

**CRD Conference Call**  
**May 27, 2015 10:00 Eastern/ 9:00 Central**  
**Committee info: <http://srpln.msstate.edu/pln/crd.html>**

**MINUTES**

**Participants**

Susan Jakes	Mark Waller
Stacey McCollough	Allison Davis
Rachel Welborn	Brent Elrod
Crystal Tyler-Mackey	Adam Hodges
Charles Artis	Rod Clouser

**Roll Call:** Crystal Tyler-Mackey recorded the participants.

**Minutes Update:** Crystal will send the minutes

**Update from Advisors:** None.

**Update re: SRDC Director Status:** Rachel shared that an offer had been extended but not accepted.

**NIFA Update:** Brent announced that he had just recently met with the Regional Rural Development Center Directors. He shared that there may be opportunities to continue work with Ag Marketing Services for AMS outreach work. There was good feedback regarding the work of Extension with the recent work with AMS. There is also a new interactive mapping project being led by NE region, but focused on states in the South and West. Most likely this work will be focused on Strikeforce States. There is also the possibility to work with 1890 institutions on the Centers of Excellence mapping project. More information will be forthcoming. USDA Rural Development representatives will be attending PLN and participating in the CRD meetings. Rachel and Suzette Aikens with USDA RD have had discussions about a readiness project for communities who aren't ready for a full SET program. Brent also shared that the proposal submitted to the Arts Council was turned down. He will follow up and share the feedback.

**NACDEP report:** Stacey reported that the board is working with ANREP to plan for next year's NACDEP conference, which will be held June 26-29 in Burlington, VT. A board retreat is coming up and there will be discussions regarding what should be offered to members who only have a partial appointment to CRD efforts. Any ideas or concerns should be sent to Stacey, who will present them at the face to face board retreat September 16.

**PLC Committee Report:** Susan shared that Nancy Franz and Robin Adams are the keynote speakers for the conference. The pre-conference will focus on land-grant impacts and national outcomes. There are also 2 opportunities scheduled to discuss cross-programming opportunities.

The 1890 institutions are celebrating the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary, with a big celebration in Washington, DC this week.

#### **Documenting Impacts and Telling our Story:**

- ***NIFA's interest in measures of Rural Vitality*** – No update
- ***State Level Indicators Collection*** – The indicators documents were emailed and are due today. We are now collecting once a year.

#### **Plan of Work Update :**

We looked at the 2014-15 POW document to complete it in preparation for the August PLN meeting.

- ***Indicators:*** We developed a list of indicators and added instructions for each indicator.
- ***Southern CD agent training (Institute for Sustainable Development)*** - Allison shared that there was some conversation about this at the National Program Leader meeting, namely for some smaller items. She stated that we need a state or a few to plan for it, and we should keep it on the POW.
- ***Determine next steps for we can continue to engage county commissioners:*** Rod reported that there had been a survey distributed in January regarding ways to engage county commissioners. Most of the responses were from Florida and Oklahoma. He noted that some states had to hire someone to fill this role, and it would be worthwhile to redistribute the survey. He will give leadership to that effort.
- ***Recruit 1890 Institutional Partners to Attend a Ready Community Training for Agents and EM Partners*** – this effort was completed, and there are 3-4 active regional planning initiatives taking place as a result.
- ***Utilize to [landgrantimpacts.org](http://landgrantimpacts.org) to distribute impacts*** – The impact meeting during pre-conference at PLN (Monday 2:45-5:15) came from the need to do a better job using this, and we are all encouraged us to attend and engage in the discussion.
- ***Hold a Southern Region meeting to assess gaps and key opportunities*** (incl. urban & local foods focus) for CRD programming to build capacity across the Southern Region – Rachel indicated that some of this discussion will likely happen at the Food Systems meeting in Washington, DC. There are 41 people registered to attend the meeting.

#### ***Register for PLN now!***

We spent a little time discussing the PLN agenda and the best way to use our time together. A draft agenda was sent by Susan prior to the call to solicit feedback. We also discussed the topics that will be used for the cross-programming conversations and attempted to see who would be attending which meeting to ensure CRD representation. We will follow up via email for this input.

#### **PLN Meeting: August 24-27, 2015 (Orlando, FL)**

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