

**Olive Oil Commission of California
Board of Directors Meeting
Sacramento, CA**

Minutes of Meeting
June 8, 2023

A meeting of the Olive Oil Commission of California Board of Directors was called to order by Chairman Brady Whitlow at 10:00 am on June 8, 2023. Roll call was done, and a quorum was established with the following in attendance:

Board Members

Brady Whitlow, Corto Olive Co
Adam Kennedy, Kennedy Farms
Larry Maben, Maben Family LLC
Samantha Dorsey, McEvoy
Michael Fox, California Olive Ranch
Adam Englehardt, TC Properties
Frank Olagaray, Blossom Vineyards
Bruce Golino
Conor Churchin, Boundary Bend
Mark Sievers, Il Fiorello

Board Alternates

Matt Lohse, Big W Ranch
Mary Mori, Emerald River Ranch
Jim Lipman, California Olive Ranch
Don Deviccio, Sunrise Olive Ranch
Richard Marchini, Marchini Ag

Olive Oil Commission

Chris Zanobini

Guests

Cliff Little, Corto
Andrew Petrini, Delta Olive Producers
Brittaney Fagundes, California Olive Ranch
Chris Calvert, Ciarlo Fruit and Nut
Mikayla Gnos, Boundary Bend
Laurel Rudolph, Cdfa
Jon Sciabica, Sciabica Olive Oil
Dan Kennedy, Kennedy Farms
Manny Dinnis, Rood and Dinnis
Carlos Machado, Agrolabs
Dennis Manderfield, Cdfa

Public Comment Period

No Public Comments

Review and Approval of January 25, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Minutes from the October 3, 2022, Board of Directors meeting were reviewed.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to accept the minutes from the January 25, 2023, OOC Board of Directors meeting as presented.

Election Results

The OOC election results were not available due to a number of issues with the grower list, wrong addresses and missing information. Given the situation the Board of Directors election was redone with updated information from the handlers. The final election results were not available for this meeting. The new board and officers will be seated at the next meeting.

Discussion of the list brought another issue to the table regarding how the list is compiled and how alternate bearing or crop issues can have an impact on those who are eligible to vote in the election. It was recommended that we utilize a three-year period and if one of those three years a producer has produced 5000 gallons or more then they are eligible to vote in the election. It was recommended that we look at the bylaws and make those changes to correspond with the recommendation. The executive committee should further discuss this and how eligibility is determined. Finally, once a board member is elected, they should serve out their term regardless of their production.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to determine eligibility for voting a producer only has to have one year out of three years of production of 5000 gallons or more.

Crop Discussion and Season Forecast

Given the lateness of the crop, all agreed to utilize the 3-million-gallon estimate realizing that it could change as we move forward through the growing season. It was recommended that we survey the handlers at the end of August. It could be a heavy crop but it is currently three weeks late in the north and the south is approximately two weeks behind.

Executive Committee Update

No report for this meeting

Advisory Board Update

CDFA put out a solicitation for participation on the Advisory Board – We are awaiting the results of that solicitation and a determination by CDFA.

Report from Grades and Labeling Standards Committee

Mary Mori presented the Labeling Guidelines and sought some input from the board. Several requests for slight modification were recommended and will be incorporated into the document. It was recommended that the guideline be and OOC Guidance Document and included in the Grade and Labeling Standard as Exhibit E. It was also recommended that the guidelines be shared with the COOC.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to accept the labeling guidelines as presented and discussed.

The item of induction time was discussed and although required last year it was not clearly specified in the standard. It was recommended that we make the following changes to Appendix A:

GENERAL Appendix A Proposed Changes

1 GENERAL

1.5 (d)

Existing text:

The oil container carries a “Best By”, “Use By”, or “Best Before” date.

Proposed Text:

1.5 (d)

The oil container carries a “Best if used By”, or “Use By” date.

4 SAMPLING BY HANDLERS

4.1 ~~Samples Required~~— **Tests Required**. All handlers subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission shall be required to annually sample, test and grade all lots of olive oil in inventory, regardless of harvest year, for the quality parameters listed in Table 1 of the Standard, **and for Induction Time defined in section 5.15** except as described in section 1.5. Testing must be done by a certified laboratory chosen by the handler, including the handler’s own laboratory if certified, following an official testing method described in the Standard. **If the Induction Time temperature used is 120° C, a conversion factor for induction time from 120° C to 110° C must be included.** The handler is required to assign a distinct number to each lot.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to accept the changes to Appendix A sections 1.5(d) and 4.1.

Shirley Xi presented the results from the ring test to the board and discussed the need to continue to work in order to get solid information for the handlers to utilize. Moving forward, it is

recommended that we have at least 8 participants in the test for statistical significance. The OOCC will assist Selina and Shirley in seeking out participants for the test. It was also recommended that the OOCC support funding the continuation of the project for a total of \$25,000.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to approve the funding of the ring test continuation project.

Research Committee Update

Michael Fox reported that we had a successful Olive Oil Day with strong participation from industry. The committee and staff are open to any suggestion on improving the overall outcome of the program.

The research committee met on May 24th to review and finalize the OOCC research program. The committee recommends funding a total of \$69,985 for the seven research line items. Projects funded include Analysis of 2022 harvest quality data, Water management strategies in hedgerow olive orchards in California, evaluation of new fungicides for control of olive leaf spot, epidemiology and management of olive knot, evaluation of canopy management practices on establish SHD olive for olive oil production, industry benchmarking and special projects.

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to accept the recommended research projects and a total budget of \$69,985.

Budget

Chris Zanobini presented the 2023-24 proposed budget. Total crop of 3 million gallons, assessment rate of \$0.16 per gallon, carry forward of \$186,832.88 for a total income of \$666,832.88. Expenses are budgeted at \$431,450.00 leaving a carry forward of \$235,382.88.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to accept the budget as presented.

Other Business

Updates from COOC and the UC Davis Olive Center were given. AOOPA updated the board on Crop Insurance, SOI and the pollinator grant they received.

The strategic plan was reviewed and the OOCC is on track with what it laid out in March of 2021. It was recommended we survey the growers on where the OOCC stands in regard to growing olive for oil for further refinement of the strategic plan in 2024.

The next meetings will be September 7 and January 9th.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00pm.

Certification of Minutes

I, Chris Zanobini, do hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Olive Oil Commission of California Board of Directors held on June 8, 2023.

Date

Chris Zanobini, Executive Director
Olive Oil Commission of California