

ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee (BLC): <http://escop.info/committee/blc/>

Call Minutes for: 11/26/2019 (4th Tuesday monthly)

4 pm ET, via Zoom (<https://zoom.us/j/257727621> or 1 646 558 8656 Meeting ID: 257 727 621)

Committee Members:

Chair: Ernie Minton (NCRA) Past Chair: Gary Thompson (NERA) Delegates: Alton Thompson (ARD) Dyremple Marsh (ARD) Dave Benfield (NCRA) Shawn Donkin (NCRA) Sabine O'Hara (NERA) Jon Wraith (NERA) Steve Lommel (SAAESD) Saied Mostaghimi (SAAESD) Glenda Humiston (WAAESD, Incoming Chair) Chris Pritsos (WAAESD) Executive Vice-Chair Jeff Jacobsen (NCRA ED) Chris Hamilton (NCRA AD; Recorder)	Liaisons: Jon Boren (ECOP) Katie Frazier (CARET) Doug Steele (APLU, Ex-officio) Eddie Gouge (APLU) Jim Richards (CGA) Hunt Shipman (CGA) Maggie Earle (CGA) Vernie Huber (CGA) Josh Stull (NIFA) Paula Geiger (NIFA) Glen Hoffsis (BVM) Vacant (BHS)
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Participants: Doug Steele, Ernie Minton, John Wraith, Steve Lommel, Vernie Huber, Hunt Shipman, Paula Geiger, Saied Mostaghimi, Katie Frazier, Jeff Jacobsen, Chris Hamilton (recorder)

Call Notes:

1. Welcome and roll call – Done, see participants list above.
2. Approval of 10/22 meeting minutes – Approved as distributed.
3. Approval of today's agenda – Approved as distributed.
4. Update on CLP and BAC meetings – Ernie
 - a. CLP Meeting at APLU
 - i. Marshall Stewart assumed the CLP chair position from Greg Bohach. It looks and feels different already and will be much more than solely Farm Bill focus.
 - ii. Vernie Hubert did an excellent job on Advocacy 101 to include Farm Bill processes and implementation. There will be more regular activities associated with the CLP than in year's past.
 - iii. On-going issues: SCRI match, 1890 carryover, McIntire-Stennis and 1994 eligibility (MT and MN tribes now receive money carved out from the (formerly sole 1862 allocation as a Governor decision), NIFA line consolidation, etc)
 - iv. Strong evidence that the calendar has moved up per Doug Steele, CGA and others on CLP issues and opportunities

- v. 4H will likely be an initiative in the future as an example of a national youth program
- vi. Other Bills, non-Farm Bill
 - 1. America Grows Act (5% for each of 5 years for NIFA, ARS, ERS, NASS), Durbin Bill
 - 2. Livestock Risk Management Extension and Education Act (\$5M for each of the next 5 years for extension and educational program grants, Johnson/Lucas/Cheney Bill
 - 3. Rural STEM Education Act (NSF - \$20M in two categories over each of the next five years), skills shortage, workforce development, rural broadband, 'including ag' and 4H, Lucas.
- b. BAC Meeting at APLU
 - i. The advocacy ask will be the 'UNIFIED ASK,' not the 'One Ask,' with numbers to be determined as Executive, House, and Senate become available. So it will be 7 items (first 3 lines below) that are specifically identified, hence it is more that 'one' line, so a collective or 'unified' set of lines.
 - 1. Capacity (McIntire-Stennis, Evans-Allen, Smith-Lever, 1890 Extension, Hatch)
 - 2. Competitive (AFRI)
 - 3. 1994s asked to roll their Equity, Extension, Research (3 lines) into one consolidated line.
 - 4. APLU also supports narrative line with teaching, International Partnerships/Activities, research infrastructure, and AMR.
 - ii. BAC planning a fly-in meeting sometime in March/April. New ideas, money, processes, establish priorities, if we have to move from Unified Ask, what would that look like, will be topics of discussion.
- 5. APLU update – Doug Steele
 - a. Had a great set of meetings at APLU with the CLP and BAC.
 - b. Discussed Strategic Realignment, with a focus on the 16 top lines, rather than 6. Worked on wording and messaging for the presentation. There was good conversation and follow-up. May use our Strategic Realignment as the basis for conversations with NIFA on their own budget consolidation.
 - c. Doug had lunch with Josh Stull of NIFA today with conversations on how we can support NIFA and go over strategic realignment, to see if we're going in the right direction with it to best support NIFA.
 - d. Also had an interesting conversation with WA State ag dean and VP for research who floated the idea of sub-contracting out some NIFA work for now through an APLU with universities. This is an interesting idea and Doug will engage with NIFA to see if this is something we'd like to look into further.
 - e. NIFA budget line consolidation discussion will take place next week between Doug and Scott Angle. This is still very much a work in progress.
 - f. Regarding Scott Angle's four questions generally discussed to the sections recently, Doug will discuss with the ED administrative team on how best to handle the final, most consistent response to Scott. Perhaps we'll collect aggregated responses from sections, and then have a task force create a final document/report to share. Scott has requested the final response to him by January 31, 2020. These questions address current challenges as well as possible future opportunities to better partner with and reimagine NIFA. Jeff Jacobsen mentioned that the NCRA is collecting regional written responses via

Google docs online, while other research associations may be holding conference calls, as well.

- g. Ernie asked about important PBD meeting topics discussed at APLU. Doug responded that these topics included APLU staffing, assessments and what APLU is doing with the funds, and approval of the 2020 budget. In the closed session, the renewal of CGA's contract was discussed. The contract currently runs for 2020 and 2021. A re-bid process will start next year.
- 6. Cornerstone (CGA) report – Hunt Shipman
 - a. Maggie Earle walked through Appropriations 101 for BAC members at the APLU meeting. CGA is trying to be mindful of the constant committee turnover in BAA and will continue to offer these informational sessions regularly.
 - b. A Call to Action went out last week for institutions, especially those in the Blessed States, to please reach out to delegates to make one final push in support of our priority lines. Next week will be too late, so we are strongly encouraged to act now.
 - c. There is a resolution to address the SCRI matching issue in the House-passed appropriations bill. We are hoping to make the language permanent.
 - 7. NIFA update – Paula Geiger, Josh Stull
 - a. Not much new to add from last month for NIFA.
 - b. NIFA continues to update job vacancies, which can be found on career page of NIFA website.
 - c. The online NIFA leadership organizational chart is continually being updated, as well.
 - 8. ECOP report – None given, no ECOP rep on the call.
 - 9. Other business, as needed
 - a. Jeff Jacobsen introduced Katie Frazier as the new CARET rep to ESCOP and BLC, replacing Becky Walth. Katie is an economist from Virginia and has served as the VA Tech CARET rep since 2012.

Call adjourned at 4:32 pm ET.