



Chairman Matthew Cook called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

Commissioners Present

Matthew Cook	Scott Zielinski	Ryan Koch	Laney Brentano	Andy Kraemer	Jessica Blakley	Megan Arritola	Tony Shepherd
P1	P2	P3	P4	P6	H1	H2	PM
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Others present included; Bill Braunworth, OSU Head of the Department of Horticulture; Ric Morris, ODA Commodity Commission Oversight Manager; Randi Alexander-Rolison, Administrator.

Minutes

The minutes from the April 14, 2023 meeting were provided to commissioners prior to the meeting. Chairman Cook asked if there were any corrections or conversation needed. Tony Shepherd had one correction; Kraemer was spelled incorrect. With no other corrections,

TONY SHEPHERD MOVED TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE THE APRIL 14, 2023 MINUTES WITH THE NOTED CORRECTION. SECONDED BY SCOTT ZIELINSKI. ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Financial Report

Administrator Randi Alexander-Rolison reported the financials of July 1, 2023 through November 9, 2023. With a beginning balance of \$169,498.43 in the checking account and \$3,142.67 in the money market account, this gives a total beginning balance of \$172,641.10. The first quarter had a total revenue of \$0.38, expenses of \$7,000.76 giving an ending balance of \$162,497.67. Expenses to date include October and November payments and uncleared checks totalling \$31,919.15, with a to-date balance in the checking account of \$130,578.52.

2023-2024 Carryover	\$169,498.43
<u>July - September Expenses</u>	<u>\$ 7,000.76</u>
Q1 Ending Balance in Checking	\$162,497.67

Money Market Beginning Balance \$3,142.67

July - September Interest Earned	\$ 0.38
Ending Balance in MM	\$3,143.05

Uncleared expenses for October through November 9, 2023 are \$31,919.15.

2023-2025 Carryover	\$169,498.43
Expenses to Date	\$ 38,919.91
Checking Balance 11/9/23	\$130,578.52

Cook asked the commissioners if there were questions about the financial report. Being none,
**RYAN KOCH MOVED TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT. SECONDED
BY SCOTT ZIELINSKI. ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN, MOTION CARRIED
UNANIMOUSLY.**

Alexander-Rolison requested that the OPVC obtain a debit card that can be used for recurring transactions, such as website fees, post office box renewal, and marketing supplies. At this time expenses are purchased by Alexander-Rolison and reimbursed. Washington sales tax and credit card interest are being added to these purchases due to mailing address and turn-around time for reimbursements.

It was also requested that Alexander-Rolison be allowed online access to the OPVC bank account in order to get bank statements at the first of the month.

**SCOTT ZIELINSKI MOVED TO APPROVE RANDI ALEXANDER-ROLISON BE
PROVIDED AN OPVC DEBIT CARD LINKED TO US BANK ACCOUNT #153600334152
FOR THE USE OF RECURRING ANNUAL FEES AND OTHER PURCHASES WITH PRIOR
COMMISSION APPROVAL. SECONDED BY MEGAN ARRITOLA.
ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN;**

SCOTT ZIELINSKI - YES	RYAN KOCH - YES
LANEY BRENTANO -YES	ANDY KRAEMER - YES
JESSICA BLAKELY - YES	MEGAN ARRITOLA - YES
TONY SHEPHERD - ABSTAIN	
MOTION CARRIES	

**RYAN KOCH MOVED TO APPROVE RANDI ALEXANDER-ROLISON TO HAVE
ONLINE ACCESS TO THE US BANK ACCOUNTS ##153600334152 AND ACCOUNT
#153600409905 IN ORDER TO ACCESS MONTHLY BANK STATEMENTS.
SECONDED BY SCOTT ZIELINSKI. ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN, MOTION
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Elect 2023-2024 FY Officers

Cook asked for any volunteers to take a position on the executive committee. A brief overview of the duties of each position was provided. Zielinski announced that this was his final year on the commission

and did not want to move from Vice Chair to Chair, however would be happy to stay as Vice Chair through July 30, 2024. Andy Kraemer volunteered to be Secretary/Treasurer.

RYAN KOCH MOVED THAT THE 2023-2024 FISCAL YEAR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BE AS FOLLOWS; CHAIR, MATTHEW COOK, VICE CHAIR SCOTT ZIELINSKI, SECRETARY/TREASURER, ANDY KRAEMER. SECONDED BY MEGAN ARRITOLA. ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MEGAN ARRITOLA MOVED THAT SHE BE REMOVED AS A SIGNER OF THE OPVC BANK ACCOUNT AND ANDY KRAEMER BE ADDED AS A SIGNER OF US BANK ACCOUNT # 153600334152. SECONDED BY SCOTT ZIELINSKI. ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Oregon Department of Agriculture Report

Eric Morris introduced himself as the newly appointed Commodity Commission Oversight Manager. Morris comes from the Commission for the Blind, and prior to that was in theft prevention with Fred Meyer in Southern Oregon.

Morris reported that Lisa Hansen has been officially appointed as the ODA Director, with a start date of December 1, 2023. Lauren Henderson has resumed his original position of Deputy Director.

Oregon State University Report

Bill Braunworth continues to be the Head of the horticulture Department at OSU. Interviews for a new department head will be held November 27, 29 and December 13. Public comment is being accepted and welcomed for all the candidates. Braunworth will go part-time in January and Ryan Contreras, Horticulture Associate Dept. Head will step up to cover time and duties until the new head can be brought up to speed.

Interviews will also be underway for a new Vegetable and Weed Science Department Head.

Cook suggested that Dean Staci Simonich be invited to join a meeting.

Meeting Calendar

A proposed meeting calendar was provided to the commission prior to the meeting. This suggests that OPVC meets the second Friday of each month from November 2023 through April 2024. Regular meetings will be held through January, the February 9, 2024 meeting will be the research review with presentations for current projects and new proposals. March 8, 2024 will be the budget meeting and April 12, 2024 will be the budget hearing and last scheduled meeting for the 2023-24 FY.

There were no objections or alterations to the suggested meeting calendar.

Research

The due date for both research reports and new proposals was set for January 9, 2024. Braunworth suggested

that having both reports and new proposals due at the same time is appropriate and have one meeting for presenting both.

Alexander-Rolison asked if there were any updates to the research priorities at this time. Shepherd asked Braunworth if the research priorities are set by the commission or if the researchers tell us what projects they want to do. Braunworth stated that both ways happen, and open communication between commissions and the researchers is always encouraged, even throughout the year, not just when proposals are due. Relevancies in the research is always important, and the commission guides the researchers to what makes most sense for the growers represented by each commission.

Cook stated that traditionally OPVC would discuss and set priorities and look to Ed Peachy for guidance on projects. Peachy would then communicate with researchers, anyone interested in working with OPVC would submit a proposal. This is the way OPVC will go about this process again. Priorities will be discussed and set at the December 8, 2023 meeting and through the appropriate channels, the commission will communicate with researchers.

Old Business

The Green Bean Sagra was put on by Lane Selman over the summer. Cook and Shepherd attended and Cook reported that it was very well put together and attended. The green bean zines and ice cream were well received by attendees and the professional chefs highlighted the vegetable well.

SEDCOR took the idea that the OPVC had about a grower/packer networking event and created the Locally Grown Supply Chain Event. Cook, Shepherd and Arritola were in attendance. Approximately 15 growers attended and eight packers had booths. The commissioners felt it was a great pilot year, and appreciated SEDCOR taking on all the logistics.

New Business

OPVC still has an open position on the commission, P4. There was discussion about who might be good candidates to reach out to. Cook volunteered to talk with Gabby Whitaker and Levi Graffenberger.

The Hermiston Farm Fair will be November 28-29, OPVC will have a booth, Cook and Shepherd will both attend. The focus will be to connect with corn and carrot growers in the Easter Oregon area, spread the word of the OPVC, potentially gain interest for the open board position, and gain knowledge about corn and carrot research needs directly from the growers.

It was requested that OPVC have marketing materials for use at such events as the Hermiston Farm Fair and future opportunities. Alexander-Rolison and Cook worked together to have an OPVC logo created. A number of options for a logo were presented prior to the meeting. A discussion was had,

SCOTT ZIELINSKI MOVED THAT THE OPVC ADOPT THE “THIRD LOGO ON THE FIRST PAGE” OF ALL LOGOS PRESENTED. SECONDED BY MEGAN ARRITOLA. ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The new OPVC logo is displayed at the header on page one of these minutes.

MEGAN ARRITOLA MOVED THAT \$40.00 BE PAID TO KATIE DUKE FOR THE CREATION OF THE OPVC LOGO. SECONDED BY SCOTT ZIELINSKI. ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Alexander-Rolison discussed that time to get marketing items, such as a banner, handouts and table signs was growing short for the Hermiston Farm Fair. With the newly approved logo, she requested there be approval for her to have items made ASAP.

RYAN KOCH MOVED THAT ALEXANDER-ROLISON COULD USE UP TO \$1,000 FROM THE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT LINE ITEM TO HAVE MARKETING ITEMS MADE, INCLUDING A BANNER AND HANDOUTS. SECONDED BY JESSICA BLAKELY. ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chairman Cook adjourned the meeting at 3:28 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Randi Alexander-Rolison

Administrator



Chairman Matthew Cook called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm.

Commissioners Present

Matthew Cook	Scott Zielinski	Ryan Koch	Laney Brentano	Andy Kraemer	Jessica Blakley	Megan Arritola	Tony Shepherd
P1	P2	P3	P4	P6	H1	H2	PM
Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y

Others present included; Eric Morris, ODA Commodity Commission Oversight Manager; Randi Alexander-Rolison, Administrator.

Minutes

The minutes from the November 10, 2023 meeting were provided to commissioners prior to the meeting. Chairman Cook asked if there were any corrections or conversation needed.

TONY SHEPHERD MOVED TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 10, 2023 MINUTES. SECONDED BY SCOTT ZIELINSKI. ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Financial Report

Administrator Randi Alexander-Rolison reported the financials of July 1, 2023 through December 8, 2023.

With a beginning balance of \$169,498.43 in the checking account, no assessments have been paid to date. Expenses July 1, 2023 through December 8, 2023 are \$41,894.51, leaving a balance in the checking account of \$127,603.92.

With a beginning balance of \$3,142.67 in the money market account and \$0.51 in earned interest, this gives a total in the mm account of \$3,143.18

Beginning Balance	\$169,498.43
<u>July - Dec 8 Expenses</u>	<u>\$ 41,894.51</u>
To-Date Balance in Checking	\$127,603.92

Money Market Beginning Balance	\$3,142.67
<u>July - October Interest Earned</u>	<u>\$ 0.51</u>
Ending Balance in MM	\$3,143.18

Cook asked the commissioners if there were questions about the financial report. Being none,

SCOTT ZIELINSKI MOVED TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT. SECONDED BY RYAN KOCH. ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Chairman's Report- Matthew Cook

Cook and Tony Shepherd attended the Hermiston Farm Fair on November 29 and 30. This event was put on by the Hermiston Extension Office, the two-day meeting hosted 53 continuing-education courses with speakers from Oregon State University, Washington State University, University of Idaho, Colorado State University, University of California, and USDA-ARS. The event included traditional and emerging topics of information ranging from breeding, crop protection, irrigation, nutrient management, and environmental protection, to cover crops, soil health, carbon sequestration, and AI techniques. OPVC was represented at a vendor booth where Cook and Shepherd had a goal to share info about what the commission does, and seek interest in those serving on the commission. Shepherd made connections with researchers and confirmed that a post-event survey will be sent out to attendees that will include OPVC contact information.

Cook expressed an interest in attending the Pacific Northwest Vegetable Association (PNVA) annual conference in November 2024 as an OPVC representative.

Oregon Department of Agriculture Report - Eric Morris, Commodity Commission Oversight Manager

Morris reported that Lisa Charpillot Hansen is the ODA Interim Director and will be officially appointed in the first part of 2024.

The North Valley Complex in Wilsonville is now open. Departments such as Oregon Dept of Administrative Services, Dungeness Crab, OSHA, and State Police will now be housed in this building. Commissioner recruitment will begin in January from the office of CCOM Morris.

ODA Oversight costs are currently being calculated. Commissions can expect a reduction in costs for this fiscal year in comparison to 2022-2023.

Old Business

Research projects funded in the 2023-24 year were reviewed and the commission determined if these priorities needed to be continued in the 2024-25 year. The determination for each currently funded project was:

Jessica Green: The Corn Earworm Conundrum: using VegNet data and resources to reassess activity patterns of an important pest. **OPVC would like to continue this work.**

Ruijun Qin: Evaluating Drone Imagery Applications for Sweet Corn Nitrogen Fertilization. **OPVC would like to continue this work.**

Jim Myers & Kristie Buckland: Nitrogen fertility requirements of new sweet corn hybrids.

Timothy Delbridge: Enterprise Budgets for Organic and Conventional Green Beans, Sweet Corn, Broccoli, and Cauliflower for the Processed Market. **This is not a continuing project.**

Jim Myers & Zak Wiegand: Green Bean Breeding for Abiotic and Biotic Stress Resistance, Yield and Quality. **OPVC will not be continuing this project.**

Lane Selman: Expanding on the Oregon Green Bean awareness campaign. **OPVC will not be continuing this project.**

Jim Myers: Broccoli Breeding for Heat Tolerance, Mechanical Harvest and Processing Quality. **OPVC would like to continue this work.**

2024-25 priorities and research topics:

Broccoli Breeding

Cauliflower Breeding

Snap Bean Maggots

Vegetable Pesticides

Best practices to combat Earworms, Corn Smut and Spinosad

Projects related to carrots

The previously submitted project "Novel uses of Frozen Corn and Frozen Green Beans for center of the plate meal patterns for the Child Nutrition Programs and Institutional Users" is something the commission would like the opportunity to consider again. A request will be sent to the PI for a reduction in work scope and price.

New Business

Annual Grower's Meeting is something that the OPVC would like to discuss with Alex Paraskevas from SEDCOR to learn what went well at the 2023 event and how this can be improved for the 2024 event. An invite will be sent to Paraskevas to attend the January meeting.

The group would like to invite Victor Willis to also attend the January meeting and present his findings from the 2020-2023 Specialty Crop Block Grant.

An agriculture student scholarship is an option the OPVC would like to consider funding. All commissioners have been tasked with finding an ag scholarship they like and bring to the January meeting to discuss with the group.

Cook shared with the group his recent trip to Africa. He and his group are working with local farmers to address processing needs, farm advances and other ag issues in the area.

The Research Review meeting will be held at the February 9th meeting, starting at 9 am with coffee and doughnuts, lunch break at 11:30 food provided from Qdoba. Each presenter will be allotted up to 15 minutes to present and answer questions.

Chairman Cook adjourned the meeting at 3:27 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Randi Alexander-Rolison

Administrator



Chairman Matthew Cook called the meeting to order at 2:02 pm.

Commissioners Present

Matthew Cook	Scott Zielinski	Ryan Koch	Laney Brentano	Andy Kraemer	Jessica Blakley	Megan Arritola	Tony Shepherd
P1	P2	P3	P4	P6	H1	H2	PM
Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y

Others present included; Eric Morris, ODA Commodity Commission Oversight Manager; Ryan Contreras, Oregon State University Dept. of Horticulture Associate Department Head / Professor; Victor Willis, Campbelltown Consulting; Alex Paraskevas, SEDCOR Polk County Business Retention & Expansion Manager; Molly Hames, Sourcing and Grower Relations Manager, Kerr by Ingredion; and Randi Alexander-Rolison, Administrator.

Minutes

The minutes from the December 8, 2023 meeting were provided to commissioners prior to the meeting. Chairman Cook asked if there were any corrections or conversation needed. Being none,

SCOTT ZIELINSKI MOVED TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE THE DECEMBER 8, 2023 MINUTES. SECONDED BY TONY SHEPHERD. ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Financial Report

Administrator Randi Alexander-Rolison reported the financials of July 1, 2023 through January 12, 2024. With a beginning balance of \$169,498.43 in the checking account, \$174,275.78 received in assessments, expenses of \$72,058.51, leaving a balance in the checking account of \$271,715.70.

Beginning Balance	\$169,498.43
Assessment Income	\$174,275.78
<u>July - Jan Expenses</u>	<u>\$ 72,058.51</u>
To-Date Balance in Checking	\$271,715.70

Cook asked the commissioners if there were questions about the financial report. Being none,

TONY SHEPHERD MOVED TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT. SECONDED BY SCOTT ZIELINSKI . ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Administrative Report

The OPVC will have four commissioner positions up for reappointment at the end of this fiscal year; Matthew Cook, Andy Kraemer, Scott Zielinski and the vacant producer 5.

Zielinski has stated he is not seeking a reappointment at this time. Cook urges all commissioners to reach out to growers across the state to get potential applicants.

The Commodity Commission Oversight Manager, Eric Morris worked with Dept. of Ag on a reduced rate oversight fee for the FY. The new rates were reviewed and approved by the Oversight Committee.

Oregon Department of Agriculture - Eric Morris

Morris reported all commissioner appointments that are expiring June 30, 2024 are being reviewed and is working with administrators to prepare commissions to fill vacancies where needed. Morris has a goal of appointments to be presented to the Director in April.

The Oregon Dept. of Agriculture is planning to update their list of open commissioner positions on the website in the coming days. Morris asked for commissioners to provide tips on how the recruitment process could be improved.

Currently applications for the USDA RFSI grant (\$2.4 million total) are being accepted.

ODA Market Access team trade missions are in planning stages for 24-25. Theresa Yoshioka, International Trade Manager, will be traveling to Japan for the Food X in March.

Oregon State University - Ryan Contreras

Contreras started by thanking the OPVC for their continued support of OSU programs and research.

The hiring process for a new dept head is coming closer to an end. A candidate will be on their second visit to the area mid February.

The Crop and Weed Scientist position has been accepted, background checks are currently being conducted. An official announcement will be made once all preliminary checks are passed.

Contreras mentioned Lane Selman and the great work being done with the Culinary Breeding Network (CBN). Funding has been requested to build this program, and Contreras expects the new department head will support seeking hard funding to advance CBN.

Commissioners are encouraged to speak out about the need and desire of a new vegetable breeder, when Jim Myers officially announces his retirement. Myers' program is supported by the Baggett-Frazier endowment established by the Oregon processed vegetable industry. The endowment will remain and will help in the processes of hiring a new breeder. Contreras suggested the OPVC consider what is valued in the vegetable breeding program and if there are other tasks or focus areas this position should consider taking on. Although Meyers has mentored others in the program, there is not a suitable apprentice ready to step up. The OPVC will be asked to have a representative on the screening committee when the position is posted.

Old Business

Ag scholarship samples were submitted by commissioners prior to the meeting. A brief overview of the examples were discussed. A Scholarship Committee was created with Tony Shepherd, Matthew Cook, Ryan Koch, and Megan Arritola. A plan to meet prior to February 9 will be scheduled.

Laney Brentao made the suggestion that families of farms paying assessments should also be eligible for the scholarship.

Cook will reach out to Jim Gill to ask if there was a previously funded OPVC scholarship and Alexander-Rolison will look through archives.

New Business

Research books will be completed and emailed out once two outstanding reports are submitted.

Lane Selman will not be submitting a new proposal. Selman did suggest the OPVC participate in the Variety Showcase event at The Redd in Portland on September 8, 2024. OPVC could have a table at this event to promote the organization and be matched with a chef to prepare a dish for attendees (likely 500 people). The costs would be \$500 for table fee, \$500 stipend (plus ingredient reimbursement) to pay the partner chef and the OPVC would need to provide the chef with the product to cook (i.e. frozen green beans). Alexander-Rolison stated that if this is an event the OPVC would want to participate in, it would need to be included in the 2024-25 budget.

Locally Grown Supply Chain Event - Alex Paraskevas

Paraskevas joined the meeting to gather feedback from those that attended the Locally Grown Supply Chain Event on November 9, 2023.

The group discussed options for a future event; participants from across the state, location, and more versatile buyer options. A virtual option with breakout sessions was offered as a way to have more state-wide access.

Victor Willis

Willis was part of the Specialty Crop Block Grant the OPVC received for 2020-2023 and was on the call to answer questions from the commission. His portion of the report had 23 recommendations, consumer and crop insights for broccoli, green beans and broccoli in Oregon.

Chairman Cook adjourned the meeting at 3:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Randi Alexander-Rolison

Administrator



Chairman Matthew Cook called the Research Review to order at 9:05 am

Commissioners Present

Matthew Cook	Scott Zielinski	Ryan Koch	Laney Brentano	Andy Kraemer	Jessica Blakley	Megan Arritola	Tony Shepherd
P1	P2	P3	P4	P6	H1	H2	PM
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Others present included; Eric Morris, ODA Commodity Commission Oversight Manager; Jim Myers, OSU Dept. of Horticulture Professor-Endowed; Tim Delbridge, OSU Dept of Applied Economics Assistant Professor; Cydney Diaz, OSU Student Research Assistant; Josephine Antwi, OSU Extension Services; Zak Wiegand, OSU Dept of Food & Science Technology Faculty Research Assistant; Lane Selman, OSU Dept of Horticulture Assistant Professor; Marcia Walker, OSU Director of the Food Innovation Center; Tajamul Hussain, OSU Hermiston Ag Research and Extension Center Postdoctoral Scholar; Ray Quin, OSU Hermiston Ag Research and Extension Center Assistant Professor; Jessica Green, OSU Entomology Program PSEP Trainer / Ag. Extension; and Randi Alexander-Rolison, Administrator.

Research Reports and Proposals

The OPVC heard research reports from those currently being funded and proposals for new projects to be considered in the 24-25 FY. With a few technical glitches (thank you all for your patience and support) reports were concluded by 11:50 am.

Total requested funding for the 24-25 FY \$115,242

Evaluation of entomopathogenic fungi against seedcorn maggot in sweet corn, \$23, 287

Broccoli breeding and evaluation, \$10, 919

Nitrogen fertility requirements of new sweet corn, \$14,928

Evaluating drone imagery applications for sweet corn nitrogen fertilization, \$25,830

Evaluating Nitryx SP for sweet corn in Eastern Oregon, \$9,078

Novel uses for frozen corn and frozen green beans for center of the plate meal patterns for the child nutrition programs and institutional users, \$24,200

Expanding the reach of regional insect pest monitoring, \$7,000

BREAK

Cook called the regular meeting to order at 12:22 pm

Minutes

The minutes from the January 12, 2024 meeting were provided to commissioners prior to the meeting.

Chairman Cook asked if there were any corrections or conversation needed. Being one; ODA report date needs to be corrected from June 30, 20204 to June 30, 2024.

SCOTT ZIELINSKI MOVED TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE THE JANUARY 12, 2024 MINUTES. SECONDED BY RYAN KOCH. ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Financial Report

Administrator Randi Alexander-Rolison reported the financials of July 1, 2023 through February 2, 2024. With a beginning balance of \$169,498.43 in the checking account, \$174,275.78 received in assessments, expenses of \$73,033.66, leaving a balance in the checking account of \$270,740.55.

Beginning Balance	\$169,498.43
Assessment Income	\$174,275.78
<u>July - Jan Expenses</u>	<u>\$ 72,058.51</u>
To-Date Balance in Checking	\$270,740.55

Alexander-Rolison reported estimated expenses for the remainder for the fiscal year are \$66,000, leaving a potential carryover and beginning balance for 24-25 of \$204,000. A rough breakdown of 24-25 numbers, including carryover, a requested raise in administrative services, and other expenses shows a potential for \$52,958 remaining in the budget before 24 crop year assessments are brought in.

Carryover	\$204,000
Fully Funded Research	(\$115,242)
<u>Potential Expenses 23-24</u>	<u>(\$35,800)</u>
Remaining in OPVC budget	\$52,958

A more accurate breakdown of these numbers will be provided prior to the next meeting, however this was provided to give commissioners an idea of the financial climate for the year ahead when considering research funding.

Cook asked the commissioners if there were questions about the financial report. Being none,

SCOTT ZIELINSKI MOVED TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT. SECONDED BY MEGAN ARRITOLA. ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN, MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Oregon Department of Agriculture - Eric Morris

Morris reported he is working on 66 commissioner positions that are either open or have terms expiring June 30.

The senate confirmed the appointment of Lisa Charpillouz Hanson as ODA Director on Feb 9, 2024. One of the main priorities is the update to the strategic plan.

Morris confirmed that when a commission has a committee, all meetings are required to be held publicly, or accessible online, publicly noticed 24 hours minimum in advance, although one week is preferred. A recording of the meeting and/or minutes must also be provided.

Oregon State University - Jim Myers

Myers reported that the position of Department Head of Horticulture has been offered to a candidate. Lane Selman and the Culinary Breeding Network are high priority for staffing and to receive hard funding.

Myers confirmed his plan to retire is in the works. In July he will reduce his time to .50 FTE to focus on research for the following year, possibly two.

Aaron Becerra-Alvarez has been hired as the Department of Horticulture tenure track Extension Assistant Professor, in integrated weed management for processed and fresh market vegetables and specialty seed industries.

Old Business

The Scholarship Committee will meet via Zoom on Tuesday Feb 13th.

New Business

Myers requested that due dates and presentations for research reports be separate from new proposals. If reports could be due in December, presented in January this would allow for feedback from OPVC to improve new proposals to be due at the end of January and presented in February.

OSU puts on an annual Vegetable Grower Seminar, sponsored in-part by Wibur Ellis. It was requested that the OPVC look into working with Michelle Armstong and Kristie Buckland to be a part of this event and help promote to grower contacts.

Crop estimate requests will be going out from the administrator in the following week. It was reported that Diana's production will be half of what the 2023 crop was.

A request was made to have a link on the OPVC website to Veg Net and Culinary Breeding Network sites.

Chairman Cook adjourned the meeting at 1:20 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:
Randi Alexander-Rolison
Administrator



Chairman Matthew Cook called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm

Commissioners Present

Matthew Cook	Scott Zielinski	Ryan Koch	Laney Brentano	Andy Kraemer	Jessica Blakley	Megan Arritola	Tony Shepherd
P1	P2	P3	P4	P6	H1	H2	PM
Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y

Others present included; Eric Morris, ODA Commodity Commission Oversight Manager; Nick Andrews, OSU Organic Vegetable Extension specialist; Ryan Contreras, OSU Dept. of Horticulture Professor; Kristie Buckland, OSU Dept. of Horticulture Associate Professor; Alex Paraskevas, SEDCOR Polk County Business Retention & Expansion Manager; and Randi Alexander-Rolison, Administrator.

Minutes

The minutes from the February 9, 2024 research review and meeting were provided to commissioners prior to the meeting. Chairman Cook asked if there were any corrections or conversation needed. Being two spelling corrections (Cook and Koch),

TONY SHEPHERD MOVED TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 9, 2024 MINUTES. SECONDED BY MEGAN ARRITOLA. THE MOTION PASSED WITH A UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Financial Report

Administrator Randi Alexander-Rolison reported the financials of July 1, 2023 through February 29, 2024. With a beginning balance of \$169,498.43 in the checking account, \$174,275.78 received in assessments, expenses of \$131,749.96, leaving a balance in the checking account of \$212,024.25.

Beginning Balance	\$169,498.43
Assessment Income	\$174,275.78
<u>July - Feb Expenses</u>	<u>\$131,749.96</u>
To-Date Balance in Checking	\$212,024.25

Alexander-Rolison reported a past-due assessment payment of \$6,000 was expected to be received in the mail soon. This would increase the carryover amount predicted for the 2024-25 fiscal year to \$206,288.60

Cook asked the commissioners if there were questions about the financial report. Being none,

TONY SHEPHERD MOVED TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT. SECONDED

BY MEGAN ARRITOLA. THE MOTION PASSED WITH A UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Oregon Department of Agriculture - Eric Morris

Morris reported he is continuing to work on commissioner appointments, and the OPVC received two re-appointment applications and still has two open positions needing to be filled.

Oregon State University - Ryan Contreras

Contreras reported that the position of Department Head of Horticulture has been offered and this person will begin work in June.

Aaron Becerra-Alvarez has been hired as the Department of Horticulture tenure track Extension Assistant Professor, in integrated weed management for processed and fresh market vegetables and specialty seed industries.

The Biotechnology Specialist has been hired and will begin in July.

Contreras will continue to be our OSU point-of-contact through June and will work with the new department head to transition communication and representation with OPVC.

Surendra Dara took an Extension Entomologist position to address the arthropod pest issues of horticultural crops in Oregon. A new head of the North Willamette Research & Extension Center will be named by Dean Simonich after conducting a thorough search for the replacement.

Old Business

The Scholarship Committee put together an OPVC Scholarship for review and consideration by the commission. After review of the scholarship and application form, no edits or revisions were recommended.

TONY SHEPHERD MOVED TO APPROVE \$10,000 BE DESIGNATED IN THE 2024-25 BUDGET FOR SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS. SECONDED BY MEGAN ARRITOLA. THE MOTION PASSED WITH A UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Research Proposals

Kristie Buckland was requested to submit research proposals for funding consideration in the 2024-25 fiscal year. Buckland presented both; “cropping system management to reduce soil borne Fusarium disease” and “Precision Ag Tools: Seeding, Weeding, and Application Systems Demonstration and Evaluation”

Alexander-Rolison reported that talking with Marcia Walker on the “Center of the Plate” proposal concluded in the proposal being opened up to include all vegetable represented by OPVC, increasing the total funding request to \$26,540.00

After discussion on each of the research proposals submitted for funding consideration, the board approved to fund the following;

Project	PI	Amount Funded
Broccoli Breeding and Evaluation	Jim Myers	10,919.00
Nitrogen fertility requirements of new sweet corn hybrids	Jim Myers & Kristie Buckland	14,928.00
Evaluation of entomopathogenic fungi against seedcorn maggot in sweet corn	Josephine Antwi	23,287.00

Evaluating Nitryx SP for sweet corn in Eastern Oregon	Ruijun Qin	9,078.00
Precision Ag Tools: Seeding, Weeding and Application Systems	Kristie Buckland	16,500.00
Expanding the reach of regional Insect Pest Monitoring	Jessica Green	7,727.00
	Total	82,439.00

MEGAN ARRITOLA MOVED TO APPROVE RESEARCH FUNDING FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR AT \$82,439.00. SECONDED BY LANEY BRENTANO. THE MOTION PASSED WITH A UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Assessment Prices

Alexander-Rolison explained that the average estimated price will come from the packer; they set the contract price to be paid to the grower. These prices will be collected ahead of the budget planning meeting. ORS 576.325 limits the maximum assessment to one half of one percent of the estimated price.

RYAN KOCH MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2024-25 ASSESSMENT PRICES OF EACH CROP AS FOLLOWS;

BEETS \$0

BROCCOLI \$3.000

CARROTS \$0.500

CAULIFLOWER \$1.000

GREEN BEANS \$1.000

SWEET CORN \$0.466

SECONDED BY MEGAN ARRITOLA. THE MOTION PASSED WITH A UNANIMOUS VOTE.

2024-25 Proposed Budget

Alexander-Rolison reported expenses anticipated for the remainder of the 2023-24 fiscal year and discussed each line item of the proposed 2024-25 budget.

LANEY BRENTANO MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2024-2025 OPVC BUDGET AT \$332,246.32 (EXHIBIT A). SECONDED BY MEGAN ARRITOLA. THE MOTION PASSED WITH A UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Chairman Cook adjourned the meeting at 4:37 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:
Randi Alexander-Rolison
Administrator



Vice Chairman Scott Zielinski called the meeting to order and opened the Budget Hearing for the 2024-25 OPVC budget and the proposed 2024 assessment rates at 2:06 pm.

Commissioners Present

Matthew Cook	Scott Zielinski	Ryan Koch	Laney Brentano	Andy Kraemer	Jessica Blakley	Megan Arritola	Tony Shepherd
P1	P2	P3	P4	P6	H1	H2	PM
Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Others present included; Eric Morris, ODA Commodity Commission Oversight Manager; Nick Andrews, OSU Organic Vegetable Extension specialist; Aaron Becerra-Alvarez, OSU Department of Horticulture Head; and Randi Alexander-Rolison, Administrator.

Oregon Department of Agriculture

Eric Morris reported round one of commissioner appointments is closed and the applications received will go to the director soon. OPVC has two open positions, P2 and P5. Round two of appointments will take place late May into early June to fill remaining open positions.

As a result of the ODA Round-Up and meeting law changes introduced by DOJ attorney Rachel Weisshaar, Morris has been talking with the Ethics Committee on how these meeting laws are impeding commodity commissions and natural conversation. Morris explained the biggest rule commissions need to be aware of is not having “serial meetings”. No conversation outside of a public meeting that involves something needing a decision or motion can happen between commissioners. Conversation about crops, pricing and the commission in general is acceptable.

Oregon State University

Aaron Becerra-Alvarez has been hired as the Department of Horticulture tenure track Extension Head. He took a few moments to introduce himself.

New Business

A meeting schedule for the 2024-25 FY was discussed. The group agreed to keep it to the second Friday of the month, 10:00 am starting in November.

Tony Shepherd will confirm the dates of PNVA to avoid a conflict of meeting during that conference. **The dates have been confirmed as November 13-14, 2024.**

Alexander-Rolison requested that a new bill payment system be utilized to streamline the payment process by going online and using Bill.com to direct pay invoices and stop sending checks for double signature via USPS.

ANDY KRAEMER MOVED FOR OPVC TO USE BILL.COM TO TRACK AND PAY INVOICES. THE ADMINISTRATOR WILL UPLOAD INVOICES TO BILL.COM AS THE COMMISSION RECEIVES THEM. APPROVALS TO PAY WILL COME FROM BOTH THE CURRENT CHAIR AND TREASURER. SECONDED BY TONY SHEPHERD. THE MOTION PASSED WITH A UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Minutes

The minutes from the March 22, 2024 meeting were provided to commissioners prior to the meeting. They were asked if there were any corrections or conversation needed. Being none,

TONY SHEPHERD MOVED TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE THE MARCH 22, 2024 MINUTES. SECONDED BY RYAN KOCH. THE MOTION PASSED WITH A UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Financial Report

Administrator Randi Alexander-Rolison reported the financials of July 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024. With a beginning balance of \$169,498.43 in the checking account, \$180,278.89 received in assessments, expenses of \$131,749.96, leaving a balance in the checking account of \$218,027.36.

Beginning Balance for Checking	\$169,498.43
Assessment Income	\$180,278.89
<u>July - March Expense</u>	<u>\$131,749.96</u>
To-Date Balance in Checking	\$218,027.36

Beginning Balance for MM	\$3,142.67
<u>Interest Earned</u>	<u>\$ 1.13</u>
To-Date Balance in MM	\$3,143.80

Estimated total revenue and cash in both accounts at the end of the fiscal year was reported at \$352,921.48. Estimated total expenses for the year were reported at \$137,373.21, giving an ending balance/carryover amount of \$215,548.27.

Total Est Rev	\$352,921.48
<u>Total Est Exp</u>	<u>(137,373.21)</u>
Est Carryover	\$215,548.27

RYAN KOCH MOVED TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL REPORT. SECONDED BY MEGAN ARRITOLA. THE MOTION PASSED WITH A UNANIMOUS VOTE.

RYAN KOCH MOVED TO CLOSE THE HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED 2024-25 BUDGET AND THE 2024 CROP ASSESSMENT RATES AT 2:28PM. SECONDED BY MEGAN ARRITOLA. THE MOTION PASSED WITH A UNANIMOUS VOTE.

TONY SHEPHERD MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2024-2025 OPVC BUDGET AT \$332,246.32. SECONDED BY SCOTT ZIELINSKI. THE MOTION PASSED WITH A UNANIMOUS VOTE.

SCOTT ZIELINSKI MOVED TO APPROVE THE 2024 CROP ASSESSMENT RATES;
Beans – \$1.00 per ton based on the net weight of the beans delivered.
Sweet Corn – \$0.4660 per ton based on the gross weight of the sweet corn delivered.
Table Beets – \$0.000 per ton based on the net weight of the table beets delivered.
Carrots – \$0.500 per ton based on the net weight of the carrots delivered.
Broccoli – \$3.00 per ton based on the net weight of the broccoli delivered.
Cauliflower – \$1.000 per ton based on the net weight of the cauliflower delivered.
SECONDED BY MEGAN ARRITOLA. THE MOTION PASSED WITH A UNANIMOUS VOTE.

JESSICA BLAKLEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES CONTRACT BETWEEN OPCV AND RANDI ALEXANDER-ROLISON AT \$25,020. SECONDED BY SCOTT ZIELINSKI. THE MOTION PASSED WITH A UNANIMOUS VOTE.

ANDY KREAMER MOVED TO APPROVE RANDI ALEXANDER-ROLISON TO SIGN THE CONTRACT BETWEEN OPVC AND AG RESEARCH FOUNDATION FOR THE 24-25 RESEARCH PROJECTS. SECONDED BY MEGAN ARRITOLA THE MOTION PASSED WITH A UNANIMOUS VOTE.

Nick Andrews asked that an overview of OPVC be provided to him and Aaron Becerra-Alvarez. Chairman Cook provided a timeline of what each meeting consists of, how we assess crops, review research, create the budget and work with OSU. An explanation of why the OPVC stopped hosting an annual meeting was also provided, and that we will be joining OSU for a Willamette Valley Vegetable Education Day at the North Willamette Research and Education Center.

Thank you Scott Zelinski for your time and years of service for the commission!

Cook encouraged the commissioners to reach out to growers and get the two open positions filled. Cook would prefer to not serve as Chair next year, requesting that current commission members consider stepping up to be on the Executive Team.

Chairman Cook adjourned the meeting at 2:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Randi Alexander-Rolison
Administrator