

CITY OF REDLANDS
CITRUS PRESERVATION COMMISSION
Meeting of May 20, 2026
MEETING MINUTES

Attendance

Present:	Heather Ross	Michael Day	Zachariah Smith
Absent:	Don Crow (excused)		Stuart Miller (excused)
City Council:	Marc Shaw		
Guests:	Roger Hardy	Richard O'Donnell	John Smith
	Dennis Bell		
Staff:	Kathleen Giorgianni	Zach Labonte	Chandra Thomas

1. Call to order at 4:00PM

2. Public Comments

- ✓ *John Smith* (former CPC Commissioner) provided insight into the history of citrus farming in the City of Redlands.
- ✓ *Roger Hardy* (former CPC Commissioner) provided comments on citrus finances and recommended that the Commission take their financial responsibilities for grove operations seriously. Mr. Hardy also reported his disappointment with Commissioners Crow and Miller not attending their first CPC Meeting.
- ✓ *Dennis Bell* commented on the City Manager reporting at the last City Council meeting that he had had to move \$600,000.00 of city funds to cover grove activities.
- ✓ *Richard O'Donnell* commented on the City Manager's reporting at the last City Council meeting and his bias towards the citrus groves of Redlands being a financial burden on its citizens and that that opinion was not shared by the citizens of Redlands.

3. Approval of Minutes:

- a. Minutes of February 18, 2026 approval: moved, seconded and approved

4. Status Reports:

- a. **Packinghouse report:** Al Ruiz reported that all navels, including late navels have been picked and they are currently working on valencia's. Texas, University and Granite groves have all been picked and Texas yield was better than expected. Judson, Mullen valencies getting ready to be picked.
- b. **Facilities & Community Services report:** Zach Labonte reported that the main line at the England Grove had broken and been repaired by city staff. Staff will be starting ACP treatment soon and the vines and pods had been removed from Olive grove in addition to the removal of dead branches etc. from the Prospect Park Grove. The I-10 Grove will be getting a 20 ft. swing gate for easier access.
- c. **Individual Commissioner reports:** Heather Ross commented on the City of Redlands website and recommended that there be some clean up and updating.

5. Old Business:

6. Possible Agenda Items for Next Meeting:

- a. Discussion and possible action to determine Chairperson and Vice Chairperson elections
- b. Discussion and possible action regarding Meeting Minutes
- c. Discussion and possible action regarding grove finances and production

7. Meeting adjourned at 4:41 to a special meeting on September 16, 2026.