



## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNING BOARD

**NINETY-FOURTH (94<sup>TH</sup>) SPECIAL MEETING OF THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD HELD AT THE BOARD ROOM, 3/F BEN-LOR BUILDING QUEZON AVENUE, QUEZON CITY 01 MARCH 2019, 12:00 NOON**

**Present:**

Hon. EVELYN G. LAVIÑA	-	Undersecretary for HVC, Department of Agriculture/Alternate Chairman
Hon. ROBERT L. SEARES, M.D.	-	Administrator/Vice-Chairman
Hon. RODOLFO F. SALANGA	-	Member, Tob. Manufacturing Sector
Hon. WILFREDO C. MARTINEZ	-	Member, Tobacco Farmers Sector
Hon. TEOFILO R. QUINTAL	-	Member, Tobacco Farmers Sector
Hon. NESTOR C. CASELA	-	Member, Academic Community
Hon. DANILO C. TRONGCO	-	Member, Tobacco Farmers Sector
Hon. WILSON R. VICTORIO	-	Member, Tob. Traders/Exporters Sector

**Others Present:**

Mr. ENRIQUE C. DELA CRUZ	-	Consultant, Office of Usec. for HVC, Department of Agriculture
Atty. ROHBERT A. AMBROS	-	Department Manager III, Regulation Dept. & Acting Board Secretary V
Ms. ALONA A. MANGANAAN	-	Executive Assistant IV
Mr. RAMON R. MUNCAL	-	Stenographer II

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MEETING

#### I. OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was led by Ms. Alona A. Manganaan.

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#### II. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 noon, with the Alternate Chairman, Usec. Evelyn G. Laviña, as the Presiding Officer.

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#### III. DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

The Acting Board Secretary declared that there is a quorum for the meeting with the presence of all the Appointive Members of the NTA Governing Board. The Acting Board Secretary noted the presence of the following members of the board, to wit:

1. Usec. EVELYN G. LAVIÑA
2. Adm. ROBERT L. SEARES

3. Dir. RODOLFO F. SALANGA
  4. Dir. WILFREDO C. MARTINEZ
  5. Dir. TEOFILO R. QUINTAL
  6. Dir. NESTOR C. CASELA
  7. Dir. DANILO C. TRONGCO; and
  8. Dir. WILSON R. VICTORIO.
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**IV. FOR APPROVAL/CONFIRMATION/CONSIDERATION:**

**A. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA OF THE 94<sup>TH</sup> SPECIAL MEETING OF THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD HELD THIS 01 MARCH 2019 AT THE BOARD ROOM, 3/F BEN-LOR BUILDING, QUEZON AVENUE, QUEZON CITY**

Usec. Laviña presented to the Members of the Board the Agenda for the 94<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting. Upon motion of Dir. Quintal and duly seconded by Dir. Casela, the board unanimously adopted the following resolution, to wit:

**RESOLUTION NO. 1023-2019**

“BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the NTA Governing Board approves the Agenda for the Ninety-Fourth (94<sup>th</sup>) Special Meeting of the NTA Governing Board held this 1<sup>st</sup> day of March 2019 at the Board Room, 3/F Ben-Lor Building, Quezon Avenue, Quezon City.

**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.....”**

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**B. APPROVAL AND CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIRST (121<sup>ST</sup>) REGULAR MEETING OF THE NTA GOVERNING BOARD HELD ON 12 FEBRUARY 2019 AT THE BOARD ROOM, 3/F BEN-LOR BUILDING, QUEZON AVENUE, QUEZON CITY**

The Presiding Officer presented the Minutes of the 121<sup>st</sup> Regular Meeting of the NTA Governing Board for their consideration and approval.

On motion Dir. Quintal and duly seconded by Dir. Quintal, the board adopted the following resolution, to wit:

**RESOLUTION NO. 1024-2019**

“BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the NTA Governing Board approves the Minutes of the One Hundred and Twenty-First (121<sup>st</sup>) Regular Meeting of the NTA Governing Board held on 12 February 2019 at the Board Room, 3/F Ben-Lor Building, Quezon Avenue, Quezon City.

**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.....”**

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C. **TERMINAL REPORT OF THE SURVEY OF 2013 KPP PLANTATION AND PROJECTIONS FOR THE CONTINUING SURVEY OF 2014 TO 2017 KPP PLANTATIONS**

Dir. Casela reported that the matter was discussed during yesterday's committee meeting. He said that that farmer-availees cannot pay their production assistance because they cannot harvest the trees that they planted due to some issues with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and that some trees planted are not yet harvestable. He said that the tobacco private sector sought THE assistance of the NTA for the generation of data on the NTA reforestation project as their head offices are requiring the sustainability of their fuelwood resources.

Usec. Laviña noted the report that the trees planted in 2013 are still thin and she said that the planting distances might be so near from one plant to another. She suggested for NTA to do "thinning" for charcoal and fuelwood which can be easily given permit by the DENR.

Dir. Casela informed Usec. Laviña that the NTA has been conducting meetings with the DENR to facilitate the issuance of the permit and that there is another schedule of meeting to be conducted.

Dir. Quintal said that most of the Ipil-Ipil plantations are attacked by jumping plant lice which, some of the time, the tobacco crop serves as alternate hosts and they might infect the tobacco plant. Usec. Laviña suggested for NTA to propose research study on the prevention of plant pests with the chosen state university or college which can be funded by the ACEF.

On motion of Dir. Casela, duly seconded by Dir. Quintal, the NTA Governing Board adopted the following resolution, to wit:

**RESOLUTION NO. 1025-2019**

**"BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED,** that the NTA Governing Board duly takes note of the Terminal Report of Mr. Hermogenes A. Galvez, on the Survey of 2013 Plantation under the Kakahuyang Pangakalikahan at Pangkabuhayan (KPP) Project.

**RESOLVED, FURTHER,** that the NTA Governing Board hereby extends moratorium in the payment of interests on the KPP production assistance given to farmer-cooperators effective retroactively from the date they are obligated to repay their loans until such time that the issue with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has been finally settled.

**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED....."**

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**D. LETTER-RECONSIDERATION OF DATU FAIZAL "RANDY" KARON ON THE DECISION OF THE NTA TO DISCONTINUE WITH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES PILOT TOBACCO PRODUCTION PROJECT**

Usec. Laviña said that it is proper to take Item No. IV (D) of the Agenda on the letter-reconsideration of Datu Faizal "Randy" Karon as matter arising from the minutes of previous meeting, as the said matters are the same.

Dir. Martinez reported that the matter was discussed during yesterday's committee meeting. He said that he already talked with Datu Randy and that the latter would want to move the project site to Maguindanao where he is offering a land to be used for free.

Dir. Quintal added that the reason for the decision of the board to discontinue the project was because the original concept of the project was that the cooperative will provide the land and for labor and a company will be the buyer of the tobacco produce under the project, however, he said that during the project implementation, land rentals and labor costs were incurred which were not included in the originally approved project proposal.

Usec. Laviña inquired if there was a Memorandum of Agreement entered into by and between the NTA and the cooperative. Dir. Quintal replied that there was no MOA because the original private partner, who has contact with a prospective buyer from Indonesia project, suddenly backed out from the project when the NTA was requiring the submission of certain documents.

Dir. Casela also said that during the deliberation in the committee meeting yesterday, the members of the board has reconsidered its previous decision and was amenable in continuing with the project provided certain issues must be clarified by Datu Randy.

Usec. Laviña suggested that if NTA will decide to start on an entirely new project site it should be strict in coming out with a guideline and define the specific roles of the NTA and the cooperative. She also instructed Atty. Ambros to prepare the responsive communication to Datu Randy indicating the conditions to be followed without mentioning the previous project site. She likewise instructed that the disbursing officer should liquidate the expenses incurred in the first project site to be able to start the new project fresh and clean.

Dir. Quintal and Dir. Trongco mentioned their apprehension because the existing project site was previously coordinated with the local government unit officials and it is the name of NTA is at stake if it will just abort the project without graceful exit. Usec. Laviña said that there is no obligation for NTA to inform the LGU because they are not involved in the project. She suggested for NTA to make another courtesy call with the LGU officials but should not be in writing.

Usec. Laviña also suggested to just train farmers from Mindanao area in the tobacco producing areas in Luzon which might be less expensive. However, Dir. Quintal said that tobacco season in Luzon is already through and it cannot be started anytime. Usec. Laviña also mentioned of

a Php5Milliom Fund from ACEF to be given to state universities and colleges who can do the training program to be able to save te Php942,000.00 fund for the project.

Dir. Trongco reported that Datu Randay prefers to have the project implemented in Mindanao area because the latter had already found a ready buyer who are Chenese nationals who are planning to put up a cigarette manufacturing plant in Maguindanao area.

Upon motion of Dir. Salanga and duly seconded by Dir. Casela, the following resolution was adopted, to wit:

**RESOLUTION NO. 1026-2019**

**“BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED,** that the NTA Governing Board hereby reconsiders its previous resolution and approves the continuance of the Southern Philippines Pilot Tobacco Production Project.

**RESOLVED, FURTHER,** that the NTA through the Vice-Chairman/Administrator shall formally respond to the letter of Datu Faizal “Randy’ Karon” and to invite the latter for a meeting to finalize the implementing guidelines of the project and for the execution of a Memorandum of Agreement.

**UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.....”**  
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**V. SCHEDULE OF NEXT MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT**

The board agreed to conduct the next committee meeting and board meeting on the following dates, to wit:

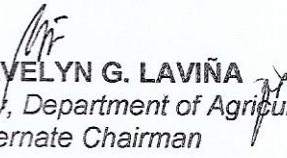
- a. Committee Meeting - March 11, 2019, 9:00 A.M.;
- b. 122<sup>nd</sup> Regular Meeting - March 12,2019, 12 noon;
- c. Committee Meeting - March 28, 20196, 9:00 A.M.; and
- d. 95<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting - March 29, 2019, 12 noon.


There being no other matter to be taken up and upon motion of Dir. Salanga, duly seconded by Dir. Victorio, the meeting was officially adjourned at 3:00 P.M.

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**PREPARED AND CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

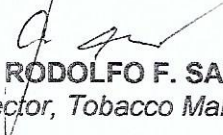
  
**ATTY. ROHBERT A. AMBROS**  
Acting Board Secretary V

**ATTESTED:**

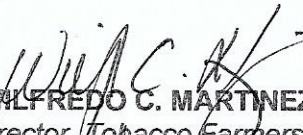
  
**Hon. EVELYN G. LAVIÑA**  
*Undersecretary, Department of Agriculture*  
Alternate Chairman



Hon. **ROBERT L. SEARES**  
*Vice-Chairman and Administrator*



Hon. **RODOLFO F. SALANGA**  
*Appointive Director, Tobacco Manufacturing Sector*



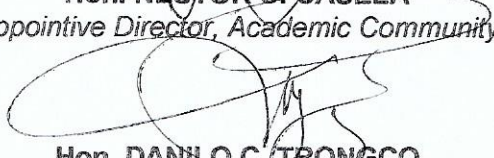
Hon. **WILFREDO C. MARTINEZ**  
*Appointive Director, Tobacco Farmers Sector*



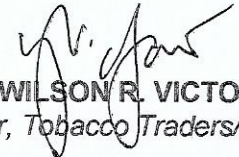
Hon. **TEOFILO R. QUINTAL**  
*Appointive Director, Tobacco Farmers Sector*



Hon. **NESTOR C. CASELA**  
*Appointive Director, Academic Community*



Hon. **DANILO C. TRONGCO**  
*Appointive Director, Tobacco Farmers Sector*



Hon. **WILSON R. VICTORIO**  
*Appointive Director, Tobacco Traders/Exporters Sector*

**NINETY- FOURTH (94<sup>th</sup>) SPECIAL BOARD MEETING OF THE NTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
HELD AT THE NTA BOARD ROOM, THIRD FLOOR, BEN-LOR BUILDING  
QUEZON AVENUE, QUEZON CITY, 01 MARCH 2019 , 12:00 NOON**

**ATTENDANCE SHEET**

**PRESENT:**

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| 1. <b>Secretary EMMANUEL F. PIÑOL</b><br>Department of Agriculture and<br>Chairman, NTA Governing Board                           | _____ |
| 2. Undersecretary, <b>EVELYN G. LAVIÑA</b><br>Dept. of Agriculture-High Value Crop<br>and Alternate Chairman, NTA Governing Board | _____ |
| 3. <b>Hon. ROBERT L. SEARES, M.D.</b><br>Administrator/Vice-Chairman<br>of the NTA Governing Board                                | _____ |
| x 4. <b>Hon. RODOLFO F. SALANGA</b><br>Member, NTA Board of Directors   | _____ |
| 5. <b>Hon. TEOFILO R. QUINTAL</b><br>Member, NTA Board of Directors   | _____ |
| 6. <b>Hon. WILFREDO C. MARTINEZ</b><br>Member, NTA Board of Directors   | _____ |
| 7. <b>Hon. NESTOR C. CASELA</b><br>Member, NTA Board of Directors   | _____ |
| 8. <b>Hon. DANILO C. TRONGCO</b><br>Member, NTA Board of Directors  | _____ |
| x 9. <b>Hon. WILSON R. VICTORIO</b><br>Member, NTA Board of Directors   | _____ |

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

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| 1. <b>Atty. ROBERT A. AMBROS</b><br>Acting Board Secretary | _____ |
| 2. <u>ALONA MANGANAAN</u>                                  | _____ |
| 3. <u>ENRIQUE G. DELA CRUZ</u>                             | _____ |
| 4. <u>RAMON R. MUNCAL</u>                                  | _____ |