

**AGENDA**  
**BUDGET AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE**  
**BOARD ON AGRICULTURE ASSEMBLY**

**Rooms 302-303 (Level 3)**  
**JW Marriott Indianapolis**  
**Indianapolis, IN**

**November 14, 2015**

- I. Introductions Around the Table
- II. Approval of Minutes from October Conference Call
- III. Brief Report from NIFA
- IV. Update from Cornerstone
  - A. F.Y. 2016 Appropriations
    - a. 1890s
    - b. Crop Protection/Pest Management
  - B. Farm Bill Implementation
- V. F.Y. 2017 Priorities, Lines Targeted for Enhancement, etc.
  - A. Water?
  - B. Other
    - a. Funding for Insular Areas
- VI. Other Business
  - A. Water Working Group Report
  - B. Upcoming BAC Calls and Meetings
  - C. Healthy Food Systems, Healthy People Initiative Update
  - D. Major Initiatives Process, BAC Vote
  - E. Items from the Floor
- VII. Executive Session – Cornerstone Scope of Work for 2016
  - A. Report/Recommendation from Ian on Contract Negotiations with Cornerstone

## Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Alan Grant called the meeting to order and asked each person to introduce themselves, and the following participated in the meeting:

Alan L. Grant (*Chair*), *Virginia Tech*  
Orlando F. McMeans (*Advocacy Chair*), *West Virginia State University*  
Richard M. Klemme (*CES*), *University of Wisconsin-Madison-Extension*  
Gary A. Thompson (*ESS*), *The Pennsylvania State University*  
J. Mark Erbaugh (*IAS*), *The Ohio State University*  
Moses T. K. Kairo (*1890 Research*), *University of Maryland Eastern Shore*  
Lee S. Yudin (*Insular/ Territories*), *University of Guam*  
Karen Jones (*Non-Land-Grants/NARRU*), *Southern Illinois University at Carbondale*  
Christine M. Ladisch (*BoHS*), *Purdue University*  
James P. Thompson (*Veterinary Medicine*), *University of Tennessee*  
Gregory A. Bohach (*CLP*), *Mississippi State University*  
Steven A. Slack (*BAAPBD*), *The Ohio State University*  
Jay T. Akridge (*BAAPBD*), *Purdue University*  
Ian L. Maw, *APLU*  
Eddie G. Gouge, *APLU*  
Jane Schuchardt, *APLU*  
Carolyn B. Brooks, *Association of Research Directors (1890)*  
L. Washington Lyons, *Association of Extension Administrators (1890)*  
H. Michael Harrington, *Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors*  
Andrew Maccabe (*Veterinary Medicine*), *Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges*  
Kevin Cain (*Veterinary Medicine*), *Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges*  
Hunt Shipman, *Cornerstone Government Affairs*  
Jim Richards, *Cornerstone Government Affairs*  
Vernie Hubert, *Cornerstone Government Affairs*

The following committee members/staff were unable to participate in the meeting:

**John C. Stier** (*APS*), *University of Tennessee, Knoxville*; **J. Mark Erbaugh** (*IAS*), *The Ohio State University*; **Anson Elliott** (*Non-Land-Grants/NARRU*), *Missouri State University*; **Albert E. Essel** (*1890 Extension*), *Lincoln University*; **James J. Bittner** (*CARET*), *New York*; **Timothy L. White** (*Forestry*) *University of Florida*; **Gina Banks Daly** (*CGA*), *University of California, Berkeley*; **Wendy Fink**, *APLU*; **Craig Lindwarm**, *APLU*; **Wendy Fink**, *APLU*; **Jeremy Witte**, *Cornerstone Government Affairs*; **Alice J. Gómez**, *Cornerstone Government Affairs*

The following guest participated in the meeting: **Sonny Ramaswamy**, *National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U. S. Department of Agriculture*; **Chase Crawford**, *APLU/AAVMC*; **Dina Chacón-Reitzel**, *CARET (NM)*; **Louise Beaman**, *CARET (IN)*; **Connie Pelton Kays**, *CARET (KS)*; **Susan Crowell**, *CARET (OH)*; **Jim Trapp**, *Oklahoma State University*;

**Jeffrey S. Jacobsen**, *North Central Regional Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors*; and, **Robin Shepard**, *North Central Cooperative Extension Association*.

### **Agenda**

A motion to adopt the agenda was approved.

### **Minutes**

The minutes, as distributed, from the conference call on October 20, 2015 were approved.

### **Appropriations Update**

Cornerstone Government Affairs reported that:

- the House and Senate Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittees have it made up their versions of the appropriations bill with \$1 billion more than they had last year based on the Budget Control Act agreement (which was signed into law last week)
- there is a two-year lift on sequestration
- everything in the accounts in which we are interested were flat funded with the exception of AFRI
- there is hope that an agreement can be reached on each of the twelve appropriations bills so that an omnibus bill can be on the floor by Thanksgiving or the first of December
- based on Fiscal Year 2015 funding, Central State University would receive approximately \$1.7 million in funding with a reduction to the rest of the 1890 community
- crop protection/pest management could be moved to the 3(d) programs in the Senate bill
- Robin Shepard, Mike Harrington, and Jim Richards will meet with NIFA about leaving crop protection and pest management in Section 406 with report language to not allow indirect cost recovery
- \$3 billion was removed from crop insurance and report language was inserted to undo that action – this was a status builder for agriculture
- Congressman Sam Farr (D-CA) announced his plans to retire and there will be a new ranking member in 2017, and it could be Congressman Sanford Bishop of Georgia
- the proposal to make Grambling State University (Louisiana) an 1890 land-grant university seems to be dead for now

### **Farm Bill Update**

Cornerstone Government Affairs reported that:

- committee staff are deeply involved in looking at the implementation of the last Farm Bill since reauthorization will take place in 2018
- the land-grant university systems needs to ramp up their Farm Bill activity in 2017

- there probably will be no more action on SNAP/SNAP-Ed until 2017 but this could change at any time; Chairman Conaway has been exercising control on this and is concerned that opening this up could open up anything in the Farm Bill – he wants a regimented process
- there is a possibility that hearings on the facilities study could happen in the next six months in the House Committee on Agriculture

### **Report from NIFA Director Sonny Ramaswamy**

NIFA Director Sonny Ramaswamy reported on the following:

- the National Ag Library has been designated as the repository for open data/publications
- policy on open data is still developing (needs to be machine readable and available in perpetuity; currently, the regulations only apply to competitive grants but it is critically important that the agriculture community be involved in the debate on this
- of the 33 projects submitted, 8% have been selected as Centers of Excellence for \$41 million
- NIFA is working the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) on the Commodity Boards provision included in the Farm Bill; 13 of 18 topics have been selected to be funded in Fiscal Year 2016 under AFRI; some state commodity boards are quibbling about the 30% overhead rate
- NIFA is continuing to modernize its systems and have gone with GRANTOR, and this will be used next year for all capacity and competitive funding
- all of USDA may be in the South Building, Whitten Building, and Beltsville in the next four to five years – nationwide USDA pays \$32 per square foot for space while they pay \$56 per square foot in DC
- NIFA agrees with the recommendations on the plan of work exercise and a response will be distributed soon
- NIFA is continuing to update the data base (<http://nifa.usda.gov/data>)
- the international presence at NIFA continues, and they have memorandum of understanding with Ireland and USAID
- Dr. John P. Holdren, Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) just released a statement on initiatives to combat and prevent theft of intellectual property
- report language was included in the last Farm bill requiring NIFA to look at the matching funds received by the 1890 institutions, and NIFA will undertake a thorough inventory of 1890 and 1862 institutions to compare the success of matching funds and come up with a path forward once the study is completed
- representatives from the APLU Board on Agriculture Assembly (BAA) and NIFA met in Providence, RI about the water initiative; NIFA received a revised narrative on the proposal and it was incorporated in the President’s Fiscal Year 2017 budget request
- the budget “passbacks” from the Office of Management and Budget could be as early as next week

- the Sightlines infrastructure study did not include all of the information needed and Ramaswamy will meet with some of the BAA leadership to work on a path forward

**Priorities for Fiscal Year 2017**

Lee Yudin made a case for increasing the resident instruction line for the territories and insular affairs in the budget from \$2 million to \$ 4 million. Yudin made a motion to make the \$2 million increase in the resident instruction line, but the motion was withdrawn.

The Budget and Advocacy Committee adopted a motion to accept the following core priorities for Fiscal Year 2017:

- Agriculture and Food Research Initiative      \$450.000 million
- Hatch Act      \$256.201 million
- Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c)      \$304.000 million
- Evans-Allen      \$ 60.500 million
- 1890 Institutions Extension      \$ 49.350 million
- McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry      \$ 35.500 million

The Budget and Advocacy Committee also adopted a motion to go with whichever budget number was higher -- the BAC’s Fiscal Year 2016 budget recommendations (as indicated above) for these programs or the President’s Fiscal Year 2017 recommendations.

The line for the 1994 Institutions Research and Extension was removed from the list of core priorities since the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) withdrew their membership in APLU. However, it was made clear that any representatives from AIHEC or the 1994 institutions would be welcomed to attend any future BAC meetings and participate in the discussions without having the right to vote.

**Other Business**

The BAC approved the proposed budget for CARET and agreed to forward it to the BAA Policy Board of Directors for approval.

Robin Shepard agreed to provide the BAC with a paper describing the budget needs of the water security proposal.

The BAC decided to cancel the BAC conference call scheduled for Tuesday November 17, 2015.

The BAC requested that the paper on the *Healthy Food Systems, Healthy People Initiative* be placed on the BAC website once it has been finalized, and the group would focus on it for Fiscal Year 2018.

Cornerstone Government Affairs reported that they, in conjunction with the Administrative Heads from the following core targeted states, would be looking for key individuals (or

“grasstop” – a person who is a booster of the agriculture college, cares about agriculture, and has a bank roll) to help educate and train as champions for the land-grant university system:

- Alabama
- California
- Georgia
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Montana
- New Mexico
- North Dakota
- Oregon

It should be noted that these “grasstop” individuals would be complementary to the CARET organization and its advocacy efforts.

### **Adjourn**

Chairman Grant adjourned the meeting at 3:25 p.m. (EST).

### **Executive Session of the BAC**

**The BAC unanimously adopted a motion to recommend to the BAA Policy Board of Directors that the relationship with Cornerstone Government Affairs should be continued for three additional years (2016, 2017, and 2018) and should continue the 2% per annum increase in the compensatory portion of the contract subject to an adequate performance review.**

Chairman Grant adjourned the Executive Session of the BAC at 3:47 p.m. (EST).