



**Southern Region Program Leadership Committee Meeting**  
**October 27, 2022**  
**Minutes**

Participants:

- ANR – Dan Goerlich
- COM – Lyndall Stout
- CRD – Adam Hodges, Dan Kahl
- FCS – Michelle Parisi, Jacquelyn White
- 4-H Youth Development— Melanie Biersmith, Demier Z. Richardson-Sanders
- IT –, Brian Watson
- MM – Blake Lanford,
- PSD – Cheryl Newberry

AEA: Vonda Richardson

ASRED: Ron Brown, Tom Dobbins

SRDC/MSU: Russ Garner, Vicki Vaughn

**1. Welcome**

There were no additional agenda items added. Tom Dobbins made the motion to approve the August 25, 2022, minutes as presented, Dan Goerlich seconded, and the motion passed. Dan Kahl, incoming chair, presided over the meeting.

Dan welcomed everyone to the meeting, and members introduced themselves.

**2. AEA Update**

Ms. Vonda Richardson had nothing to report for AEA

**3. ASRED Update**

Dr. Ron Brown reported for ASRED:

1. Dr. Caroline Henney, National Executive Director for ECOP/CES has retired effective September 30. A national search committee has been formed and is actively searching for her replacement. Drs. Ron Brown and Damona Doye represent our region on the search committee. In the interim, Ron Brown and the other regional EDs are backstopping the national office.
2. Dr. Gina Eubanks has assumed the role of Chair of ASRED for 2022-2023, following Dr. Laura Johnson.
3. Dr. Damona Doye, Associate Vice President for Extension, Oklahoma State, has been chosen to serve as Chair-elect of ECOP for 2023 and Chair for 2024. ECOP is the representative leadership and governing body of the Cooperative Extension System.



4. Dr. Rich Bonanno has provided national leadership representing the Extension System in forming the 2023 Farm Bill. The focus is to seek reauthorization of all current Extension programs, with added emphasis on Climate Smart Ag, Health Equity and Well-Being and Workforce Development.
5. Dr. Gary Jackson has been named Associate Vice President for Outreach and Engagement at Mississippi State University. Gary served as director of the MSU Extension Service since 2011 and began the newly created position September 1.
6. Dr. Steve Martin, currently Associate Director for county operations, is serving as interim Extension director at MSU.
7. Although it won't be announced officially until the annual meeting of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APUL) next month, the Southern Region will have the national winner of the national Excellence in Extension Award again this year. The Southern Region has won this award 8 of the last 11 years.
8. Extension Directors from our region and other regions recently completed a training conference with our Experiment Station Director colleagues focused on Building Trust.
9. A partnership MOU between ECOP, the Extension Foundation and the National 4-H Council was developed and signed last month and is now being implemented. The intent is to increase effectiveness in identifying new partnerships and new resources for Extension.

#### **4. 2022 PLN Conference Evaluations – *Embracing Flexibility & Innovation***

Russ shared and reviewed the results of the survey. A discussion was held on the areas in which we can improve. Also discussed were potential speakers and themes.

#### **5. Mid-Winter PLC Committee Meeting (to be held virtually on October 31 & November 9)**

Russ relayed to the group that bios and clips of potential speakers were going to go out and to review to see if the speakers align with the theme of the 2023 meeting.

#### **6. Program Committee Reports**

As the October meeting was not long after our August 2022 meeting, there was not anything to report.

**Meeting was adjourned**