



**Southern Region Program Leadership Committee Meeting
Winter SR-PLN Planning Meeting
January 10 & 11, 2022
Minutes**

Participants:

- ANR – Dan Goerlich, Uma Karki
- COM – Michelle Olgers, Lyndall Stout
- CRD – Iris Cole Crosby, Dan Kahl
- FCS – Mike Gutter, Jacque White
- 4-H Youth Development – Travella Free, Molly Gregg
- IT –, Brian McGhee, Travis Zetterower (standing in for Brian Watson)
- MM – Jim Stewart
- PSD – Cheryl Newberry,

AEA: Albert Essel, Allen Malone, Vonda Richardson

ASRED: Ron Brown, Tom Dobbins, Laura Stephenson

SRDC/MSU: Carmen Kelly, Russ Garner, Doris Barksdale

1. Welcome:

Brian McGhee presided over the meeting and welcomed everyone.

2. Member Introductions/Roll Call:

Members were invited to introduce themselves and to tell what their roles were at their respective institutions.

3. Additional Agenda Items:

The agenda was reviewed-there were no additional agenda items.

4. Approval of PLC October 28th meeting Minutes:

The minutes were reviewed and approved as read with no changes. Dan made a motion to approve the minutes as read, with Travella seconding. The motion passed

5. Update from AEA:

Vonda reported that planning continues for the 2022 AEA System-wide Conference, which will be held July 31-August 4 in Orlando. Have not had an event like this since 2012 and looking for this to be a great event. Would like to reflect how 1890 Extension has grown over the last 10 years.

Dr. Essel added that they held a successful face-to-face meeting in December in Orlando, first meeting like this since the pandemic hit. Had very good discussions on how to advance AEA and 1890 Extension, as well as planning for the System-wide Conference. Also, there is a new slate of officers for AEA:

- AEA Chair-Vonda Richardson
- AEA Vice Chair (and incoming Chair)-Dr. Allen Malone
- AEA Secretary-Dr. Courtney Owens
- AEA Treasurer-Dr. Mark Latimore
- AEA Immediate Past Chair-Dr. Carolyn Williams

6. Update from ASRED:

Dr. Ron Brown sent the ASRED report, and relayed:

- This year's ASRED Chair is Dr. Rich Bonanno, with Dr. Laura Johnson moving to Past Chair.
- Dr. Jeff Hyde is stepping down from the Director role at Texas A&M. Dr. Rick Avery, a former Extension employee in Texas has been announced as the Acting Director beginning January 18.
- Dr. Andra Johnson is the new Dean and Director at the University of Florida.
- The Extension system has identified most portions of the 2023 Farm bill as ones to be reauthorized. Lingered discussions concern the capacity formula, 1862/1890 relationships, CLD3 and match requirements. The farm bill work team is developing materials to submit to ECOP BLC and then to ECOP.
- The SR is working with other regions on a Certified Public Health Training Program in concert with the National Health Initiative and Cornell University. Nominations from Directors are open until January 25th.
- Extension Excellence in Extension and Diversity Award schedule for 2022
 - Feb 1 - call for nominations
 - May 1 - deadline for all nominations to be submitted online
 - June 14 - deadline for each region to select a nominee for 1 individual and 1 team National Excellence in Extension (EiE) Award
 - July 19 - deadline to confidentially inform the National Office of winners
- ASRED's spring meeting will be in conjunction with a Mini LG meeting involving Extension, Teaching, Research, Administrative Heads, and CARET. The meeting is scheduled for May 23-26 in College Station, TX.

7. Conference Planning

We delayed discussion of the conference budget until the second day.

- Virtual vs face-to-face-Discussion was made on whether or not to have a virtual or face-to-face meeting. The group was polled on current travel restriction for their respective states. The majority had no restrictions.
There was discussion on the benefits of having virtual or a hybrid conference. While it is a good idea, at this point, especially coming back to face-to-face there may be challenges (AV expenses) in developing a hybrid conference, as well as obligations to the hotel regarding room commitments. On Day 2, after discussion, Dr. Dobbins made the motion that the conference be promoted as an in-person conference, and that the committee continues to explore opportunities to provide hybrid where possible (example-during committee meeting times) while keeping our obligations to the hotel. Dr. Essel seconded the motion. The motion passed.
- Develop Conference Theme- After much discussion and great ideas, the theme for SR-PLN 2022 will be: **“Embracing Flexibility & Innovation.”**

- Establish Skeleton Agenda- The 2019 Agenda was reviewed to act as a template to help guide this year's agenda. It was decided to present a professional development preconference virtually in advance of the meeting, to not have a post conference, and to not have an Ignite/EXTension Talk session. This will give time for more unstructured time which is important in reconnecting after 2 years of virtual meetings. Dr. Brown reiterated that it would be great to use creativity in structuring some "unstructured" time. What can we do that will encourage cross-committee discussion and exposure?
- Identify Potential Speakers-A discussion was held on potential speakers that would mesh well with the meeting theme. Several speakers that were suggested in the meeting's survey were discussed including Chad Littlefield, Dr. Carrie Castille, Dr. Chuck Hibbard, Dr. Roger Rennekamp and Dr. Jewel Bronaugh. Chad Littlefield's speaking fee may be restrictive for us. It was decided that Michelle would approach Dr. Bronaugh's staff to see if there would be availability for her to speak at the meeting.
- Design/Refine Newcomer Orientation-a committee was raised for this event:
 - Iris Cole Cosby
 - Dr. Allen Malone
 - Cheryl Newberry
 - Russ GarnerPlanning for the actual event will take place later in the year.
- Design/Refine Committee Chair Training-Discussion was held on the duties of this committee, and a call was sent out for members to fill this committee.
- Pre/post Conference-It was suggested to not have a pre/post conference on-site, but to have one virtually several weeks in advance of the meeting, and perhaps charge a small fee to cover any technology expenses. Suggested workshop topics were retention and recruitment of new staff. The purpose would be leadership/professional development across all the committees. A committee will be formed for this.
- Fun Run- The committee was favorable in doing the Fun Run again this year. Will need a committee to coordinate and promote it.

Day 1 ended at this point.

8. Conference Budget

A discussion was held on the conference budget. Vicki looked through the budget memo and reported that registration for the conference will need to be raised:

- \$420 for early registration
- \$470 for regular registration
- \$520 for late registration

This would cover food/drink fee, AV fee, and speaker fee. Budgeted \$10k for speaker for this year. The committee agreed that fees would have to be raised in order to meet higher costs.



9. Future Meeting Sites

Vicki and Doris shared potential future locations for SR-PLN. After discussion, several of the locations were eliminated due to costs. Some of the RFPs that were received also could not accommodate the size of meeting that would be required for SR-PLN. We have 2023 in place (Orlando). These presented would be in 2024. Need to have a contract 3 years in advance. We do not have contracts in place for 2024 and

2025. The committee recommended that we plan for face-to-face, and that Vicki pursue the Charlotte, Miami, Orlando, San Antonio and St. Petersburg sites and further research their proposals.

10. Program Committee Reports

- ANR –Uma Karki and Dan Goerlich- The ANR committee continues to work through the 2021-22 Plan of Work, themes of which include: Determine potential roles of a virtual ANR agent/digital influencer and opportunities for collaboration with industry groups, Plan joint meetings with North Central-Southern Region 2021 ANR Program Leaders. These will include topical quarterly virtual meetings and a potential in-person meeting. Coordinate information and training opportunities for ANR leaders and faculty to help them better understand and address the issues surrounding heir's property. Coordinate information and training opportunities for ANR leaders and faculty to help them better understand and address the issues surrounding natural disaster loss assessment.
- COM – Michelle Olgers- met in November, small meeting, nothing to report.
- CRD –Dan Kahl-Held meeting, working on Plan of Work, as a committee we have been meeting additionally with a discussion on resilience and climate change.
- FCS – Mike Gutter and Jaquelyn White- Mike reported that there had been quite a few projects, multistate grants including the Farmer-Rancher Stress Network grant, coordinating with other states on large-scale pandemic grants, lot of actually work being done.
- 4-H Youth Development—Travella Free- Travella reported that they had nothing to report.
- IT – Travis Zetterower (standing in for Brian Watson)-IT had nothing to report.
- MM –Jim Stewart-Jim reported that they have a meeting coming up in a couple of weeks, working on the Plan of Work, used Mural to do interactive work-had much input.
- PSD – No report

11. Other Business

There was no other business to discuss.

12. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned