

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

Call MINUTES for: 1/28/2020 (4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday monthly)

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

**Committee Members:**

<p><b>Chair:</b> Ernie Minton (NCRA)</p> <p><b>Past Chair:</b> Bill Brown (SAAESD) Gary Thompson (Active Past Chair, NERA)</p> <p><b>Delegates:</b> Alton Thompson (ARD) Dyremple Marsh (ARD) Gary Pierzynski (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)</p> <p><b>Executive Vice-Chair</b> Jeff Jacobsen (NCRA ED) Chris Hamilton (NCRA AD; Recorder)</p>	<p><b>Liaisons:</b> 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)</p>
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**Participants:** Vernie Huber, Shawn Donkin, Doug Steele, Ernie Minton, Saied Mostaghimi, Maggie Earle, Chris Hamilton (recorder)

**Call Agenda/Minutes:**

1. Welcome and roll call – Ernie and Chris. Done; see participants list above.
2. Approval of 11/26 meeting minutes – Ernie. Approved as distributed.
3. Approval of today's agenda – Ernie. Approved as distributed
4. BAC call recap and upcoming CARET/AHS meeting – Ernie
  - a. Call discussion revolved around advocacy efforts to take place during CARET/AHS meetings in March.
  - b. Advocacy will be around 5 capacity lines (usual Hatch, Smith-Lever, 1890 Extension, Evans-Allen, McIntire-Stennis) + NEW 1994 lines (rolled into one section – teaching (equity), teaching, research) + AFRI.
  - c. Unified Ask is the label, but not sure of the \$ amount at this time.

- d. Ag Facilities – With Hunt’s question revolving around to the staff: “The need is so great (formally \$8.4M and growing), yet what federal government can do is so little, it will not make a difference. What are some responses to this situation?”
    - i. It’s never been there previously, but perhaps it’s something to build on.
    - ii. 1890s expressed concern to do no harm with this request.
    - iii. If there was a federal program, more states would likely be interested in creating some state funds to match and start on ag infrastructure.
  - e. A fly-in meeting to take place on the first day of CARET/AHS (March 1). This will be a full BAC committee meeting, starting with a working lunch, then going until the 3 pm break. Focus will be centered around concrete numbers for funding lines and priorities. Eddie Gouge will be sending information on this meeting very soon to make sure everyone will be in attendance.
  - f. Doug Steele concurred with Ernie’s report above. Doug also indicated that the BAC is not sure yet on what the \$ of the ask will be or what it will mean to add 1994s. Also, we need to remember that the 1890s are still not where they should be at 30% of Hatch and 20% of Smith-Lever.
5. APLU update – Doug Steele
- a. APLU is looking at broader topics beyond primary advocacy efforts with CGA.
  - b. Doug met recently with Fred Clark (senior counsel to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, aka the Farm Bill committee) and Janae Brady (Senior Professional Staff to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry). They are interested in having funds appropriated for the America Grows Act and also Agriculture Advanced Research and Development Authority (AGARDA). APLU is considering having a webinar to better explain/re-acquaint stakeholders with what both of these are.
  - c. There is a continued interest to grow AFRI, but may be hard to do while also growing Capacity funds. Materials on the Unified Ask might need to include more details about Capacity, something to make the tie between Capacity and competitive more clear.
  - d. Concerns were expressed over the lack of a long term strategy to support NBAF (National Bio and Agro-defense Facility)
  - e. Academic Programs section feels behind budget-wise.
  - f. APLU had a recent webinar with FEMA. They are focused on Extension right now, but there are many research needs (soil, crops, livestock) that they could support, as well. FEMA is also showing interest in preventative funds.
6. Cornerstone report – Vernie Huber, Maggie Earle
- a. We are waiting on the President’s budget, then will finalize the numbers.
  - b. Main event of note is the conclusion of Facilities in the one-pager.
7. NIFA update – Paula Geiger, Josh Stull
- a. NIFA not on call; no report given.
  - b. Doug Steele mentioned that APLU has been reviewing and summarizing the NIFA reimagined comments. 72 responses came to the APLU website with many not surprising, re-occurring themes. Goal is to have a theme-centered report to Scott Angle by this Friday.
  - c. The final report will be made available to everyone after ED review, either on APLU.org or land-grant.org.
8. ECOP report – Jon Boren
- a. Not on call; no report given.
9. Other business, as needed

Call adjourned at 4:26 pm ET.