

IDAHO CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 11, 2025
ICIA OFFICE, IDAHO FALLS

In Attendance

Gina Lohnes, President, Jason Stoddard, Vice President, Ray Mosman, Treasurer, Brad Chambers, Chris Mio, Mike Kalisek, Matt Powell, Kathy Stewart-Williams, Sarah Plendl-Gardner

Call to Order

President Gina Lohnes called the 2025 Spring Board of Directors Meeting to order at 9:00am MDT on March 11, 2025.

Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda. All in favor; motion carried with none opposed.

Approval of Minutes- Board of Directors & Annual Membership Meeting, Executive Session Meetings

A motion was made and seconded to approve as submitted. All in favor; motion carried with none opposed.

Old Business

Database Development

The Board went into Executive Session for this topic.

Winter Grow Out Expense Summary

This cost analysis has been calculated since the winter grow out moved to Hawaii in 2013. This year cost \$5k more than last year, due to the increase in land rental. There were fewer lots than the previous year, at a cost of \$325.69 per lot. Alan did have time this past December to visit another island to research different options for land rental. A temp service was quite useful in completing this project this year, for planting labor. There will be repairs needed to the planter in the next year or two.

Winter Grow Out, Direct Tuber Testing Cost Comparison

In the potato industry there has been a trend to using direct tuber testing, and ICIA is interested in this possibility. With how the 2024-2025 grow out season progressed, and the need to have more retesting done at the ICIA lab this year, there has not been enough time to look into this issue by the ICIA staff. They will have a more realistic comparison at the summer meeting. The Board did discuss the history of this project, focusing on that it had previously been in Brawley, CA, where freezing issues occurred, partially in Greenhouses in Hagerman, where the plants became too large, and in Oceanside, CA on a Naval base.

Expense x Crop Tracking Project

Kathy had been instructed to look at the cost of each crop kind's inspection income and expenses. She had hard numbers through January 2025, and estimated through the end of the fiscal year, April 30, 2025. This will be a continuing project, and a possible tool when looking at

fee increases, per crop. These amounts did not encompass every income or expense item, of ICIA.

FY2026 Budget

Kathy presented the same projected revenue and expense numbers for FY2026, as in December. Acreage is always still a question at this time of the year, so she has stayed with her conservative projections. She did include a line item for the Database, and is cautiously optimistic about that project, as it relates to budgets beyond this one. The Database will always have a cost each year, as it is supported in a cloud server.

A motion was made to accept the budget as submitted, and seconded. All in favor; motion carried with none opposed.

ICIA Bylaws Working Group

Kathy will be reaching out to the Committee Chairs, and interested parties, with copies of the current bylaws, and proposed updates. As everyone is getting into a busier part of the year, she will be suggesting Zoom meetings, that will look at smaller sections at a time, over multiple shorter meetings, to best use meeting time, and make progress on the project. She is hoping to have this back to the Board by the summer meeting.

ICIA Administrative Processing Fee Policy

To gain more information, before further discussion with the Board, ICIA staff will note and document time spent on issues with customers that take more time than normal. If it is felt, that this policy should be considered by the Board, after this field season, the Board will be presented with a policy and a fee structure. The topic of risk, relating to customer non-payment was also discussed.

New Business

ICIA Direct Tuber Testing Plan-Jason Stoddard

The Board would like to give the Directive to the ICIA staff to submit a plan for possibly moving the winter test from grow outs in Hawaii to a direct tuber testing method. It should address what the growers want, what the current science can do, what ICIA is able to do and would need. The Board knows that ICIA is not there yet to switch to direct tuber testing, and the Board understands the importance of keeping the potato program credible. There are hopes that a direct tuber testing program that is accurate and cost effective can be found. They would like Alan Westra and his staff to start this process, so that ICIA can be informed and prepared.

A motion was made that the Board would give a Directive to ICIA to plan to possibly transition from a grow out to direct tuber testing. All in favor; motion carried with none opposed.

ICIA will give an update at the summer meeting.

Ex Officio Board Member

The Board position left vacant, after David Hoadley retired, has not been filled yet. It is hoped that the position of Foundation Seed Stock Coordinator will be filled when the position of Superintendent of the Parma R&E Center is filled, as that position will take on the Foundation Seed duties. It will be assessed if the person hired, is a good fit for the Board position, if not

then the Board will discuss who could fill the spot. Discussion will continue at the summer meeting.

Summer 2025 Board Meeting

The Summer 2025 Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 8th, at 9 am MDT via Zoom Video Meeting.

2025 Annual Board Meeting Date

The 2025 Annual Board Meeting will be held in Boise on Wednesday, December 10th at 9am MST.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. All in favor; motion carried with none opposed. Meeting was adjourned at 11:12am MDT.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sarah Plendl-Gardner