

Southern PLN Conference Call- May 11, 2016- 10am

- **Opening of Meeting and Welcome Remarks-** Billy Lawton, Southern PLN Chair- 10:00am
- **Roll Call-** Melissa Stewart, Southern PLN Secretary
 - Alabama- Uma Karki
 - Florida- Saqib Mukhtar
 - Georgia- Norm McCay, Mark McCann
 - Kentucky- Gary Palmer, Louie Rivers, Marion Simons
 - Oklahoma- Jim Trapp, Randy Taylor
 - South Carolina- Edoe Agbodjan, Matt Burns
 - Tennessee- Fitzroy Bullock, Robert Burns
 - Texas- Billy Lawton, Travis Miller
 - Virginia- Bobby Grisso
 - West Virginia- Melissa Stewart
- **Minutes** from previous meeting approved after quick review
- **Old Business-**
 - PLC- Tom/Louie
 - 1862/1890 Reps
 - Training- two days in Atlanta
 - Will share information
 - Hosting Webinar at 3pm
 - Committee Updates
 - #1- 2017 Combined Meeting
 - Summary of what has happened
 - Billy, Mel, Saquib, Bobby, Mike, Gary and Andy
 - Date was June 6th-8th 2017 @ APLU
 - Need to confirm Omni Shoreham
 - Notes- 2nd Day
 - More program managers about funding
 - Last time focused on Farm Bill but this time focus on FISMA
 - USDA/FDA
 - Jim Trapp- FISMA
 - Liaison PLC
 - Setting priorities
 - Fairly new concept
 - Training items
 - Joint preparation
 - Significant food training dollars
 - FSA/Farm Bill Training
 - Push as a general training package
 - Tom Melton-
 - Food Safety/Farm Safety
 - Training ready to go

- No explicit materials provided
 - Express concern/fulfilling requirements
 - Coming soon
 - Frank discussion- we will be behind
 - Will have to get inspectors up to speed
- Mukhtar
 - USDA Trainers- three tiers of trainers
 - CA, Michigan and Cornell With FL
- Did not seem as important for the North Central
 - Make a list of questions for dialogue
 - May change as date gets closer
- #2- Mark McCann- replacing Todd Hurt
 - Online Agent training topics
 - Insects
 - Plant Disease
 - Weeds
 - Principles of Urban Forestry
 - eXtension- posted last week
 - ASRED Communication to look at the link
 - Bobby forward through listserve
 - People can look and assess what is there
 - Rehire? Ended contract
 - Timely for Oklahoma
 - Identified folks to do something similar
 - Good examples for others to look at
 - New Agent hires- 3 to 4 months
 - Work at their own pace
 - Undergrad looking at with Senior Capstone
 - Get credit for going through modules
 - Possible for part of undergrad trainings
 - Tech and learning center
 - Billy- looking for the entire region to engage
 - Sub committee Marty Main was chairing
 - Make an overarching plan to share and use for extension
 - Didn't get support
 - These are now on extension on storefront
 - Burns- Library for onboarding new agents
 - Share link
 - Gary Palmer- KY
 - New agents asking for stuff like this
 - Weeds agent went through
 - Plant pathology- tried to get her to develop
 - Billy- Todd Hurt had identified links

- Module Plant Disorders of Southeast
 - Collaborate and cross collaboration with other areas
 - Expense for this
 - May identify resources and make it available
 - Mark-
 - As a group- identify topics for beginning agents and achievable online
 - Discuss with agenda for August meeting
- #3- Burns- Tall Fescue
 - Goal to do warm season grass to enhance forage based beef production
 - Cut from 10 state to 4 state plan by NRCS
 - Motion support- did RCTP Proposal
 - Felt confident on funding
 - Good input from NRCS
 - Wasn't funded
 - Reassess situation
 - Will be looking to make it happen
 - Team has prepared for next year
 - TSU
 - Get different answer between national and state
 - State- no/ National- yes
 - CIG- Demo efforts & AFRI- Research
 - RCPP had basic research looking to increase acreage utilized in warm season grasses
 - Look at different avenue
 - Will resubmit- CIG work across 4 states or 4 separate CIGs?
- #4- NRCS- Burns- improvement?
 - 2 calls a year
 - Improve communication
 - Dr. Honeycut- changed meeting
 - Retired and left- no other contact
 - Look for replacement- new Deputy Director Science and Tech for NRCS
 - Who is this person? Anyone know?
 - Burns will contact
 - Honeycut wasn't excited to talk to us
 - Acting Chief? Ron Aborado?
 - Bianca was on last call and meeting occurred that we were to be updated on
 - Travis- Tony from Texas went
 - Burns- ASRED- concerns exist

- RCS moving into Ext/Education Role
 - SERA 17- Letters have been drafted
 - Rob Holland- concerned about the letter and looking for input from Sonnie
 - Dr. Honeycut not gone- Soil Health Center in DC and he is the president
 - Money going to others- 3rd party nonprofits instead of Extension
 - Soil Health will become competitive for funding
- Move on from Old Business
 - Bobby Grisso- Peer Review of Extension Programs- VT
 - 2 page item
 - Process finally approved
- **New Business-**
 - Upcoming Conference
 - Updated by Billy
 - List serve problems
 - Travis
 - Conference Draft Agenda
 - Platform- Aug 23rd/25th
 - Start at 1:30pm
 - Program update- TN- Burns/Bullock
 - Soil Test/Diagnostics Labs/Water Testing
 - Burns can elaborate
 - Analysis of business/pricing
 - Software for results to be sent out faster
 - How lab is run- fee based structure
 - What works, what doesn't
 - Collective survey
 - Who has what on site via this discussion
 - May be able to share services
 - TN Highlight any programs to whole group
 - Roy Bullock- Goat Program TN State
 - Breeding and outreach program
 - Not far from location
 - Field Trip- close to soil test and goats
 - Break at 3pm- 3-5:30pm- Updates in and submitted
 - Update for Admin Advisors
 - Finish Plan of Work- may be able to fit
 - Rework update to Plan of Work
 - Free up afternoon for tours Wednesday
 - Roy Restaurant suggestions
 - 4 Topics
 - Possible new topics for agent training
 - Mukhtar- New Agents of Food Systems

- Local Foods systems
- Southern Extension Research Action Proposal
 - Regional and Local Foods Systems
 - Multistate earlier
 - USDA Toolkit- who are the experts on this topic?
- Burns- TN
 - Looking at this topic
 - Production/Center for Profitable Ag/Post Production/Organic Specialist
 - Decide if they have critical mass to develop a team
 - Not full range yet
- Roy- TSU
 - Very successful conference
 - 400 individuals across the board
 - Very successful
- Mukhtar- Specialized Agent
 - Struggles with making connections
 - Topic large and broad with little bit of perspective
 - Consider within 400 miles?
 - Some doesn't fit solutions for desertsurs
 - Reasons and factors- we need to address the issue

-----Burns/Bullock- Jump off call

- Will share topic ideas
- May need two hours to discuss
 - Billy/Grisso
- Strongest programs
- Tom Melton- Local Foods Corrdinator
 - NC has strongest program
 - Teleconference or skype if needed
- Gary Palmer- Food Innovation Center
 - Kentucky Proud- KYDA
 - More local foods accepted into university
 - Farm to Food Bank
 - Allison- Primary contact- will provide to Bobby
- Mukhtar- List for FL- Challenges
- 3 hours
 - Local Foods- 2hours?
 - New Agents- 1 hour?
 - FISMA- 1 hour?

- What others are doing
 - Bring up early and start to initiate discussion
 - Or do we bring in for updates?
 - ASRED Directors- FISMA
 - What and how its being done
 - Who want to Champion?
 - **Mark McCann lead this**
- Covers all discussion
 - Elect Secretary 1862 ranks
 - Open Floor
 - Louie- last term 1890?
 - Has one more year- two year term
- Lunch- Action Items
 - Due by 3pm
 - What Action Items?
 - Local Foods
 - Regional Publication
 - 4 **states** to make a storefront with regional publications
 - Could be dual state sharing specialists?
 - FISMA
 - Energize more and get review process more effective
 - Not peer reviewed in an effective manner
 - Embrace more authorship across state lines
 - Buy into concepts of reaching across statelines
 - May be a future action item
 - Limit one good action item and couple informational items
 - Move update from Hubbard to Wednesday Eve
 - Open up State Reports
 - Give a chance to report 3-5:30pm
 - Southern Region Forestry Update
 - Bill Hubbard restricted timeframe
 - We will see how many state reports will need to happen
 - Hard Copies optional
 - Bullock/Billy forward restaurants and transportation
 - Will work with Mel to get State Night Out
 - Bullock has arranged transport
 - Thursday 8-12 then adjourn for the day
- Billy will send email to remind on Agenda Items
 - Bobby will survey- services available to have table for discussion
 - Weed ID and other topics
- Billy Adjourns- See everyone in August!

- 11:14am