## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION

A meeting of the Board of Directors (Board) of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) was held November 14-15, 2019, in Washington, DC. The public was invited to attend the open session portion of the meeting. Meeting November 14-15, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm on November 14, 2019.

Call to Order Open Session

The Board immediately went into executive session to discuss confidential matters with Risk Management Agency (RMA) staff and submitters of private products under section 508(h) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (Act).

**Executive Session** 

Open session of the Board reconvened on November 15, 2019, at 11:15 am.

Reconvene Open Session

Maureen James read the recitation to all members of the Board to advise the Board of its responsibilities in representing the interests of the FCIC and USDA and advised each member to act accordingly.

Recitation

The Chairman requested Board members to introduce themselves. Present were Rob Johansson, Chief Economist, USDA; James Bardenhagen, Kenneth Sneed, John Finston, Iris Saenz, Michael Clemens, and Martin Barbre, Manager, FCIC, constituting a statutory quorum, and Robin Anderson, Secretary, FCIC.

Present

Also present were Heather Manzano, Delores Dean, Richard Flournoy, Tom Worth, Francie Tolle, Shaun Collins, David Zanoni, RJ Layher, Mike Ciliege, and Keith Gray, RMA; Maureen James, Office of the General Counsel; Allen Yeatts, American Farm Bureau; Hunt Shipman, Cornerstone Government Affairs; Clif Parks and Brandon McDonald, AgriLogic, LLC.

Present by phone were: Tara Ponds, Chandra Mason, Cody Lovercamp, Galen Tuley, Chris Aulbur, Matthew Mitchell, and, Zachary White, RMA; Rickey Bearden, FCIC Board Member. Chairman Johansson asked Administrator Barbre for the Manager's Report. Mr. Barbre stated that the <u>Manager's Report</u> is available on line.

Manager's Report

Hearing no objection, Dr. Johansson agreed to dispense with a reading of the Manager's Report. (Exhibit 4575)

Dispense with Reading Report

A motion was made and seconded to dispense with the reading of the Minutes and to approve the Minutes of the Board Meetings held on September 20, 2019, (Exhibit 4576) and October 19, 2019. (Exhibit 4577) Dispense with Reading Minutes

The motion carried. (Exhibit 4576 and 4577)

**Approved** 

Chairman Johansson offered the following resolution for Docket No. CI-Section 522(b) Concept Proposal 154 11-15-19 01, which was seconded:

Concept Proposal 154

WHEREAS, Section 522(b) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (Act) requires the Board to enter into contracts with persons with qualifications appropriate to review the type of concept proposal submitted for reviews of a concept proposal proposed to be developed under section 508(h) of the Act, NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That pursuant to the information contained Docket No. CI-Section 522(b) Concept Proposal 154 11-15-19 01, Exhibit 4578, the Board approves expert review for Concept Proposal 154, and directs that the Manager of the Corporation be authorized to take such action as necessary to enter into and execute contracts with the Board approved persons or entities or the alternates in case the proposed persons are not available.

There being no discussion, the Board voted to approve the resolution. (Exhibit 4578) (One member abstained)

Approved

Chairman Johansson offered the following resolution for Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Confidential Submission 0085 Modification 11-15-19 02, which was seconded:

Confidential Submission 0085 Modification

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the information contained in Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Confidential Submission 0085 Modification 11-15-19 02, Exhibit 4579, as well as other materials that were

submitted to the Board on this matter, the Board hereby approves Confidential Submission 0085 Modification, with revisions as discussed in Executive Session, beginning with the crop year the Manager determines is practicable with reinsurance and administrative and operating subsidy in amounts and under such terms and conditions as determined appropriate by the Manager as authorized under section 508(h) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act. NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Board delegates to the Manager the authority to make such technical policy changes as are necessary to make the policy legally sufficient.

There being no discussion, the Board voted to approve the resolution. (Exhibit 4579) (One member abstained)

Approved

Chairman Johansson offered the following resolution for Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Confidential Submission 0082 11-15-19 02, which was seconded:

Confidential Submission 0082

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the information contained in Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Confidential Submission 0082 11-15-19 02, Exhibit 4580, as well as other materials that were submitted to the Board on this matter, the Board hereby approves Confidential Submission 0082, beginning with the crop year the Manager determines is practicable with reinsurance and administrative and operating subsidy in amounts and under such terms and conditions as determined appropriate by the Manager as authorized under section 508(h) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Board delegates to the Manager the authority to make such technical policy changes as are necessary to make the policy legally sufficient.

There being no discussion, the Board voted to approve the resolution. (Exhibit 4580) (One member abstained)

**Approved** 

The next agenda item was Docket No. CI-Section 522(b) Concept Proposal 152 11-15-19 02, which was tabled per discussion in executive session.

Concept Proposal 152 Tabled The next agenda item was Docket No. CI-Section 522(b) Concept Proposal 151 11-15-19 02, which was seconded:

Concept Proposal 151

WHEREAS, Section 522(b) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (Act) requires the Board to consider paying an advance payment of up to 50 percent for research and development costs of a concept proposal that will be developed in to a complete and of sufficient quality 508(h) submission, NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That pursuant to the information contained in Docket No. CI-Section 522(b) Concept Proposal 151 11-15-19 02, Exhibit 4582, the Board approves the advance payment of \$147,000, for Concept Proposal 151 as authorized under section 522(b) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act, the regulations published at 7 C.F.R. part 400, Subpart V, and the Approved Procedures for Reimbursements and Determination of Reasonableness Related to Reimbursement Expenses for Concept Proposals, 508(h) Submissions and User Fee Requests.

By accepting the advance payment or additional advance payment, the applicant agrees to provide a submission consistent with section 508(h) of the Act to the Board in the July 2020 submission period.

There being no discussion, the Board voted to approve the resolution. (Exhibit 4582) (One member abstained)

Chairman Johansson offered the following resolution for Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Confidential Submission 0084 Modification 11-15-19 01, which was seconded:

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the information contained in Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Confidential Submission 0084 Modification 11-15-19 01, Exhibit 4583, as well as other materials that were submitted to the Board on this matter, the Board hereby approves Confidential Submission 0084 Modification, with revisions as discussed in Executive Session, beginning with the crop year the Manager determines is practicable with reinsurance and administrative and operating subsidy in amounts and under such terms and conditions as determined appropriate by the Manager as authorized under section 508(h) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Board delegates to the Manager the authority to make such technical

Approved

Confidential Submission 0084 Modification policy changes as are necessary to make the policy legally sufficient.

There being no discussion, the Board voted to approve the resolution. (Exhibit 4583)

**Approved** 

Chairman Johansson offered the following resolution for Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Submission Nursery Value Select Insurance Program 11-15-19 02, which was seconded:

Nursery Value Select Insurance

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the information contained in Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Submission Nursery Value Select Insurance Program 11-15-19 02, Exhibit 4584, as well as other materials that were submitted to the Board on this matter, the Board hereby approves the Nursery Value Select Insurance Program, with revisions as discussed, beginning with the crop year the Manager determines is practicable with reinsurance and administrative and operating subsidy in amounts and under such terms and conditions as determined appropriate by the Manager as authorized under section 508(h) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act. NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Board delegates to the Manager the authority to make such technical policy changes as are necessary to make the policy legally sufficient.

There being no discussion, the Board voted to approve the resolution. (Exhibit 4584)

**Approved** 

The next agenda item was Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Submission Wind Index-Hurricane Insurance Protection 11-15-19 02, which was seconded:

Wind Index-Hurricane Insurance Protection

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the information contained in Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Submission Wind Index-Hurricane Insurance Protection 11-15-19 02, Exhibit 4585, as well as other materials that were submitted to the Board on this matter, the Board hereby approves the Wind Index-Hurricane Insurance Protection Program, with revisions as discussed, beginning with the crop year the Manager determines is practicable with reinsurance and administrative and operating subsidy in amounts and under such terms and conditions as determined appropriate by the Manager as

authorized under section 508(h) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act. NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Board delegates to the Manager the authority to make such technical policy changes as are necessary to make the policy legally sufficient.

There being no discussion, the Board voted to approve the resolution. (Exhibit 4585)

**Approved** 

The next agenda item was the Docket for the Pistachio Pilot Program 11-15-19 02, which was tabled.

Pistachio Pilot Program Tabled

There being no further business the Board voted to adjourn and to meet again February 25-27, 2020, in Washington, D.C.

Adjourn

November 15, 2019

/signed/

Robin Anderson, Secretary Federal Crop Insurance Corporation