

ESCOPE Budget and Legislative Committee (BLC): <http://escop.info/committee/blc0/>

Call Notes for: 6/22/2021, 4 pm ET (Fourth Tuesday Monthly)

Committee Members:

<p>Chair: Glenda Humiston (WAAESD) Past Chair: Ernie Minton (NCRA)</p> <p>Delegates: Alton Thompson (ARD) Vernon Jones (ARD) Gary Pierzynski (NCRA) Shawn Donkin (NCRA) Puneet Srivistava (NERA) Anton Bekkerman (NERA) Steve Lommel (SAAESD) Saied Mostaghimi (SAAESD) John Talbott (WAAESD) Chris Pritsos (WAAESD)</p> <p>Executive Vice-Chair Jeff Jacobsen (NCRA ED) Chris Hamilton (NCRA AD; Recorder)</p>	<p>Liaisons: Jon Boren (ECOP) Katie Frazier (CARET) Doug Steele (APLU) Caron Gala (APLU) Jim Richards (CGA) Hunt Shipman (CGA) Vernie Huber (CGA) Maggie Earle (CGA) Bill Hoffman (NIFA) Paula Geiger (NIFA) Kate Fink (NIFA) Glen Hoffsis (BVM) Laura Jolly (BHS)</p> <p>Note: Incoming Chair will be from NE</p>
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Attendees: Glenda Humiston, Alton Thompson, Vernon Jones, Shawn Donkin, Anton Bekkerman, Steve Lommel, Saied Mostaghimi, John Talbott, Chris Pritsos, Caroline Henney (for Jon Boren), Doug Steele, Caron Gala, Hunt Shipman, Maggie Earle, Paula Geiger, Helene Chipman, Laura Jolly, Rick Rhodes, Gary Thompson, Bret Hess, Jeff Jacobsen (recorder)

Call Agenda/Notes:

1. Welcome and roll call – Glenda
 - See attendee list above.
2. Approval of 5/25/2021 meeting minutes (http://escop.info/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/BLC_MIN_-20210525.pdf) – Glenda
 - Saied made a motion to approve, John seconded.
 - Approved as distributed.
3. Approval of today's agenda – Glenda
 - Approved as distributed.
4. Infrastructure Update – Glenda, Alton, Caron, Jeff
 - Steady goal of at least \$11.5B
 - HBCU Presidents had a 3-hour meeting with House ag committee, ARIA mentioned multiple times as well as the \$40B package, SoAR letter part of intensified effort, we

have Democrats as champions, still working on Republicans although they are generally supportive.

- Op Ed in the works by BAA leadership, Dear Colleague letter circulating, and in a couple of weeks things may happen more publicly, Caron and Vernie working on this effort.
- Coop Extension mentioned in the \$40B package.

5. APLU Update – Doug Steele

- RFA for the advocacy contract under development.
- Andrea Putnam will start July 15 as new AVP Comm and Ext Partnerships.
- Joint COPs agenda being refined.
- Unified Ask adjusted given the PBR and subsequent BAC movement to increase AFRI to \$700M authorized level, Capacity funds increased to 27% (from the original 8%) and extra consideration for 1994 lines remain as the original ask, need to have talking points on a justification for the Capacity fund increase, land-grant.org updated with a new one-pager reflecting these BAC then PBD decisions (Updated one-pager: https://16c8e9b5-cd00-4ae3-ab94-ec706dc05201.filesusr.com/ugd/cbc5b5_5150824a69814119b1cf961e0fa12fd7.pdf), Glenda wished she had included the 1994s in the original motion.
- Need to work on multi-year strategy with goals and metrics.
- REMINDER of the ESS STC Grand Challenge materials that can be used in advocacy.

6. Cornerstone Report – Hunt, Maggie

- Pieces of infrastructure moved in different committees, no clear picture and not sure of comprehensive package, might be a floor option to add, some activity with House subcommittee on Ag Bill and future with full committee, but could be slippage on timing, debt ceiling a future challenge; reconciliation an option, but only do 1 per fiscal year.
- Question from Jeff about reconciliation and meaning of “one more chance.” “Reconciliation” is a budgetary process intended to cut spending, but also used to increase. Can only do reconciliation once per fiscal year. Pertains only to mandatory spending. Too early to tell if our ag infrastructure bill will find life through that.

7. NIFA update –Paula

- Watching Hill activities, House mark-up process.
- Working on next budget request, due to OMB in the fall.
- Pushing now to get remaining 2021 funds out by 9/30, end of the FFY.

8. ECOP report – Jon

- Caroline for Jon – ECOP BLC advocacy and education toolkit available, includes Unified Ask, seven priority areas, shared with NIFA and program staff plus ECOP, addresses what Extension would do with additional funds.
- Climate is an ECOP priority, as well. Quite a bit going on with many opportunities for partnerships with research.

9. BHS report – Laura

- Had conversation with Bret re: the SSSC and BHS concerning expertise to Grand Challenges/moonshot ideas and she will interface with SSSC, SSSC doing gap analysis on NIFA programs.

10. Climate Change Big Ideas, continued – Glenda

- Climate Change discussion will take place at the ESS Annual meeting and will solicit feedback on some core issues where future collaborations would be possible, Interest in knowing what CES is doing and how this would complement ESS interest areas.

- Need to identify an aspirational goal maybe through engaging communication expertise and concurrently develop an advocacy strategy, identify partners, projects.
- BAA and Riley Foundation are working on a NIFA conference grant, virtual and later in person at Kansas City.
- Integrate work with Climate Hubs, Key to identify 2-3 strategies that are best suited for ESS to excel in.
- Need a one sentence statement that puts a stake in the ground...LGUs do xyz as a solution to combat climate change with several subtopics identified.

11. Environmental Justice Issues, as Related to Climate Change Big Ideas - Glenda

12. Other business, as needed

- APLU BAC Actions
 - i. Unified Ask Changes
 - ii. FFY 2023 Advocacy Proposals/Requests
 - iii. SRIC Update

Meeting adjourned at 5:01 pm EDT.