## 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 on March 18, 2021, via videoconference. Meeting February 23-24, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am on February 23, 2021.

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 February 24, 2021, at 10:30 am.

Reconvene Open Session

Sam Pogue 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

Present were Seth Meyer, Chief Economist, Richard Flournoy, Michael Clemens, Rickey Bearden, Nicole Berg, Kenneth Selzer, Scott Silveus, Pat Swanson constituting a statutory quorum, and Robin Anderson, Secretary, FCIC.

Present

Also present were Keith Gray, Shaun Collins, David Zanoni, Francie Tolle, Tom Worth, Robert DuBois, Andrew Mawson, Ryan Seely, Kay Hedrick, and Mike Ciliege, RMA; Jeanne Lindsey, Kathryn Taylor, Valdosta Office; and Kathy Walker, Raleigh Office; Dana Trytten, FPAC Business Center; and Maureen James and Sam Pogue, Office of the General Counsel; Clif Parks, Kim Harris, and Nichole Glueck; AgriLogic, Kim Arrigo, Arrigo Risk Consulting, Barry Goodwin, Consultant for Mainstream Data, Bob McClure, Ron LeMay, and Greg Mills, Mainstream Data.

Chairman Meyer asked Acting Administrator Richard Flournoy for the Manager's Report. Mr. Flournoy stated that the <u>Manager's</u> Report is available on line. Manager's Report

Hearing no objection, Dr. Meyer agreed to dispense with a reading of the Manager's Report. (Exhibit 4655)

Dispense with Reading Report

A motion was made and seconded to dispense with the reading of the November 2020, December 2020 and January 2021 Minutes and to approve the Minutes of those Board Meetings. (Exhibits 4556, 4557 and 4558) Dispense with Reading Minutes

The motion carried. (Exhibits 4556, 4557 and 4558)

Chairman Meyer offered the following resolution for Docket No. Cl-Section 508(h) Submission Pecan Tree User Fee Request 02-24-21 01, Exhibit 4559, which was seconded.

Pecan Tree User Fee Request

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the information contained in Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Submission Pecan Tree User Fee Request 02-24-21 01, Exhibit 4559, as well as other material submitted to the Board on this matter, the Board hereby approves the user fee of 3.5 percent per premium dollar earned, up to an annual maximum of \$80,000, to be applied as a percent of premium for the Pecan Tree policy beginning with the 2021 reinsurance year, 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 522(b)(4)(D) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act.

There being no discussion, the Board voted to approve the resolution. (Exhibit 4559)

**Approved** 

Chairman Meyer offered the following resolution for Docket No. Cl-Section 508(h) Submission Triticale User Fee Request 02-24-21 01, Exhibit 4560, which was seconded.

Triticale User Fee Request

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the information contained in Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Submission Triticale User Fee Request 02-24-21 01, Exhibit 4560, as well as other material submitted to the Board on this matter, the Board hereby approves the user fee of 4.3 percent per premium dollar earned, up to an annual maximum of \$65,000, to be applied as a percent of premium for the Triticale policy beginning with the 2022 reinsurance year, 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 522(b)(4)(D) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act.

There being no discussion, the Board voted to approve the resolution. (Exhibit 4560)

**Approved** 

The Chairman offered the following resolution for Docket No. Cl-Section 522(b) Concept Proposal 160 02-24-21 01, Exhibit 4561, which was seconded.

Concept Proposal 160

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 160 02-24-21 01, Exhibit 4561, the Board approves the advance payment of \$235,034, for Concept Proposal 160, 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 2022, submission period.

There being no discussion, the Board voted to approve the resolution. (Exhibit 4561)

Approved

On the agenda was Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Confidential Submission 0095 02-24-21 01, Exhibit 4562, which was withdrawn per discussions in Executive Session.

Withdrawn

Next the Chairman offered the following resolution for Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Pulse Crop Revenue Modification 02-24-21-01, Exhibit 4563, which was seconded.

Pulse Crop Revenue Modification RESOLVED, that pursuant to the information contained in Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Pulse Crop Revenue Modification 02-24-21-01, Exhibit 4563, as well as other material submitted to the Board on this matter, the Board hereby approves 508(h) Submission Pulse Crop Revenue 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 4563)

Next, the Chairman offered the following resolution for Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Confidential Submission 0098 02-24-21 01, Exhibit 4565, which was seconded.

WHEREAS, Section 505(e) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (Act) requires the Board to enter into contracts with persons experienced as actuaries and in underwriting for reviews of any policy or plan of insurance, or any related material or modification of a policy or plan of insurance proposed to be offered under the Act, NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That pursuant to the information contained in Docket No. Cl-Section 508(h) Confidential Submission 0098 02-24-21 01, Exhibit 4565, the Board approves expert review for Confidential Submission 0098, 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 4565) (1 member abstained)

Lastly, the Chairman offered the following resolution for Docket No. CI-Section Hurricane Insurance Protection - Wind Index Program Modification 02-24-21 01, Exhibit 4566, which was seconded.

Approved

Confidential Submission 0098

Approved

RESOLVED that pursuant to the information contained in Docket No. CI-Section Hurricane Insurance Protection - Wind Index Program Modification 02-24-21 01, Exhibit 4566, as well as other material submitted to the Board on this matter, the Board hereby delegates to the Manager the authority to expand the Wind Index-Hurricane Insurance Protection Program to new programs or expansions, as appropriate. The Board also hereby waives the requirement that the policy be made available for sale sixty days before the earliest sales closing date.

There being no discussion, the Board voted to approve the resolution. (Exhibit 4566)

**Approved** 

There being no further business the Board voted to adjourn and to meet again May 19-21, 2021, location TBD.

Adjourn

February 24, 2021

/signed/

Robin Anderson, Secretary Federal Crop Insurance Corporation