARY W. VAN SICKLE
Director, Research and Regulatory Compliance

GS/ss