

PLN- ANR Committee Meeting Minutes

November 12, 2013

Attending:

Paul Mask	Auburn University
Bobby Grisso	Virginia Tech
Uma Karki	Tuskegee University
Niki Whitley	North Carolina A&T State University
Ross Love	Oklahoma State University
Pete Gibbs	Texas A & M
Edoe Agbodjan	South Carolina
Leslie Boby	Southern Region Extension Forestry
Billy Lawton	Prairie View A&M University
Steve Brown	University of Georgia Athens
Joan Dusky	University of Florida
Marion Simon	Kentucky State University
Robert Burns	University of Tennessee
Henry English	University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff
Gary Palmer	University of Kentucky

Call to Order - The meeting called to order at 3:10p.m. EST on 11/12/2013 by ANR-PLN Committee Chair Edoe Agbodjan.

Roll Call -Roll Call was taken by Secretary Billy Lawton with each member responding as their respective State was called (see list of attendees above)

Old Business – Past secretary Robert Burn confirmed that minutes from PLN Conference had been approved and posted on PLN website.

Farm Bill Training

Ross Love updated the group on the progress of the Farm Bill. He commented on the e-mail he sent to members addressing training on the new Farm Bill. He suggested that any action on this should be postponed until the Bill is approved.

Climate Change Workshop

Joan Dusky and Leslie Boby led a discussion on a workshop addressing Climate Change. Joan will be sending out information about this workshop around the first of the year. The initial workshop would include about 16 people from each state (FL, AL, GA). Subject matter areas to be covered are Agriculture, Forestry, Coastal Resources, and Livestock. More information will be forthcoming to those states involved in the initial workshop in the next few weeks.

Taskforce to develop White Paper on Sharing Specialist

Robert Burns and Joan Dusky committed to getting together after the first of the year to start work on this project.

Multi-State Project:

Bobby Grisso reported on a multi-state project involving ANR, FCS and 4-H units in the states of Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia, Tennessee, and North Carolina focusing on the “Local Food Movement” and determining the public value associated with Farmers Markets and Community Gardens. They have developed common measurement for evaluation to take back to each state. A “Resource Asset Inventory” database is also being developed, as well as, a website to house the information developed. The next face-to-face meeting for this group is scheduled for March 2014. Bobby committed to keeping the group updated on the group’s progress.

A lively discussion followed about the role of Extension in both Farmers Market and Community Gardens. Members of the committee agreed to share information relating to Extensions role in these efforts.

Discussion Items (Other):

Joan Dusky asked the committee for input on issues surrounding the PLN Conference;

- How can this meeting be more effective?
- How much committee time do you want?
- Do you find the State Reports of value?
- What other things do you want from this meeting?

She will send these questions to the membership.

A discussion surrounding Extension involvement in emergency response/ management and if we felt Extension involvement has escalated in recent months. Members responding felt our involvement has always been needed and Extension is playing an ever increasing role.

Gary Palmer informed the group that Steve Brown had been recognized during halftime at a Georgia Football Game for the Agriculture Development Team efforts with the National Guard.

Uma Karki and Niki Whitley participated in a discussion related to drafting a proposal dealing with livestock as a part of PNL’s plan of work. The decision was to work outside of PLN in developing a proposal.

2014 ANR PLN Committee Conference call dates -

Calls are scheduled for an hour and are to begin at 2:00 PM Central / 3:00 PM Eastern on the following dates:

- February 11, 2014
- May 13, 2014

Meeting Adjourned at 4:00 pm

Minutes submitted by Billy Lawton – 2013-2014 ANR PLN Secretary