



Centro de Capacitación, Investigación y Demostración del Método Biointensivo de Cultivo en Nicaragua, Inc.

Meeting of the Board of Directors

**4 March, 2013
Leon, Nicaragua**

Called to order: March 4th, 2013 at 5:45 p.m. (CST)

At the Offices of Nuevas Esperanzas, Leon, Nicaragua

Present: John Beeby (via Skype), Federico Gomez, Rachel Lindsay, Patricia Laura Mayagoitia (via Skype), Luke Pekrul, Michael Richardson, and John Wyss.

First agenda point: Establish a time-line for the center.

Jerry Arguello has decided not to accept position as Manager of the Centro, Federico Gomez was offered the position and accepted. The Manager reports to John Beeby and Patricia.

The convenio with the UNA has been signed, it will travel with Michael Richardson to the US, signed by John Beeby, then sent to Juan Manuel Martinez.

April 4th is estimated opening (groundbreaking) day. If there are no hydrants by then, UNA will provide tanker truck with water for soaking soil to dig first beds.

To Be Done Before April 4: Initial land design, windbreaks and bosque comestible design (Federico and Rachel). Windbreak is 100 meters x 25 meters.

Patricia and Juan Manuel Martinez would like Federico, as Manager, to receive more trainings from Ecology Action. Felicia's course in Costa Rica is a possibility; Sept/Oct was identified as a possible good time to leave Nicaragua. Intent would be to train the hired Assistant Manager and Extension Coordinator/Apprentice as well. Those hires should be people with some biointensive experience already.

Goal: dig 10 beds by the end of May.

November first possible dates for an on-site training.

(Patricia Mayagoitia left the meeting at 6:00 p.m.)

John Beeby requested some technical information:

Second soil samples have been dropped off at UNA lab. According to the convenio, CCID does not pay UNA for soil tests. Another test needs to be taken and sent to the US for testing.

Planting cycles: main pests are white fly and aphids. May 15 the “rainy season” starts, “little summer” or canicula end of June/July, mid August heavy rains until November. A small harvest in first rains, main planting season is after “little summer”.

Cover crops: mung beans, lab-lab, velvet bean (tercio pelo), cowpeas, soya, forage peanuts. Possible grains: rice, barley, buckwheat, soghum, king grass. Contact ECHO for grains for the tropics.

Soil Testing Station details:

Establish first demonstration beds then research beds. Employ the same methodology (“practice” for research). First Brigades in September.

Compost: Materials will have to be brought in. John Beeby will direct the ingredients after the next soil test results come in.

Record Keeping: start with forms from mini-farm.

Request from John Beeby for Federico to send a list of available cover crop seeds (priority) and typical vegetables in the Nicaraguan diet.

Fencing: live fences, ex. Cardoncillo, Espinillo.

Michael Richardson motions to appoint Federico Manager of the CCID Centro de Capacitación and the Estación de Monitoreo de Suelos. Seconded by Luke Pekrul.

John Beeby - yes
Federico Gomez - yes
Rachel Lindsay - yes
Patricia Laura Mayagoitia - absent
Luke Pekrul - yes
Michael Richardson - yes
John Wyss - yes

(John Beeby signs off at 7:00 p.m.)

Michael Richardson motions to approve minutes from previous board meeting on January 4th. Seconded by Federico Gomez.

John Beeby - absent
Federico Gomez - yes
Rachel Lindsay - yes
Patricia Laura Mayagoitia - absent
Luke Pekrul - yes
Michael Richardson - yes
John Wyss - yes

Return to Time Line/Budget discussion:

Jerry accepted a job in El Salvador but will be available in April and wants to be involved. Discussion to define Jerry's role tabled for later meeting.

Federico will be contracted for professional services and will work out how to gradually phase out of his current position at Intercambio 44. An additional part-time hire at the beginning could be Enrique, through Nuevas Esperanzas.

Staffing Set Up: Manager, Assistant Manager, Extension/Apprentice/Intern. In Spanish: Director, Asistente del Campo, Pasante/Practicante.

John Wyss will work with UNA to get weather station data, maps.

Rob and Susan Trevellyan have been hired for \$1,200 to redesign website.

Michael Richardson will assemble and have a two-year budget that includes registration costs, incorporation fees, salaries, trees, and materials before the next board meeting so it can be approved.

Establish fundraising protocol for groups, offer organizer 10% profit + cover their airfare if they get a group and meet a minimum fundraising goal, for example.

Defining Board Member Roles:

John Wyss: Ambassador

Michael Richardson: President, Fundraiser, Trainer

Luke Pekrul: Treasurer, Movement, Networking, Training Protocol

Federico Gomes: Manager/Director

Rachel: Secretary, Design, Movement

Motion to Adjourn Meeting by Federico Gomez. Seconded by Luke Pekrul.

John Beeby - absent

Federico Gomez - yes

Rachel Lindsay - yes

Patricia Laura Mayagoitia - absent

Luke Pekrul - yes

Michael Richardson - yes

John Wyss - yes

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m. (CST)

Signed:

Rachel Lindsay

Secretary - Board of Directors