

**Community & Resource Development
Minutes
November 16, 2011**

Participants:

James Barnes
Bo Beaulieu
Alison Davis
Jenny Fertig
Susan Jakes
Al Myles

Joy Moten Thomas
Sandra Thompson
Rachel Welborn
Brian Whitacre
Michael Wilcox
Mark Waller (for Pete Gibbs)

Minutes: October minutes were approved with one change – Mark Waller’s name corrected.

Updates from NIFA – Bo: Sally Maggard announced her plans to retire at the end of December. The RRDCs and their Boards are working closely with NIFA to ensure that an experienced leader is identified and positioned to continue to promote and support the work of Community Development. The House and Senate agreed on a budget for NIFA and other USDA agencies. The RRDCs are level at last year’s funding which was a 24% cut from the previous year. Extension budgets seem to be secure. Bo will forward yesterday’s email to the committee.

Update from SRDC – Bo:

- ReadyCommunity – working on a pilot project with FEMA to help rural areas build a disaster plan that will help improve their capacity to respond to disasters. Plans are to train the pilot teams at the end of November.
- SET releasing a Request for Proposals for states not currently a part of the SET program. It must be co-signed by the State Rural Development Director and the Extension State Director/Administrator. The application should be out within a week with a January 9th deadline.
- National Issues Forum – The SRDC has worked with Larkin Dudley (VA) to submit a brief proposal to Kettering to fund a half day interactive video workshop to help train new facilitators and to help form a network of deliberative democracy efforts.

Plan of Work Update

- Train-the trainer E-Commerce - Brian Whitacre: The current plan is to hold a preconference workshop at NACDEP. The team is working with NACDEP and the hotel to see if this is feasible. Need to define the expectations of participants.
- Youth Entrepreneurship - Sandra Thompson: Still working on the NIFTI component within AEA. About 5-6 states have indicated they want to participate. Adolphus Johnson was planning to take lead in writing the proposal, but has recently taken another position outside of Extension. Jenny offered to help.
- Small business / related trainings - Al Myles: Working on raising awareness and use of Cashing in on Business and the CARE model training. Last year, a team presented a 90 minute workshop at NACDEP on Cashing in on Business. Plans are now to explore presenting a series of webinars – one on each of the four major sections of the curriculum. Al is working with the authors on this idea. Mary Peabody is also interested in working with us on incorporating this material into the Foundations of Practice, Level 3 training. Also,

work has begun to develop evaluation material. SBA.gov has a good assessment tool on entrepreneur readiness.

- National CRD Council – Sally was not on the call. James will follow up with Sally to see where this stands.
- Development of logic models / indicators – the team has not met since the last call. They have a meeting at the end of the month with the NC region to look for consistencies.

New Business: On Dec 12-14, a group of Extension specialists that are working on the broadband expansion initiatives will be meeting together for the first time to explore ways to share learning, build a network, design common metrics, etc. to strengthen this work.

Next Call: January 18, 2012 9:00 a.m. Central / 10:00 a.m. Eastern