

Community & Resource Development
Minutes
October 26, 2011

Participants:

Bo Beaulieu
Michelle Elly
Jenny Fertig
Susan Jakes
Al Myles
Chuck Stamper
Joe Sumners

Joy Moten Thomas
Deborah Tootle
Rachel Welborn
Brian Whitacre
Michael Wilcox
Mark Waller

August minutes were approved as presented

Federal update was provided by Bo Beaulieu because Sally Maggard was unable to join the call. The Federal budget “super committee” is reviewing proposed cuts, but there is uncertainty about if/when agreement will be reached.

Sally announced her plans to retire at the end of the year. The RRDC directors will be meeting to discuss a plan for keeping the work of CRD well positioned within NIFA.

Per a report given by Ahlisia Shipley, Sally is still working on the National CRD Team, and she has the support of the director. Plans are still moving forward to host a National CRD meeting in DC in the coming year, and Ms. Shipley will serve as our point of contact.

New opportunity for those interested in the work of broadband adoption. The SRDC is seeking to coordinate a team of Extension and research to explore the important work being done through NTIA/BTOP funding. Plans are to meet face-to-face in an initial planning session on December 12-14 in Nashville. Please let Bo or Rachel know if you are interested in participating or if you know of others that should be included in the invitation.

eCommerce Southern Team – Brian Whitacre gave a report for the southern team. The team has approximately \$20,000 to spend on efforts to help advance the work of eCommerce in the South. The team would like recommendations/suggestions by the next CRD call so a plan can be solidified. Also, Greg Taylor was serving on this team, but has recently retired. A replacement for him is needed to help coordinate these activities.

Foundations of Practice Level One training is continuing throughout the fall 2011. The Sustainable Communities series (a Level III Foundations of Practice series) is planned for Spring 2012. Registration is open for that series now.

SET Phase III will be launching soon, providing any state that has not previously been involved the opportunity to join the initiative. The application will require a joint submission from both the USDA Rural Development Director for the state as well as from the Cooperative Extension

Director/Administrator for the state. These applications will be released within the next few weeks.

Turning the Tide on Poverty is launching in four new counties in Mississippi as a part of an Appalachian Regional Commission grant. This may open the doors for additional opportunities in that region. Also, the year one research is near completion with some key findings surfacing that may help inform and guide the work of civic engagement in the future.

National Issues Forum – Please let Rachel know if you are interested in hosting a National Issues Forum on the National Debt. We will coordinate a Southern response webinar again this year.

Youth entrepreneurship – No report.

Survey – Mike Wilcox reported that the survey results are currently being vetted.

Development of logic models / indicators – Susan Jakes and Alison Davis provided an update on the progress being made by the team on the development of the impact indicators; Jenny reported on the interest of the NE CED team in participating in this process; Susan will contact Charlie French to start the dialogue.