

CRD Conference Call/Web Meeting
June 13, 2017
Minutes

Attendees: Crystal Tyler-Mackey (chair), Stacey McCullough (secretary), Brent Elrod, Mark Waller, Joy Moten-Thomas, Rachel Welborn, Steve Turner, Michael Wilcox, Susan Jakes, Andrea Scarrow, Jasmine Brantley, Chance McDavid, Clarence Bunch

Opening Business

Crystal Tyler-Mackey called the meeting to order. Stacey sent minutes from the previous meeting. Any additional changes should be sent to Crystal or Stacey.

NIFA Update - Brent Elrod

- Brent expressed his appreciation for the support everyone has given for his family the last few months.
- No new appointment has been made since our last call.
- Brent has asked the RRDC Directors and Alison to use state program leaders report and other information to cross-walk activities with Presidential Executive Order on Promoting Agriculture and Rural Prosperity in America (Section 4 of Executive Order) - <https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2017/04/25/presidential-executive-order-promoting-agriculture-and-rural-prosperity>. Lacking any additional guidance, USDA will use this information to demonstrate work with respect to the President's goals. If you have additional information, please send that to him.
- FY17 budget increased funding RRDCs, The President's FY18 budget would zero it out again. The House budget would drop it back to \$1 million. No information about the Senate is available. Brent has submitted his aspirational budget. A Continuing Resolution is still a real possibility, which might be positive given current levels.
- NIFA has hired a new national program leader, Toija Riggins. She is a rural sociologist and will take some responsibilities off Brent's plate.

NACDEP Update – Stacey McCullough

- The 2017 NACDEP Conference with CDS went well. The plenary session speakers were excellent. The addition of CDS member presentations gave the concurrent sessions a slightly different feel. Members from both associations expressed appreciation for the opportunity to learn from each other.
- NACDEP nominations for the 2018-19 Board of Directors will open this fall. Open positions will include President Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Southern Region Representative, Northeast Region Representative and 1994 Representative. If you know individuals who may be interested or a good fit, please share this opportunity and encourage them to run. We will discuss this at the PLN Conference in Fort Worth as well.
- The 2018 conference will be held in Cleveland, OH. Please make plans to attend.

PLC Committee Update – Shared by Dave Shideler via email

- Register for the conference if you haven't already done so. Conference hotel is full. Those needing a room should contact Vicky Vaughn, who is working on securing a block in another hotel.
- PLC Chair will host a webinar prior to the August conference. The webinar is scheduled for August 3rd and a recording will be placed on the PLN website. The webinar is for committee officers to help them prepare for the PLN meeting.

- Dave shared some guiding questions that Rich Harwood will be posing to us at the conference. Susan suggested that the questions reflect what we already do. Because we are "the choir" we are more interested in how other PLN committees respond to the talk and how we can build partnerships if they want to move forward with the integration of CRD strategies in their programmatic work. What I am wondering is 1) Is this a real opportunity for us? I think PLC is working hard to getting the committees to try to learn from and work to apply the keynote, so if this happens I do see it as an opportunity. 2) Will they connect what Rich is talking about to the resource they have in their CRD program? 3) How do we connect with them on any actions they wish to take to apply the concepts from Rich's talk?
- In response to changing conference structure, the PLC with input from Extension Directors decided current structure is still appropriate.

SRDC Update – Steve Turner and Rachel Welborn

- SET Phase VII has launched. Conversations regarding SET VIII are occurring but future is unclear.
- The RRDCs will visit Washington, DC in June. Met with DOL regarding workforce development and people interested in rural broadband.
- SERA-47 will have its second annual meeting on August 1-2 in Atlanta. About 25 have signed up so far.
- The Rapid Response Report on Civil Dialogue and Race Relations was submitted to ECOP. The RRDC staff met with 4-H staff while in DC, but didn't talk much about civil dialogue. Most of their time was spent educating about the Centers and community development work. The committee is exploring best ways to train people on civil dialogue and race relations. Rachel conducted a webinar on the topic.

North Central Update – Michael Wilcox

- CD program leaders are responding to RFP from their Extension Directors for regional work. Submitted proposal on capacity building.
- CD program leaders are trying to schedule meeting in Detroit for August.
- Turnover in program leaders is creating some changes and new ideas regarding focus.
- There is discussion regarding inclusion and how to orient economists into AAEEA. They welcome input from South, especially from 1890s and 1994s.
- Work on SET program continues. Outreach is "go" for 2017, but future is uncertain.

Administrative Advisor Updates – Clarence Bunch

- Dr. Bunch is our new 1890 advisor. He is from Central State University, the newest land grant university. They are still learning and in the process of analysis to determine needs and priorities related to CED. Early efforts/topics have focused on social enterprise development, crowd funding, pathways for small business owners, community engagement. They are focusing on strategies to get long-run maximum output with lowest input cost. They don't currently have a community development program leader, but they have a few agents and are working with their business college to respond to needs.

Plan of Work Update

- a. Convene working group regarding child poverty.
 - Energy fizzled with the larger, multi-disciplinary group, but some interest still exists within CRD. Crystal will put out a call to those interested in pursuing the conversation prior to PLN.
- b. Continue in CRD indicator work and growth.
 - Rachel read off the list of universities that had responded which were: Alabama A&M, Texas A&M, UGA, UKY, Clemson, OK State, NC State, Prairie View A&M, and Univ. of TN.
- c. Identify best practices for building CRD capacity.
 - Alison sent out the program leaders reports from NACDEP and they are now posted on www.rrdc.info under the indicators tab. Alison will bring the survey results from her work with NIFA and will also bring the ROI tool to PLN for discussion.
- d. Encourage and support collaboration with ANR and FCS on local foods systems efforts, including the proposed SERA, and other efforts.
 - SERA-47 Local Foods – The next meeting is scheduled for August 1-2 in Atlanta. SRDC is helping the team write an AFRI proposal to fund next steps.
- e. Host monthly webinar series.
 - Details of upcoming sessions and recordings of previous sessions are here: <http://srdc.msstate.edu/trainings/crdwebinars.html> Sessions are scheduled for July and August. Rachel will bring participation number from this past year to inform the discussion for next year's plans.

Other Business

- Building the agenda for PLN. Crystal will send an email to get ideas for building the agenda.

Announcements

- L Washington has retired.

Upcoming Meetings

SR-PLN 2017 Conference: August 21-24, 2017 Fort Worth, TX. Dave talked about the preconference for PLN in Fort Worth on leadership development

Meeting adjourned.