



CALIFORNIA OLIVE COMMITTEE
COC Inspection Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 17, 2016
9:30 a.m.
Pacific Rim Advisory Group - Modesto, CA

I. CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the Inspection Subcommittee was called to order by Committee Chairwoman Julia TINSLEY at 9:30 a.m., and the following members were present:

Members

Dennis Burreson
Phil Quigley
Ed Curiel
Pablo Nerey
Cody McCoy
Edward Garcia
Rick Benson
Scott Patton
Michael Silveira
Ben Hall
Larry McCutcheon
Julia Inestroza
Julia Tinsley
Doug Reifsteck

Affiliation:

Musco
Bell-Carter
Grower
Grower
Bell-Carter
Grower
Grower
Grower
Grower
Musco
Musco
Grower
Bell-Carter
Bell-Carter

Others Present:

Alexander Ott	COC
Denise Junqueiro	COC
Liza Ramon	COC
Terry Vawter	USDA
Peter Sommers	USDA

With a majority of the Subcommittee members present, a quorum was established.

MOVED BY Scott PATTON, duly second by Rick BENSON, and unanimously carried THAT the minutes of the 11-5-15 Inspection Subcommittee be approved. (Motion 2-17-16 #1)

II. Brief on Incoming Inspection Working Group Call

Elected spokesperson Cody MCCOY reviewed what was discussed on the conference call regarding Multi-scan and what has been the issues with USDA.

III. RECOMMENDATION FROM WORKING GROUP

The working group is recommending to the Inspection Subcommittee suspension of size grading on incoming inspection requirements within the marketing order. As well as, directly contracting with CDFA (California state inspection services) using current sizing chart standards. While still moving forward with 3rd party validation of the Multiscan I5.

Over the years there have been many discussions concerning incoming and outgoing inspections, pertaining to sizing. In an effort to address these matters the COC established a working group.

In 2010, industry began researching optical sizing technologies for sizing incoming fruit. After two years of research, trials, \$80,000 spent and approval from USDA marketing order and inspection service divisions, the industry decided to purchase two Multi-Scan I5 optical sizers.

The industry implemented the use of the Multiscan I5 during the 2014 season. During the 2014 and 2015 seasons, USDA persisted to question the use of the machines. Specifically, they continue to ask for excessive and un-necessary measures to prove and validate the use of the machine. Optical sizing technology has been vetted by many other industries and is widely used. Olives is the first federal marketing order to implement the use of these technologies with federal standards. To date the industry has spent between \$15-20K to satisfy USDA's concerns. The constant demand for more validation puts additional costs on the industry, coupled with not knowing if the machine will be accepted for the upcoming season. The machines were purchased for the purpose of increasing accuracies, taking out subjectivity and decreasing costs.

USDA has provided notification to the industry to have the machine validated by a third party by June of 2016. Industry is currently waiting on USDA for the parameters and guidelines of the validation process to hire a third party. Third party companies have been researched and are ready to execute the project when parameters are received. Should industry and USDA not come to an agreement on complete validation by June 2016, industry will have to perform tray counts every 30 minutes. Currently, the machines calibration is verified every four hours by a known sample (TSO). This method has proven to be sufficient from industry's point of view. Tray counts every 30 minutes is excessive, defeats the purpose of the machines and will cost the industry more money due to more inspectors needed onsite.

3 options were proposed to the working group to address these issues:

1. Do as USDA is requesting concerning third party machine validation, TSO validation and tray counts every 30 minutes.
2. Suspend incoming inspection requirements in the marketing order and contract directly with CDFA (state department) using current standards to inspect incoming fruit. While still moving forward with 3rd party validation of the machine.
3. Revert back to cable grading.

MOVED BY Rick BENSON, duly seconded by Cody MCCOY, and unanimously carried THAT the Committee suspend the size grading on incoming inspection requirements within the marketing order giving USDA the authority to make conforming changes, and THAT the Industry directly contract with CDFA (California State Inspection Services) using current sizing chart standards and THAT the Committee move forward with 3rd party validation of the Multiscan I5. (Motion 2-17-16 #2)

VI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

MOVED BY Cody MCCOY, duly seconded by Rick BENSON, and unanimously carried THAT the meeting be adjourned at 10:06 a.m. (Motion 2-17-16 #3)

I hereby certify that the above is full, true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting held on February 17, 2016 in Modesto, California, by the Subcommittee.

February 18, 2016
Date: February 18, 2016

Liza Ramon
Liza Ramon, Programs Coordinator

SUMMARY OF MOTIONS FOR FEBRUARY 17, 2016

Motion 2-17-16 #1

MOVED BY Scott PATTON, duly second by Rick BENSON, and unanimously carried THAT the minutes of the 11-5-15 Inspection Subcommittee be approved.

Motion 2-17-16 #2

MOVED BY Rick BENSON, duly seconded by Cody MCCOY, and unanimously carried THAT the Committee suspend the size grading on incoming inspection requirements within the marketing order giving USDA the authority to make conforming changes, and THAT the Industry directly contract with CDFA (California State Inspection Services) using current sizing chart standards and THAT the Committee move forward with 3rd party validation of the Multiscan I5.

Motion 2-17-16 #3

MOVED BY Cody MCCOY, duly seconded by Rick BENSON, and unanimously carried THAT the meeting be adjourned at 10:06 a.m.