

MICHIGAN BLUEBERRY COMMISSION

True Blue Farms, LLC
09548 CR 215, Grand Junction, MI 49056

MEETING MINUTES August 5, 2017

PRESENT:

Jennifer Spears, True Blue Farms, LLC
Shelly Hartmann, Secretary, Michigan Blueberry Commission
Jacob Clemons, Chair, Michigan Blueberry Commission
Mark Longstroth, Michigan State University
Steven Hunt, Vice-Chair, Michigan Blueberry Commission
Creela Hamlin, Michigan Blueberry Commission
Dr. Rufus Isaacs, Michigan State University
Cheryl Sullins, Treasurer, Michigan Blueberry Commission

Call to Order

Chairman Jacob Clemons called the meeting to order at 12:37pm to discuss the AFRI grant's requirements of which we were not aware until recently.

Discussion around table about grant priorities and MBC's financial contribution. Jacob reported on his conversation with Olivia of USDA regarding the \$150,000 requirement for the grant. It was asserted by Rufus that perhaps we could inquire about spreading the \$150,000 over a multi-year period.

MOTION: Steve Hunt moved to select Gall Wasp as the research focus for the grant and pledge \$150,000.00 (one hundred, fifty-thousand dollars) towards funding over a multi-year commitment, Shelly seconded, motion was carried by unanimous verbal vote.

Meeting Minutes Approval

Secretary presented the meeting minutes for both June 29, 2017 and July 19, 2017 meetings. Table reviewed. Discussion regarding quantity of checking account signers.

MOTION: Shelly moved to add Jacob Clemons as a signer to the checking account and give authority to open said account in order to expedite the process. Steve Hunt seconded, motion carried by unanimous verbal consent.

Continuation of minute review.

MOTION: Creela Hamlin moved to accept the minutes from both June 29, 2017 and July 19, 2017 meetings as written. Steve seconded, motion carried by unanimous verbal vote.

Public Comments:

Dr. Rufus Isaacs stated that he recently went on an EPA ag tour in Traverse City arranged by the cherry commission. On this tour, the EPA was given much insight as to the devastation that Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD) is having on Michigan's fruit crops.

Dr. Isaacs also reported on the planning of Michigan Blueberry Commission's upcoming visit to MSU on Friday, October 27th, 2017. Discussion on tours and the need to inform Rufus of attendees by early October to assure required meeting room capacity is met.

MOTION: Steve moved to adjourn meeting, Shelly supported, Motion carried by unanimous verbal vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:18pm.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Shelly Hartmann