

**BC Fruit Growers' Association
Special General Meeting
February 10, 2021, Via Zoom**

Present:

Chair of Session, Pinder Dhaliwal, President, BCFG
Five other BCFG Board members
Thirteen delegates, representing two BCFG Regions
BCFG members, approximately 2 growers
Recording Secretary: Glen Lucas and Bunvir Nijjer

1. Introduction and Welcome

BCFG President, Pinder Dhaliwal, called the meeting to order at 12:09 pm. Delegates and members were welcomed.

2. Credentials Report

The credential report was presented:

North Region

1. Madeleine van Roechoudt
2. Amarjit Lalli
3. Sam DiMaria
4. Tarsem Goraya
5. Mani Gill
6. Penny Gambell
7. Asif Mohammad

South Region

1. Annelise Simonsen
2. Allan Patton
3. Denise MacDonald
4. Charanjit Ghuman
5. Mehar Khaira
6. Doug Nield

It was noted that Asif Mohammad filled in for Paramjit Patara, Charanjit Ghuman filled in for Mohinder Dhaliwal and Doug Nield filled in for Balwinder Sidhu.

**Moved/Seconded: A. Lalli/ D. Nield
That the Credential Report be approved.
Carried.**

3. Agenda

It was noted that the purpose of this meeting was to change two of BCFGAs bylaws in order to go ahead with the BCFGAs Annual Convention, under the current Provincial Health Orders.

Moved/Seconded: A. Simonsen/ A. Lalli

To adopt the agenda.

Carried.

4. By-Law Proposals

Recommendations from the Member Services Committee, the Board and staff were presented to the Delegates. It was noted that the purpose of the amendments to the bylaws listed below is to:

1. Delete nominations from the floor and establish a deadline for nominations.
2. Clear, plain English wording

Resolution 1- Nominations and Elections of the Board of Directors Positions

To delete **section (a) of bylaw 21** and replace it with

(a) Nominations for positions within the Board of Directors shall be as follows:

- 1. For the position of President, elected in even-numbered years, nominations must be**
 - a. received on the form approved by the Board of Directors**
 - b. be received at the BCFGAs office completed as described on the form, and**
 - c. be received at a date no later than 14 calendar days counting from the start date of the Annual Convention.**
- 2. For the position of Vice-President, elected in odd-numbered years, nominations must be**
 - a. received on the form approved by the Board of Directors**
 - b. be received at the BCFGAs office completed as described on the form, and**
 - c. be received at a date no later than 14 calendar days counting from the start date of the Annual Convention.**
- 3. For the positions of Directors whose 2 year term is expiring, nominations must be**
 - a. received on the form approved by the Board of Directors**
 - b. be received at the BCFGAs office completed as described on the form, and**
 - c. be received at a date no later than 14 calendar days counting from the start date of the Annual Convention.**

Moved/Seconded: A. Lalli/ A. Simonsen

To approve the proposed amendment to section (a) of bylaw 21.

Carried.

Resolution 2- Clarification to the wording “ballot”

Bylaw amendment purpose was explained:

To amend the voting bylaw to clarify that members may call for a vote to be held that ensures the way an individual votes is held secret, but that does not require the vote to be held using a paper ballot. It was noted that the common understanding is that calling for “a ballot” indicates that *a paper ballot* be distributed to those voting, and distributing a paper ballot is not possible when convening on a video conference call. However, it is possible to display a question and the option for answers to each voter on the video call, and the individual response will only be known to the person voting, as only the *total vote* is displayed when using the online video program. Thus the vote remains anonymous. Administrators of the vote (staff) have the capacity to validate that those voting electronically are qualified to vote (e.g. if it is a delegate vote, then a list of those delegates voting can be generated). Additionally, the disclosure of the anonymous vote results will be delayed until all of the votes have been cast.

To amend section 11 of the bylaws, by deleting the words “a ballot” and replacing with the words “an anonymous vote” in three places.

11. At all meetings of the Association all questions shall be decided by a majority of votes, except where a special majority is required by the Act or these By-laws. All voting shall be by a show of hands unless ~~a ballot~~ **an anonymous vote** is demanded before the vote is taken. If otherwise entitled as a Full Member, the Chair may cast a vote on votes held by:

- (a) ~~Ballot~~ **anonymous vote**; or
- (b) a show of hands but only if:
 - i. doing so would break a tie vote; and
 - ii. the Chair declares the Chair’s vote as breaking the tie before announcing the motion as adopted or defeated. The resolution is defeated if the vote by ~~ballot~~ **anonymous vote** is a tie.

Moved/Seconded: A. Lalli/ A. Patton

To approve the proposed amendment to section 11 of the bylaws, by deleting the words “a ballot” and replacing it with the words “an anonymous vote” in three places.

Carried.

5. Adjournment

Moved: A. Lalli

1:30 pm.