

Board of Control
October 16, 2019

The Statutory Meeting of the Board of Control was held on this day at the Valley Laboratory, 153 Cook Hill Road, Windsor, CT 06095-0248.

Present: Messrs. Andreadis, Jones, Larson, and Ms. Maroney and Nichols. Messrs. Capone (FIA), Last, Steven, and Ms. Hyde were present by invitation.

Absent: Messrs. Fikrig, Hurlburt, and Royer.

The meeting was convened by Vice President Terry Jones at 10:06AM.

Minutes: On a motion by Mr. Larson, seconded by Ms. Maroney, the minutes of the August 7, 2019, meeting were approved unanimously.

Fiduciary Investment Advisors: Mr. Jeffrey Capone reported on the Board's investment portfolio through September 30, 2019. No recommendations were made.

Magnarelli Fellowship Progress Report: Dr. Blaire Steven introduced Dr. Josephine Hyde, Post-Doctoral Scientist, to give a brief progress report. The project entitled "Developing the Axenic Mosquito as a Model to Link the Microbiome to Mosquito Biology" was initiated in 2018.

Louis A. Magnarelli Post-Doctoral Fellowship Program – 2020: Mr. Larson moved that \$230,000 be authorized to fund a new two-year fellowship. Year Two funding will be contingent on the progress of the project. The motion was seconded by Ms. Nichols and passed unanimously. The anticipated start date is spring 2020.

New Scientist Recruitment Update: Dr. Andreadis updated the Board on the recruitment of a Plant Physiologist to work on urban forestry issues in Connecticut. There are several applications and the closing date is November 15, 2019.

Status of Building Projects:

- Valley Laboratory Renovation and Addition: Dr. Andreadis, Mr. Jones, and Mr. Last met with officials from the Office of Policy and Management on September 26, 2019, to discuss the project. The Experiment Station submitted a capital budget option of \$6.3 million to be considered by the Administration. The schematic design estimate of construction costs is \$17.8 million. The project has Bond Authorization of \$11.5 million.
- Jenkins-Waggoner Greenhouse Renovations: The Department of Administrative Services – Construction Services has requested the project architect, Christopher Williams, to make some minor changes in the specifications before the project is put out for public bid.

- New Phone System/Virtual Servers: The installation of the new phone system will be delayed until late November 2019. The Station will join the statewide Enterprise System.

Lockwood Farm House Renovations: Mr. Last presented the Board with options for the renovation of the farm house at Lockwood Farm. There were options for 4, 5, and 6 bedrooms as well as a new construction option. The farm house will be utilized to house exchange visitors, post-doctoral scientists, and other durational staff. Ms. Nichols moved to approve the 4-bedroom option, not to exceed the submitted \$221,540 proposal. Ms. Maroney seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Budget Update – FY 2021: Connecticut experienced an unprecedented amount of mosquito-borne disease in 2019, specifically Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE). The Experiment Station submitted a Budget Expansion option to the Office of Policy and Management for \$150,000. The option, if funded, would increase the number of trapping sites from 92 to 107 for better coverage of newly identified high risk areas.

Lockwood Farm – Plot Clearing: Proposals were submitted to clear a 1.35-acre plot of hemlock trees, which is overgrown and becoming a hazard. Mr. Larson moved to authorize \$11,900 to clear the plot including stumps. Ms. Nichols seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Staff Changes: Dr. Andreadis reviewed staff changes since the last Board meeting and anticipated staff retirements.

Mr. Larson moved that an Executive Session be held to discuss Board funds, personnel, and the Director’s report. Messrs. Last and White were invited to attend. The motion was seconded by Ms. Nichols and passed unanimously at 12:25PM.

The Executive Session adjourned at 1:05PM.

Mr. Larson moved to follow the Director’s recommendation and approve the following promotions effective 10/25/2019:

1. Dr. Scott Williams from Associate Agricultural Scientist to Agricultural Scientist.
2. Dr. Douglas Brackney from Assistant Agricultural Scientist II to Associate Agricultural Scientist.
3. Dr. Blaire Steven from Assistant Agricultural Scientist II to Associate Agricultural Scientist.
4. Dr. Lindsay Triplett from Assistant Agricultural Scientist II to Associate Agricultural Scientist.
5. Dr. Quan Zeng from Assistant Agricultural Scientist II to Associate Agricultural Scientist.

Board of Control


-3-

October 16, 2019

The motion was seconded by Ms. Nichols and passed unanimously.

Mr. Larson moved that the Public meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Ms. Maroney and passed unanimously at 1:11PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul C. Larson, Secretary