

NATIONAL PROCESSED RASPBERRY COUNCIL
Executive Committee
Seattle Marriott
Seattle, WA

November 3, 2015, 7:30 a.m.

Committee Members:

- John Clark
- Rob Dhaliwal
- Brad Rader

Others:

- Tom Krugman Tarun Harit Tom Skilton

x = participating; o = absent

A. Establish Quorum

The meeting was called to order by John Clark at 7:45 a.m. Roll call disclosed a quorum to be present.

B. Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Rob, seconded by Brad, the minutes of the May 18, 2015 Executive Committee meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.

C. USDA: Council Appointments

In presenting the status of appointments to fill Board vacancies at the end of the year, Tarun reminded the committee of the need for all grower members on the Board to take a more active role in helping to educate the grower base. With a renewal referendum scheduled for 2019, now is the time to begin the process of increasing participation in educational events and the Council. He referred members to the appointment process, noting that there was the exact number of nominations as vacant seats. This could be interpreted by USDA as a lack of interest in the program and sends the wrong signal. Growers should be encouraged to attend the Council meetings to hear firsthand how they assessments are being invested, and to attend events where Council programs are being presented. He said that this was a responsibility of the Board, as there was only so much Tom could do to incent growers to come out to meetings. Discussion noted that although the majority of domestic volume was represented on the Board, renewal of the Order during referendum was based on a simple majority of those voting. Tarun ended his comments by stating that the time to begin grooming new Board members was now, as there would be nominations due by mid-2016 for appointment to positions that will expire at the end of 2016, and that current Board members would become ineligible after their current term expires due to term limits.

D. Review of FY 2015, FY 2016, and FY 2017

Tom directed members to a worksheet reflecting FY 2015 budget and unaudited expenses, the FY 2016 budget, and a pro forma FY 2017 budget. Unaudited expenditures for FY 2015 were projected at approximately \$280,000 under budget with much of this amount coming from research contracts. The unspent portion of research funding is covered under contract extensions in FY 2016. FY 2015 income was based on a 55 million pound domestic crop and 55 million pounds of imports. A 2015 domestic crop of less than 51 million pounds and imports in the range of 51 million pounds will decrease budgeted revenue by about \$90,000. The approved FY 2016 budget is based on a domestic crop of 65 million pounds and imports totaling 57.5 million pounds. With an expectation that the domestic crop will be at normal levels in 2016, and problems with the Eastern European crop, revised estimates of 62.5 million pounds and 52.5 million pounds for domestic and imports, respectively, are more likely. Carrying normal crops into FY 2017, total revenues available were forecast at \$1.85 million, reflecting the investment of carryover funds in each of the last two fiscal years towards research and marketing programs.

Discussion ensued on minimum reserve levels, with a consensus that reserves should not fall below \$300,000, or about three months of operating expenses. On a motion by Rob, seconded by Brad, it was unanimously approved to recommend to the Board a policy of maintaining a reserve equal to three months operating expenses.

E. Executive Session

A brief Executive Session was called. The Committee indicated that it did not have sufficient time to fully discuss the issue of amending Tom K's contract, and asked for additional information which would help guide the committee. The Committee agreed to meet on December 1 to address this subject.

F. Other Business; adjourn

There then being no further Committee business, on a call by John, the meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.