

MM Quarterly Meeting – October 8, 2021

Minutes – DRAFT

Meeting called to order by Chair Mike Martin at 10:01.

In attendance based on self-sign-in: Mike Martin (chair), Georgia; Jenny Cocanougher (vice-chair), Kentucky; Karissa Ulmer, Clemson; Carolyn Williams, Prairie View Texas; Jeff Young, Kentucky; Blake Lanford, Clemson; John Thompson, Virginia; Janet Hollingsworth, Georgia; Nancy Calix, Kentucky State; David Perrin, TN Extension; Lonnie Johnson, Virginia Cooperative Extension, VT; Sharon Reynolds, Arkansas; Tawnya C. Holliman, Mississippi; Ty Petty, Tennessee; Cindy Conner, Oklahoma; Susan Kelly, North Carolina; Nancy Johnson; Claude Bess, Oklahoma; Andrea Scarrow, Georgia; Eric Simonne (secretary), Florida

Mike welcomed all members and attendees; introduced new officers for 2021: Jenny is vicechair (KY) and Simonne (FL) is secretary; thanked Past-chair Blake Lanford for his leadership and involvement. We commended Blake for a service well done.

Administrative Advisor updates

Dr. Carolyn Williams, Prairie View A&M University from 1890 LGU.:

- 1890s received a grant from AFRI in 1M for limited resource farmers affected by covid19
- Planning for the 2021 1890 system-wide 1890 LGUs in Orlando FL at the July 25 at the Renaissance Hotel. Plan to debrief transition to virtual programming, successes, and barriers
- Another cohort of the Extension leadership academy for 1890 staff is planned for staff with 5 or less years of experience with focus on program development evaluation and impact assessment (3-day training)

Dr. Tom Dobbins, Clemson University shared what the 1862 directors are working on:

- Broad band connection issues throughout the Southeast (limited or no access at times)
- Seeking funding for Farmers mental health issues together with FB
- Directors retreat planned for 2021 in Jekyll island
- Welcome Dr. Place at UGA
- How to count direct and indirect contacts and how to stay in compliance with federal and state regulations
- Irrigation, drought, and water resources issues for all southern states

Update from PLC representatives Gerald Jones and Jim Stewart: The update from PLC is “no update from PLC” at this time.

David Perrin (TN) updated the group on the plans for the 2021 MM conference on April 5-8, 2021 in Nashville, TN. Bookmark and visit regularly <https://tiny.utk.edu/SRMMC> for updates.

Mike presented and overview of 2020-2021 MM Plan of Work; groups will report regularly on progress on their items. Groups are encouraged to meet between now and the next February quarterly call.

Correction to plan of work: please replace Tawnya Holliman with T. Morris; add Cornelius Hamilton (not sure to what item)

State Updates;

Nick Place new UGA Dean of Agriculture and Life Sciences starting January 1, 2021; Florida gearing up for a national search for an Extension Dean hopefully to start in Spring 2021; states are at different stages of allowing meetings with outside groups – of different sizes; following CDC guidelines is expected; different arrangements for telecommuting; different levels of “re-opening”; clients and extension personnel alike are getting used to the new constraints of distance programming; Kentucky is restructuring extension from 7 District directors to 3 Regional directors supervising Area directors; at Kentucky State, the college of agriculture, communities and the environment was recently renamed the college of agriculture, communities and the sciences; Prairie View received a \$1M grant for the Texas Rural Workforce Academy offering training in electrical, welding, and nursing.

Other Business - None

This meeting was recorded and adjourned at 11:09.

Next quarterly call is on Thursday February 11.

Respectfully taken and submitted by Secretary Eric Simonne.