

**CRD Conference Call  
October 29, 2008  
Minutes**

Present: Bo Beaulieu, Hank Cothran, Notie Lansford, Cheryl Lloyd, Joe Sumners, Greg Taylor, Sandra Thompson (Vice-Chair), Deborah Tootle, Rachel Welborn, Michael Wilcox (Chair)

I. **Welcome** **Michael Wilcox**

II. **Review of Minutes from PLN - Approved as presented** **Michael Wilcox**

III. **Plan of Work Review** [http://srpln.msstate.edu/crd/crd\\_pow\\_08-09.pdf](http://srpln.msstate.edu/crd/crd_pow_08-09.pdf)

We will review the Plan of Work on each call so that we are monitoring progress on a regular basis. The components and progress to date are outlined below:

a. *Community Development Institute*

*Bo Beaulieu*

We had a call yesterday with those that were interested in working on the CD certification. The team decided to look at the Foundations of Practice as a beginning model. As the pieces of the certification model come together, it will guide the Community Development Institute. Further, the SRDC's Board and Advisory Committee (TOAC) meeting is next week. Part of that agenda will be to review training needs.

Financial cutbacks may also guide the way the training is provided (i.e. face-to-face, distance ed., web-based, etc.) CDI will need to be face-to-face, but we will need to plan carefully to ensure that it is financially doable. A name change for CDI is also in the works.

b. *Business Retention and Expansion Training*

*Hank Cothran*

Training was held two times this past year. It is on the Plan of Work to consider having another training this year, given the demand. SRDC will bring this into next week's discussion on training plans with the Board and TOAC.

c. *Public Deliberation Regional Training*

*Bo Beaulieu/Joe Sumners*

An initial planning meeting was held in Atlantain September. We are moving toward a joint partnership with Kettering Foundation and Everyday Democracy. Plans are to pilot a public deliberative initiative focused on poverty reduction in a select number of states/sites. Kellogg is also interested in this initiative, but it may be two years away. We have also looked at creating a learning community for Extension professionals interested in this work.

d. *E-Commerce Training*

*Bo Beaulieu*

- Implementation RFP – States are invited to apply for \$3,000 mini-grants to implement one of four new e-commerce education programs. Applications are due January 9, 2009. The RFP is available on the SRDC web site.
- Webinar Series – The series will highlight the four curricula that have been released and are a part of the potential implementation RFP. Sessions continue

throughout the next few weeks. The schedule and archived programs are on SRDC's web site.

- e. *CD Certification Program* *Deborah Tootle*  
This year needs to be a "do or die" year to get this done. NACDEP is not the right entity to own this, but SRDC could be. It must be self-sustaining so that it pays for itself and does not become a drain on the resources. The certification would follow the Foundation of Practice as a general guide, with some modifications. Plans would be to provide an initial training with advanced training that would be more specialized.
- f. *Watershed Course transfer to Moodle* *Michael Wilcox*  
This has all been transferred to Moodle. We need to initiate some type of approval process to get it moved out for use.
- g. *Cashing in on Business transfer to Moodle*  
A few units need to be reviewed. Al Wysoki has a unit to finish.
- h. *"CARE for Local Economies" to Moodle* *Notie Lansford*  
No progress has been made on this yet. Mike, Alan and Notie will visit further about what the migration process is.
- i. *Multi-State Youth Entrepreneur Training* *Bo Beaulieu*  
A call is scheduled for tomorrow with the CD and 4H representatives that agreed to work on this initiative.

#### IV. Other Business:

- a. *FEMA Project* *Bo Beaulieu*  
Deborah and SRDC secured a grant to vet a curriculum developed to help low wealth areas prepare for and respond to disasters. The grant allows for five pilot states to implement the vetting process in at least three different sites each. SRDC has developed a GIS map that identifies a high risk of multiple disasters coupled with high socio-economic risks (poverty, low employment rates, etc.) Once we identify the top potential locations, we will be in touch with those states to see if they are interested in participating. \$30,000 is available to support the project. We have an Advisory Committee that will help select the logical locations.
- b. *EDA Initiative* *Bo Beaulieu*  
North Central Regional Center for Rural Development (one of SRDC's sister centers) secured a grant to identify a couple of states in each of the four regions to pilot test a new economic development approach. The curriculum is called "Know Your Region." SRDC has selected Kentucky, Tennessee, and Louisiana as initial pilot sites for the South, but if the material proves useful, plans will be to launch the program more broadly in the South after the pilot project is complete.
- c. *Logic Models – ASRED Request/Impact Measures* *Rachel Welborn*  
ASRED and AEA have requested that each of the four subject areas (CD, 4H, ANR and FCS) develop at least one regional logic model with a few indicators that could be adopted for the region. Since a team already agreed to work on developing logic models for the CD committee at PLN, this team has

agreed to take the lead in preparing drafts for the entire committee's review. The deadline is April 2009. An initial call regarding this effort will follow this call. Anyone interested in participating is welcome to join.

- d. *Identifying dedicated CD contacts – progress* *Rachel Welborn*  
Rachel has received updates from all but Tennessee, Georgia, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. It is not clear if everyone was responding in the same way or not. The group decided it would be helpful to have two layers of contact information: (1) Identify personnel that have dedicated community development positions, (2) Identify those within each state that have an interest, even if their assignment might reflect only a small percentage of their time.

Rachel will resend the lists with the updates submitted. Please review and refine the list for your state as follows: Place an asterisk by those with dedicated CD appointments. The remaining entries should be people in the state with an interest and/or small CD appointment. How each state makes that distinction is left to the discretion of the person reviewing the list.

- e. *NACDEP Conference update* *Hank Cothran*  
The April 2009 conference planning committee is meeting later today. Presentation and poster session proposals are now open. (See NACDEP website.) The committee is very concerned about the conference since many states are facing travel cutbacks. Conference registration and prices should be up by next week. The schedule will run 8:00 – 5:00 on Monday and Tuesday, hoping people will stay through the end. The theme is "Sustainability" with five tracks. There is a small scholarship fund available to help with some travel.

There are at least two nominations for every position open this year. Voting should be open soon.

Membership renewals went out last week. There are different levels of membership available. Dues are tax deductible. Dues are going up to \$75 on January 1, 2009. Renewing before then will cost \$50.

Interest was expressed in establishing a Southern NACDEP chapter at the regional meeting at Galaxy.

Our region had very few awards at NACDEP/Galaxy. The southern region needs to become more aware of the opportunities and stay connected to the committee promoting these awards. It is another way that CD professionals can get leverage to attend the conference.

- f. *SERA 37: New Hispanic South update* *Bo Beaulieu*  
"Bridging the Cultural Divide" was the title of the SERA-37 conference held last week in Raleigh. Over 90 attended, with the majority being from Extension. We have an initial evaluation and will be following up with those in attendance over the next year.

The SERA-37 has grown rapidly from its initial meeting last Spring. We will see more from them as they are planning additional training and events for the next year.

g. *Showcasing State Success Stories: SRDC Report* *Bo Beaulieu*

The SRDC would like to showcase state success stories that grew out of the roundtables. Please send your notes related to:

- What have the roundtables done to impact state work?
- If there is anything meaningful that has happened in your state because of the roundtables.

h. *Southern Region Reps for National Council* *Michael Wilcox*

Deborah Tootle is rotating off and Greg Taylor has been encouraged to remain to stagger the representation. We need to nominate someone to take Deborah's place. Gae Broadwater is rotating off as the 1890 Representative.

This group is working with CSREES (NIFA) on the CD white paper and thus will be setting some national direction for community development. The representative needs to have some administrative responsibilities. The document needs to have appeal to external audiences.

It may be helpful to outline what the National Council is and what the responsibilities are. Deborah and Greg will draft a document and contact some potential representatives to see who is interested. If anyone has suggestions, share them with Deborah or Greg.

i. *EDA – Potential Southern grant* *Bo Beaulieu*

The SRDC has an interest in an EDA RFP recently released on disaster recovery. The RFP focuses on a select set of states, which, for the South, includes Arkansas, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, Oklahoma, and Tennessee. A call is planned for 2:00 p.m. today for those interested in looking at this opportunity. The call in number will be 662-325-8448.

j. *PLN restructuring study* *Joe Sumners*

Joe sent an email this morning with some details regarding the PLN restructuring study that ASRED and AEA have charged the PLC with conducting. Each committee is asked to provide specific input on what is and isn't working about the current PLN structure. Joe attached the feedback provided by one committee to give some guidance to the type of information needed. Please review the email and provide feedback so Joe and Jenny can provide input at the December meeting.

2009 PLN theme: Maintaining relevance in a changing world – Changes in Farm Bill and funding streams.