

**Final
VIRGINIA POTATO BOARD MEETING**

Painter, Virginia
January 22, 2020

I. **Attendance**

Board Members Present

Bruce Richardson, ***Chairman***
David Long
Mark Hickman
Bill Floyd
John Holland
Ron Bailey
Butch Nottingham, Program Director

Board Members Absent

Jimmy Holland, ***V-Chairman***

Guests

Dr. Steve Rideout, Ursula Deitch, Helene Doughty, Dr. Mark Reiter, Dr. Vijay Singh, Dr. Tom Kuhar(phoned in), Dr Laura Strawn, Doug Gillespie, Leon White, and Cirree Upshur.

II. **Call To Order** – Chairman Richardson called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting. Leon White(VDACS) introduced Cirree Upshur the new VDACS inspection office employee who will be working out of the Melfa office, mainly potatoes and poultry.

III. **Election of Officers-** Bill Floyd nominated Bruce Richardson for chairman, and Jimmy Holland as Vice Chairman, David Long seconded the nomination and they were elected unanimously.

IV. **Reading and Approval of Minutes** – David Long moved to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. Mark Hickman seconded and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Financial Statement – Butch Nottingham presented the financial statement that reflected revenues and expenditures as of Dec. 31 2019 Receipts of 11220.46 were reported from July 1, 2019to December 31 2019 A cash account balance \$ 53498.37 was reported, with grant obligations of \$13970.97 outstanding. Mark Hickman moved and David Long seconded a motion to approve. Motion passed.

V. Inspection report- Leon White and Doug Gillespie reported that the seed inspection would work much like last year. received for the 2019 season and the seed inspection program is working well.Last year approximately 166 loads of seed potatoes were delivered to farms in Virginia.

VI. Project Proposals

Dr. Tom Kuhar and Helene Doughty-Pheromone trap monitoring of wireworm Adults and Other pest projects ,Dr. Tom Kuhar, Helene Doughty. Requested 5000.00

D.r Mark Reiter Fertility Management for White Potatoes on the Eastern Shore of VA. Compare –1.compare traditional banded fertilizer applications to broadcast pre-plant fertilizer applications. 2 Determine effectiveness of Phosphorus fertilizer additions to soil testing very high for Mehlich-1 extractable Phos. 3. Calcium soil additions. Requested 3250.00

Dr. Vijay Singh- Investigating alternate Herbicide programs for Potato Production. Investigate new potential herbicide programs on the Eastern Shore of VA.

1. Investigate new potential herbicide programs for ESVA .
2. Investigate tolerance of Potatoes to pyroxasufone, dimethanamide and treflan on the Eastern Shore of VA. Request 6000.00

Dr Laura Strawn-Discussed the need for additional study of using surface water as a preliminary step to remove the soil from the potatoes, followed by a final rinse with treated water. Work she did five years ago demonstrated that it was possible to use surface water and a treated final rinse to achieve a clean product. The food safety industry needs an updated study to continue to validate the practice since the data is five years old. She indicated that with grower support she would submit specialty crop grant application for a larger study.

Discussion of allocating funds for a local promotion. Chairman Richardson raised the issue that if the opportunity arises the Board should be prepared to finance on short notice. Mark Hickman moved to continue a 5000.00 marketing fund that could be used if a promotion opportunity arises. The chairman would contact all of the board members to secure their approval, a majority would be necessary to access the funds. A possible use would be a Potato Display at a large Farm Market in Washington DC. Mark Hickman seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

After discussion the projects were evaluated, David Long moved to approve the projects at the below levels. Bill Floyd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Kuhar-	4000.00
Reiter-	3250.00
Singh-	4000.00
Marketing project-	5000.00

VI. Other BusinessPublic comment-There was not public comment.

Next meeting-Board instructed the program manager to schedule a meeting in early November.

