

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 May 20-21, 2020, via videoconference and phone. The public was invited to attend the open session portion of the meeting.

Meeting
May 20-21, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 10:15 am on May 20, 2020.

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 May 21, 2020, at 11:00 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 by phone were Rob Johansson, Chief Economist, Bill Northey, Under Secretary Farm Production and Conservation, USDA; James Bardenhagen, Kenneth Sneed, John Finston, Iris Saenz, Michael Clemens, Rickey Bearden and Martin Barbre, Manager, FCIC, constituting a statutory quorum, and Robin Anderson, Secretary, FCIC.

Present

Also present by phone were Richard Flournoy, Shaun Collins, David Zaroni, Mike Ciliege, Francie Tolle, Doug Peine, and Delores Dean, RMA; Maureen James and Samuel Pogue, Office of the General Counsel; Ashley Hungerford, Office of the Chief Economist; Hunt Shipman, Cornerstone Government Affairs; Clif Parks and Brandon McDonald, Madilyn Nunez, and Kim Harris,

AgriLogic, LLC; Rob Cerda, CIS; Deborah Marsh, Sheep Venture Co.; and Fred Hoesner, National Sustainable Ag. Co.

Chairman Johansson asked Administrator Barbre for the Manager's Report. Mr. Barbre stated that the [Manager's Report](#) is available on line and a few highlights in the report are Prevented Planting Supplemental Disaster Payments, flexibilities that RMA is offering due to COVID 19 and a couple of personnel announcements. Delores Dean is the new Deputy Administrator for Insurance Services and Melissa Janssen is the Associate Deputy Administrator for Insurance Services.

Manager's Report

Hearing no objection, Dr. Johansson agreed to dispense with a reading of the Manager's Report. (Exhibit 4606)

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 March 4-5, 2020, (Exhibit 4607).

Dispense with Reading Minutes

The motion carried. (Exhibit 4606 and 4607)

Approved

The first agenda item was Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Confidential Submission 0081 05-21-20 01, which was seconded:

Confidential Submission 0081

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the information contained in Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Confidential Submission 0081 05-21-20 01, Exhibit 4608, as well as other material submitted to the Board on this matter, the Board hereby approves Confidential Submission 0081, 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. The Board also hereby approves the termination of the Citrus Dollar Plan effective two years after this submission is made available to producers. 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 4608) (1 member abstained)

Approved

Chairman Johansson offered the following resolution for Docket No. CI-Section, 522(b) Concept Proposal 155 05-21-20 02, which was seconded:

Concept Proposal
155

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 155 05-21-20 02, Exhibit 4609, the Board approves the advance payment of \$198,381, for Concept Proposal 155, 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 January 2022, submission period.

There being no discussion, the Board voted to approve the resolution. (Exhibit 4609) (1 member abstained)

Approved

Chairman Johansson offered the following resolution for Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Confidential Submission 0090 Modification, which was seconded:

Confidential
Submission 0090
Modification

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the information contained in Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Confidential Submission 0090 Modification 05-21-20 01, Exhibit 4610, as well as other material submitted to the Board on this matter, the Board hereby approves Confidential Submission 0090 Modification, 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 4610)

Approved

Chairman Johansson offered the following resolution for Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Submission Pulse Crop Revenue Modification 05-21-20 01, which was seconded:

Pulse Crop Revenue Modification

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the information contained in Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Submission Pulse Crop Revenue Modification 05-21-20 01, Exhibit 4611, as well as other material submitted to the Board on this matter, the Board hereby approves the Pulse Crop Revenue Modification, 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 4611)

Approved

The next agenda item was Docket No. CI-Section Actual Production History Forage Seed Imperial County, California Deletion 05-21-20 01, which was seconded:

Actual Production History Forage Seed

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the information contained in Docket No. CI-Section Actual Production History Forage Seed Imperial

County, California Deletion 05-21-20 01, Exhibit 4612, as well as other material submitted to the Board on this matter, the Board hereby approves the Actual Production History Forage Seed Imperial County, California Deletion, 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. AND 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 4612)

Approved

Chairman Johansson offered the following resolution the Docket for the Strawberry Production and Revenue History Insurance Program 05-21-20 02, which was seconded:

Strawberry
Production and
Revenue History
Insurance
Program

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the information contained in the Docket for the Strawberry Production and Revenue History Insurance Program 05-21-20 02, Exhibit 4613, as well as other material submitted to the Board on this matter, the Board hereby approves the Strawberry Production and Revenue History Insurance Program, 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. The Board also hereby waives the requirement that the policy be made available for sale sixty days before the earliest sales closing date for the 2021 crop year. 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 4613)

Approved

Chairman Johansson offered the following resolution for Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Submission LRP-Lamb Suspension of Sales 05-21-20 01, which was seconded:

LRP-Lamb

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the information contained in Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Submission LRP-Lamb Suspension of Sales 05-21-20 01, Exhibit 4614, as well as other material submitted to the Board on this matter, the Board hereby approves: 1) Suspension of sales of the Specific Coverage Endorsement for Lamb; and 2) The Submitter has until the 2020 August Board meeting to provide the Board with a new data series and address the loss ratio issues and if the submitter fails to provide a new data series and address the loss ratio issue by the deadline specified, reinsurance is withdrawn, no future sales of the Specific Coverage Endorsement for Lamb will be made and existing LRP Lamb Policies will continue to be reinsured but will be cancelled by the next cancellation date.

There being no discussion, the Board voted to approve the resolution. (Exhibit 4614)

Approved

Chairman Johansson offered the following resolution for Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Livestock Risk Protection for Feeder Cattle, Fed Cattle, and Swine Modification 05-21-20 01, which was seconded:

Livestock Risk Protection for Feeder Cattle, Fed Cattle, and Swine Modification

RESOLVED, that pursuant to the information contained in Docket No. CI-Section 508(h) Livestock Risk Protection for Feeder Cattle, Fed Cattle, and Swine Modification 05-21-20 01, Exhibit 4615, as well as other material submitted to the Board on this matter, the Board hereby approves the Livestock Risk Protection for Feeder Cattle, Fed Cattle, and Swine 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 4615)

Approved

The last item before the Board is a Sense of the Board.

Sense of the Board

The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) Board of Directors (Board) issues deadlines through FCIC Board resolutions, which include deadlines for applicants to submit 508(h) submissions during a specified submission window following approval for advance payment. Due to issues related to COVID-19, the FCIC Board is extending all 508(h) submission deadlines issued through FCIC Board resolutions prior to the May 2020 Board meeting by six months.

Similarly, in recognition of the challenges facing cattle and swine producers due to COVID-19, the FCIC Board considered and ultimately approved modifications to Livestock Risk Protection (LRP) – Fed Cattle, Feeder Cattle, and Swine although these modifications were submitted to FCIC after the deadline established by FCIC for consideration at the May 2020 Board meeting.

The FCIC Board took these actions in recognition that the LRP – Fed Cattle, Feeder Cattle, and Swine are sold on a daily basis, a contrast to other policies, and delaying consideration until the August 2020 Board meeting would have prevented the Board from considering modifications to improve risk management options to producers over the course of three months during the COVID-19 pandemic when these livestock producers seek improved risk management options. The FCIC Board continues to remind submitters that new submissions or modifications submitted outside the submission window will not be considered until the next scheduled Board meeting unless there is a compelling reason that merits the Board's immediate attention.

There being no discussion, the Board voted to approve the Sense of the Board.

Approved

There being no further business the Board voted to adjourn and to meet again August 11-13, 2020, in Washington, DC.

Adjourn

May 21, 2020

/signed/

Robin Anderson, Secretary
Federal Crop Insurance Corporation