

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

Call NOTES for Thursday, June 16 at 12 noon ET, 11 am CT, 10 am MT, 9 am PT (normally the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday monthly at 4 pm)

**Committee Members:**

<p><b>Chair:</b> Glenda Humiston (WAAESD) <b>Past Chair:</b> Ernie Minton (NCRA) <b>Incoming Chair (FY23):</b> Anton Bekkerman</p> <p><b>Delegates:</b> Alton Thompson (ARD) Vernon Jones (ARD) Gary Pierzynski (NCRA) Marty Draper (NCRA) Puneet Srivastava (NERA) Anton Bekkerman (NERA) Steve Lommel (SAAESD) Saied Mostaghimi (SAAESD) Sreekala Bajwa (WAAESD) Shawn Donkin (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) Caron Gala (APLU) Elizabeth Stulberg (Lewis-Burke, Advocacy) Bill Hoffman (NIFA) Paula Geiger (NIFA) Laura Jolly (BHS)</p>
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**Attendees:** Glenda Humiston, Anton Bekkerman, Marty Draper, Bret Hess, Jenn Tippetts, Saied Mostaghimi, Sreekala Bajwa, Elizabeth Stulberg, Rick Rhodes, Gary Thompson, Laura Jolly, Jeff Jacobsen, Chris Hamilton (recorder)

**Meeting Notes/Agenda:**

1. Welcome and roll call – Glenda, Chris. Done, see attendee list above.
2. Approval of the 4/26 call notes (see: <http://escop.info/event/blc-call-25/>) – Approved as distributed.
3. Approval of Today's Agenda – Approved as distributed.
4. BAC Update – None, nothing new to report.
5. APLU Update – None given, Doug not on call.
6. CLP Update – Glenda, Jeff
  - Issue of 5% cap on retirement contributions (annual, retirement payouts) on Capacity grants, do we want to discuss for 2023 Farm Bill? These contributions are not capped on any competitive grant. Yes, we should talk about this process. Jeff will add this item to his email to Elizabeth, Bridget, and Marshall for the CLP. It's been around for a while, but unsure how big of an issue it is across the system.

7. Liaison Reports
  - a. NIFA update – Bill, Paula. None given, not on call.
  - b. ECOP report – Jon. None given, not on call.
  - c. BHS report – Laura.
    - Looking forward to Joint COPs and will be moving forward with the BHS strategic plan.
    - Laura will share the plan with the group.
8. Process Discussion on Supporting the Unified Ask and Allied Advocacy Efforts – Glenda, All
  - We've been thinking not just on the annual budget, but also strategies for multiple years.
  - Timelines for annual budget are out of our control and things may not align with monthly call schedules of BLC or other ESS leadership committees. For instance, PBR came out so late this year; how might we handle things like this again?
  - We shouldn't ask for less than the PBR, but perhaps we should support a phased-in approach and clearly state our goals and processes to reach them.
  - It's important to be non-partisan.
  - Minor programs not listed in the One Ask – we should consider how best to show support for these. These do often serve a Capacity function even if there is a competitive process.
  - Staffers appreciated our targeted program support, rather than saying everything is immediately important. Justifications (current and future) are important, so reporting on impacts is critical, especially for Capacity programs. We are the main ones advocating for Capacity programs.
  - Having a better understanding of the process is key. Who is doing what and when? This could be part of a fall face to face BLC meeting.
  - We must work with regional leaders and others to talk about appropriations timing and the Farm Bill process with directors, CARET members to help them be effective advocates.
  - Jeff will be in touch with Elizabeth at LBA to develop a training/educational session. Annual budgets/authorization 101 training!
  - More discussions on this to come with BAA BAC, as well.
9. ESS Annual Meeting and Potential ESCOP BLC F2F (Face to Face) Meeting – Glenda, Anton, All
  - Glenda will be rotating off as BLC chair and Anton will take over for the next two years, immediately following the Fall ESS Meeting.
  - The BLC group was in favor of having an extra session for a F2F meeting during Fall ESS. Finding time within the existing schedule would be ideal. Jeff will work with Glenda and Anton and send ideas to the Fall ESS planning team (Rick).
  - Please let Jeff know if there are resources directors would like to have prepared for the session, such as historical budgets and BAA requests, etc.
10. Other business, as needed
  - Q from Sreekala: Can LBA share more details on the recent House decisions? Which areas are being increased, etc.? Elizabeth: There was a hearing today on just a preliminary bill. \$500M AFRI was verbally mentioned, and no details presented yet, but LBA will prepare a work-up for us next week when everything becomes available.

Call adjourned at 12:42 pm ET.