



**Southern Region Program Leadership Committee Meeting
April 21, 2016**

Minutes

Participants:

- ANR –Tom Melton
- COM –ChaNaè Bradley and Elizabeth Gregory-North
- CRD – Jimmy Henry
- FCS – no participants
- 4-H Youth Dev – no participants
- IT – Lalit Rainey
- MM – Gerald Jones and Greg Price
- PSD –Tyrone Miller and Rich Poling

ASRED	Ron Brown
AEA	L. Washington Lyons
SRDC/MSU	Vicki Vaughn Rachel Welborn

1. February minutes were approved as presented
2. Update from AEA - L. Washington Lyons, Mark Latimore, Carolyn Williams
 - House Appropriations Committee completed its mockup of the 2017 Ag budget.
 - i. AFRI is the only program that received an increase with an additional 25 million in funding.
 - ii. eXtension was restored to the 1.5M line
 - iii. All other programs were approved at 2016 levels
 - Senate has not marked up its bill yet. That may be done possibly next week or first week of May. Senate may be more favorable.
 - Central State University has employed an Associate Director for Extension, Clarence Bunch, a 26 year employee with NRCS
 - A book scholarship has been set up in memory of James Hill, former limited resource coordinator for SSARE at Ft. Valley State. Donations can be made through the Ft. Valley State website
 - AEA's summer meeting will be in Oklahoma City, hosted by Langston University, June 20-23, focusing on innovation in Extension.
3. Update from ASRED - Ron Brown
 - May 1 is the deadline for nominations for the Diversity and Excellence in Extension awards.
 - Work on 2018 Farm Bill is beginning with discussion on what may be needed to support Extension. Extension Directors and Administrators will have input at the September NEDA meeting.



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- NIFA is doing a study on capacity funds. There will be an opportunity for Directors and Administrators to provide input as well as other stakeholders. This may be a good opportunity to show the value of capacity funds and use the information for budget support.
 - 4H marketing campaign is underway. Most of the south is participating.
 - Chuck Hibberd is leading a task force looking at how Cooperative Extension can best work as a system.
4. Conference Planning – updates and confirmations
- Pre conference updates – Urban conference plans complete and posted on the website.
 - Discuss speaker question and answer session with keynote – ChaNae will touch base with Elizabeth to confirm plans.
 - Newcomer orientation updates – Rich will check in with the committee on progress.
 - Chair training – May 12th
 - Ignite sessions – 4 received, looking for 2 more.
5. Registration Reminder – registration is now open
6. Program Committee Reports
- ANR –Tom Melton – left call prior to report
 - COM –ChaNaè Bradley – continuing with Plans of Work, working on best practices manual for publications. We plan to share with the entire group.
 - CRD – Jimmy Henry – Continuing work on CRD indicators and considering ways to sync with the North Central. We are continuing the monthly CRD webinar series. A national webinar is planned for April 25 discussing the importance of regional indicators
 - FCS – no participants
 - 4-H Youth Dev – no participants
 - IT – Lalit Rainey – continuing to work on the Plan of Work and collaboration with eXtension. Chris Geith had a conference call with the committee about this. The southern region now has an 1890 seat on the planning committee for the National Extension Technology Conference
 - MM – Gerald Jones and Greg Price – They have a call tomorrow. Urban Conference details are on the PLN websites.
 - PSD –Tyrone Miller and Rich Poling – continuing work on Plan of Work including development of Extension agent competency models. We are surveying the Directors/Administrators on PSD models. We are looking at on-line professional development modules. Continuing to consider ways to collaborate during the PLN meeting with other committees. The committee is working on a virtual summer school in August focusing on the use of social media in Extension education and accountability.

**REMINDER – The next conference call will be held Thursday, June 16, 2016 at 9:00 Central.
Phone: 641-715-3276 Participant code 1068380#**