

**2017 ESS Business Meeting**  
**Hyatt at the Bellevue, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**  
**September 27, 2017 (10:30 AM – 12:00 PM, 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM)**  
**DRAFT MINUTES**

Time	Agenda Item	Topic and Presenter(s)	Notes and Decisions
10:30 am – 10:40 am	1.0	<b>Advocacy Update</b> – Hunt Shipman, Cornerstone Government Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FY18 House appropriations bill is through the committee process</li> <li>• Declining era of discretionary spending</li> <li>• Uncertainty regarding disaster relief in Florida, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands</li> <li>• Debt Ceiling is on a temporary continuing resolution through December 28, 2017</li> <li>• House Ag Committee is compiling the Farm Bill proposal, hopefully done by January 1, 2018.</li> <li>• Infrastructure remains a part of Cornerstone’s conversations.</li> <li>• Tom Coon (OK State) leads the BAA efforts on infrastructure.</li> <li>• Infrastructure legislation will likely not be rolled into the Farm Bill.</li> </ul>
10:40 am – 10:50 am	2.0	<b>Call to Order</b> – Bret Hess <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approve agenda</li> <li>• Approve 09/21/2016 ESS Meeting Minutes (Jackson, Wyoming)</li> <li>• Interim Actions</li> </ul>	<p><b>The agenda was unanimously approved as presented.</b></p> <p>One change to the minutes was requested: under Agenda item 14.0, change “general use equipment” to “special use equipment. <b>The minutes were unanimously approved, given the one requested change is made.</b></p> <p>Chair’s remarks, including a report on budget, appointments and resignations will be delivered in the Chair’s closing statement toward the end of the meeting.</p>
10:50 am – 11:00 am	3.0	<b>APLU Report</b> – Ian Maw	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Antimicrobial Resistance Task Force – an ongoing report with actions and recommendations is being drafted. Funding is not in place for this task force. If we have a strong proposal, we can tap into foundation or seed money to move this forward.</li> <li>• Healthy Foods, Healthy People Task Force - an ongoing effort led by Rick Mertens at TAMU.</li> <li>• Infrastructure – Tom Coon has been having conversations in Washington, currently refining the outcomes from those talks.</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APLU membership expanded to include Mexican and Canadian institutions over the past few years.</li> <li>• BAA meeting with Mexican institutions on Cooperative Extension efforts and guidance.</li> <li>• APLU meeting with ICA (European Institutions of Life Sciences) April 3-5, 2018 in Ghent.</li> <li>• Appropriators continue to support the “One Ask” approach</li> </ul>
11:00 am – 11:40 am	4.0	<b>Committee Reports</b>	Each committee provided a brief update.
	4.1	<b>Policy Board of Directors – Gary Thompson</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PBD has considered escalating the position of the Communications and Marketing Committee in the org structure. A group will report on this at APLU. Multiple options for repositioning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Standing committee of the PBD (requires a vote)</li> <li>○ Tightened link to the BAC with no change in position</li> <li>○ Ad-hoc committee of the PBD</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Diversity efforts with the PBD have resulted in the establishment of the Diversity Catalyst Committee. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ How can the DCC better interact with the other COPs?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• SoAR drafted a letter requesting Farm Bill support. Copies will be distributed to regional offices to provide comments by Friday 9/29.</li> </ul>
	4.2	<b>Communications and Marketing Committee – Rick Rhodes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CMC encourages directors to engage in calls to action. A video was released by kglobal with a CTA supporting the “One Ask” and the nationwide response was tepid.</li> <li>• CMC will strengthen its relationships with AglsAmerica, AHS and institutional communicators to drive the CTAs.</li> </ul>
	4.3	<b>Science and Technology Committee – Marikis Alvarez, Jeff Jacobsen</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NC1186 received the Excellence in Multistate Research award</li> <li>• <b>S&amp;T reviewed the 2017 Excellence in Multistate Research Award call and proposed a change to address the prior request regarding submission of joint projects.</b></li> <li>• <b>The proposed changes were approved unanimously by ESS.</b></li> <li>• A new roadmap is being explored, with the inclusion of items that have come up since 2010 (e.g. Big Data)</li> <li>• Marikis Alvarez (DESU) was thanked for his service. Laura Lavine (WSU) will be the next S&amp;T chair.</li> </ul>

4.4	<b>Budget and Legislative Committee – Bill Brown, Mike Harrington</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The committee has developed the “One Ask” with the BAA. The ask was delivered during the CARET/AHS meeting and hill visits.</li> <li>• Time and Effort reporting at NIFA – a document was recently released by NIFA, with FAQs and general guidelines relative to reporting. AES Directors should review these docs with their finance directors.</li> <li>• Cynthia Montgomery anticipates revised, clearer guidelines on Time and Effort reporting delivered in October 2017. Documentation on state match won't likely materialize until 2020.</li> </ul>
4.5	<b>Diversity Catalyst Committee – Jeff Jacobsen</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The IDI website is <a href="http://www.idiinventory.com">www.idiinventory.com</a>. Please contact Jeff Jacobsen if you need the code tied back to your name. Individual debriefing is encouraged (Jeff does not see individual results).</li> <li>• 2017 was the year of training for the DCC. Regional associations' leadership along with NIFA attended training sessions in March. NIFA's participation was appreciated.</li> <li>• Pamala Morris, Patreese Ingram, and Latoya Hicks are part of our team of training resources.</li> <li>• DCC will delve deeper into the original task force report (activities, timelines, measure of accomplishments).</li> </ul>
4.6	<b>Impact Database Subcommittee – Bill Brown, Eric Young</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2,300 impact statements are in the database</li> <li>• Suggestion to ‘flip’ the website upside down – reports at the bottom of the website should be up top, to showcase the work of the writers.</li> <li>• Financial support: asking for \$5,000 from both ESCOP and ECOP to support impact writers to come together every year.</li> <li>• Analytics will be implemented on the site.</li> <li>• Quality is at the forefront of discussion. A point person is to be identified at each institution for uploading docs into the database. Quality is not currently consistent.</li> <li>• Thanks to the southern EDs (Eric Young-ESS, Ron Brown-CES) and other regional EDs for support.</li> <li>• Thanks to Sarah Lupis (WAAESD) and Faith Peppers (UGA) for guidance on communications and impact reporting.</li> <li>• Thanks to Texas A&amp;M for subsidizing this work.</li> <li>• <b>ESS will vote on the \$5,000 support request during the Chair’s budget delivery.</b></li> </ul>
4.7	<b>NRSP1 Management Committee – Steve Loring, Jeff Jacobsen</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact Sarah Lupis or Chris Hamilton for feedback on NIMSS</li> <li>• Sara Delheimer and Sarah Lupis continue to oversee Multistate Impact Communications</li> </ul>

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11:40 AM – 12:00 PM	5.0	<b>NRSP Discussion / Balloting</b> – Clarence Watson, Eric Young	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The NRSP RC has been charged to make recommendations for voting.</li> <li>The committee met in Atlanta on June 07 and via Zoom on September 08.</li> <li>Items for discussion: NRSP_TEMP1, NRSP3 Mid-Term and NRSP10 Mid-Term.</li> <li>The committee decided to go back to the NRSP1 writing committee to revise the budget commitment in the new proposal.</li> <li>If there was a federal budget cut, NRSPs would be cut off-the-top (except NRSP1).</li> <li><b>ESS will be voting on NRSPs today.</b></li> <li><b>Each station receives one vote. The mechanism for voting is located at <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NRSPFY18">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NRSPFY18</a></b></li> <li><b>Guidelines for voting on NRSPs have changed. Today we'd approve the budget for the full timeline rather than on an annual basis.</b></li> </ul>
1:00 PM – 1:10 PM	6.0	<b>ARS Update</b> – Dr. Simon Liu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ARS looks forward to increasing funding in 2019-20.</li> <li>Chavonda Jacobs-Young is the acting undersecretary for Research, Education and Economics.</li> <li>Over 1,200 outstanding deferred maintenance items costing \$450-500m.</li> <li>ARS has more than 3200 buildings, 16 million sq feet of office / lab space, in 93 locations across the country.</li> <li>ARS manages over 400k acres of land for research.</li> </ul>
1:10 PM – 1:30 PM	5.1	<b>NRSP Balloting Results</b> – Clarence Watson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>ESS voted to approve the NRSP Review Committee's recommendation to approve the proposal and 5-year budget for NRSP_TEMP1.</b></li> </ul>
1:30 PM – 1:45 PM	7.0	<b>ESCOP Website Update</b> – David Leibovitz, Jeff Jacobsen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The new ESCOP website is now live at <a href="http://www.escop.info">www.escop.info</a>.</li> <li>Contact David Leibovitz (<a href="mailto:david_leibovitz@uri.edu">david_leibovitz@uri.edu</a>) or any of the regional associations' offices with any concerns or comments about the website.</li> <li>Listserves (@escop.info) for each committee are forthcoming.</li> </ul>
1:45 PM – 2:00 PM	8.0	<b>NIFA Update</b> – Jeanette Thurston	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changing personnel at NIFA: Sonny Ramaswamy's term ends in May 2018, Ann Bartuska retired September 2017. Chavonda Jacobs-Young is acting in Ann Bartuska's position.</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nominations: Stephen Censky (Ag Deputy Secretary), Ted McKinney (Ag Undersecretary for Trade and Foreign Agricultural Affairs), Chavonda Jacobs-Young (Undersecretary for Research Education and Economics)</li> <li>• Bobbi Moore is the new EEO leader for NIFA</li> <li>• 2018 Ag Outlook Forum will be held February 22-23, 2018</li> <li>• NIFA is holding leadership meetings with the secretary and senior advisers on Relevancy, Quality and Performance.</li> <li>• USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue is putting a strong emphasis on customer service.</li> <li>• New Program: Enhancing Agricultural Opportunities for Military Veterans. The intent is to train military vets, establish farming and ranching opportunities.</li> <li>• 2018 AFRI Program: 1.) Foundational and Applied Science, 2.) Sustainable Ag Systems, 3.) Education and Workforce Development</li> <li>• Calls to conversation: 1994 LGUs, Tactical Science, Positive Youth Development, EFNEP</li> <li>• The NIFA State Liaison Program will roll out in October 2017.</li> <li>• NIFA has listening sessions forthcoming. Visit <a href="https://nifa.usda.gov/nifalistsens">https://nifa.usda.gov/nifalistsens</a> for more information.</li> <li>• NIFA would like stakeholder input provided before April 2018.</li> <li>• Three AFRI RFAs are targeted for release in January-February 2018.</li> </ul>
2:00 PM – 2:10 PM	9.0	<b>NRCS Discussions</b> – Jeff Jacobsen, Fred Schlutt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 2017 Ag Outlook forum held a soil health session. Keep an eye on the 2018 event.</li> <li>• Bret Hess and Fred Schlutt thought there was an opportunity for ESCOP and ECOP to partner in leadership and agency discussions. Partnerships were a shared theme between ESCOP and ECOP in 2016-17.</li> <li>• Two-component team of ESS and CES directors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CES: John Lawrence (IA State), Robert Burns (TN), Chris Watkins (NY), L. Washington Lyons (ARD), Fred Schlutt (AK), Rick Klemme (ECOP), Robin Shepard (NCCEA)</li> <li>○ ESS: Frank Casey (ND), Sayid Mostaghimi (VA), Jon Wraith (NH), Gene Kelly (CO), Glenda Humiston (CA), Jeff Jacobsen (NCRA), Arthur Allen (UMES)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Jeff Jacobsen and Robin Shepard met with directors to gather areas of focus, and with NIFA for a face to face “speed dating”</li> </ul>

			<p>inaugural orientation session. They will go to DC in Fall 2017 for further meetings with NIFA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Topical next steps: Soil Health Symposium. Gary Thompson will engage NRCS officials in DC as the incoming ESCOP Chair.</li> <li>• Relationships between LGUs and NRCS are not consistently strong; we need to improve.</li> <li>• California is drafting an MOU to create a statewide farm demonstration network, led by a CA Extension organization team and involving NRCS and the Farm Bureau. CA has signed an agreement with NRCS to fund two agronomist positions at 50% each.</li> </ul>
2:10 PM – 2:15 PM	10.0	<b>Nominations Committee Report</b> – Shirley Hymon-Parker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The floor opened for nominations for ESS Chair-Elect.</li> <li>• Archie Clutter (UNL / NCRA) nominated Deb Hamernik-UNL for the Chair-Elect position.</li> <li>• <b>Deb Hamernik was appointed to Chair-Elect by admonition.</b></li> </ul>
2:15 PM – 2:20 PM	11.0	<b>Resolutions</b> – Bret Hess and Gary Thompson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gary Thompson delivered a resolution to the Chair, Bret Hess.</li> <li>• Bret Hess presented further resolutions for retirees, the host region/institution, and to victims of the hurricanes which recently impacted the US Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico.</li> </ul>
2:20 PM – 2:25 PM	12.0	<b>2018 Meeting Announcement</b> – Deb Hamernik	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 2018 ESS/SAES/ARD meeting will be held October 01-03, 2018 in Lincoln, Nebraska.</li> <li>• Ask your regional EDs if you'd like to serve on the planning committee. A strong invitation is extended to the Southern region (2019 hosts).</li> <li>• Provide feedback on the Philadelphia meeting to the regional EDs, and to UNL.</li> </ul>
2:25 PM – 2:40 PM	13.0	<b>Chair's Remarks</b> – Bret Hess	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thanks to the regional associations and committee chairs for contributions to this meeting, and activities over the past year.</li> <li>• 2016-17 was a year focused on Partnerships for both ESS and CES, with: NIFA, other USDA agencies, national partners and NGOs.</li> <li>• NC-FAR's support of the "One Ask" was a success for the section.</li> <li>• SoAR has been primarily focused on support for AFRI, another opportunity to discuss the leverage that comes along with capacity funds.</li> <li>• Retaking the Field is focused around food safety, nutrition, and zoonotic diseases.</li> <li>• Ag on the Hill event has been reinvigorated by SoAR.</li> </ul>

2:40 PM – 2:55 PM	14.0	<b>ESS Budget Presentation – Gary Thompson</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gary Thompson presented the proposed budget for 2017-18 (slide enclosed).</li><li>• 2/3 vote of those present at the ESS meeting is required to approve the budget.</li><li>• <b>A motion to approve the proposed budget was introduced, seconded, and unanimously accepted.</b></li></ul>
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