



**AGENDA
BUDGET AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE
APRIL 21, 2020**

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CALL IN INSTRUCTIONS
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- I. Call to Order (Beyrouty)
- II. Approval of the Agenda (Beyrouty)
- III. Roll Call (Gouge)
- IV. Approval of Minutes (Beyrouty)
- V. Action taken by the Policy Board of Directors on BAC Recommendation on Extension COVID-19 Response (Steele)
 - a. ESCOP Infrastructure
 - b. Joint Association Sign-on Letter (\$380 million)
- VI. Cornerstone Government Affairs Update
 - a. Current COVID-19 Funding Process
 - b. Congressional Update
 - c. Short- and Long-Term Advocacy Efforts
 - d. Status of Federal Budget Process
- VI. Unified Ask (Steele)
 - a. Is this still the appropriate focus and strategy?
 - b. Infrastructure funding
 - c. Timeframe and Messaging
- VII. Other Business
- VIII. Adjourn

Next scheduled BAC Meeting – May 19, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. (EDT)

Call to Order and Roll Call

BAC Chairman Craig A. Beyrouy called the meeting to order and asked Eddie Gouge to call the roll. The following participated in the conference call:

Craig A. Beyrouy (*Chair*), *University of Maryland, College Park*
Paul M. Patterson (*Advocacy Chair*), *Auburn University*
David S. Buchanan (*APS*), *North Dakota State University*
Jon C. Boren (*CES*), *New Mexico State University* |
J. Ernest Minton (*ESS*), *Kansas State University*
M. Ray McKinnie (*1890 Extension*), *Virginia State University*
Dyremple B. Marsh (*1890 Research*), *Delaware State University*
John L. Phillips (*1994 Institutions*), *American Indian Higher Education Consortium*
Karen L. Jones (*Non-Land-Grants/NARRU*), *Southern Illinois University at Carbondale*
Robert W. Godfrey (*Insular/Territories*), *University of the Virgin Islands*
Jim Handley (*CARET – Fiscal Years 2020-2021*), *Florida*
Erik J. Porfeli, (*Board on Human Sciences*), *The Ohio State University*
Linda M. Nagel (*Forestry Resources*), *Colorado State University*
Gary A. Thompson (*BAAPBD*), *The Pennsylvania State University*
Orlando F. McMeans (*BAA-PBD*), *Southern University and A&M College*
Sarah Mathias (*CGA*), *University of Florida*
Douglas L. Steele, *APLU*
Richard M. Klemme, *APLU*
|Eddie G. Gouge, *APLU*
Wendy Fink, *APLU*
Caron Gala, *APLU*
Florencia Drumwright (*APLU*)
Alton Thompson, *Association of Research Directors (189*
Albert E. Essel, *Association of Extension Administrators (1890)*
Jeffrey S. Jacobsen, *North Central Regional Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors*
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*
Maggie Earle, *Cornerstone Government Affairs*

The following committee members/staff were unable to participate in the meeting: **Deanna Behring** (*IAS*), *The Pennsylvania State University*; **Carolyn J. Henry** (*Veterinary Medicine*), *University of Missouri-Columbia*; **Marshall Stewart**, (*BAA Committee on Legislation and Policy*), *University of Missouri*; and, **Alice Gómez**, *Cornerstone Government Affairs*.

Agenda

The agenda, as distributed, was approved.

Minutes

The draft BAC minutes from April 13, 2020 were approved as modified. The modifications included some clarifications that Doug Steele would provide Eddie Gouge in relation to the infrastructure proposal from ESCOP and the funding proposal from ECOP.

Actions of the BAA Policy Board of Directors

Doug Steele and Orlando McMeans provided background information and the actions taken by the BAA Policy Board of Directors in relation to the ECOP (\$80 million for COVID-19 response) and ESCOP (infrastructure) proposals. Both proposals were approved the BAA Policy Board of Directors with a unanimous vote.

Ernie Minton commented that the proposed distribution of the ESCOP infrastructure proposal could be found on page 5 of the BAC minutes (April 13, 2020). He indicated that ESCOP did their best in finding a logical distribution of the funding.

They also indicated that the BAA Policy Board of Directors discussed and approved the co-signers' letter relating to the request for \$380 million to fund the two proposals. The sign-on letter was distributed on Capitol Hill today. The deadline for additional groups to participate in the sign-on letter was extended into next week.

It was noted that these requests made for the supplemental appropriations efforts would not affect the unified ask.

Update from Cornerstone Government Affairs on COVID-19 Appropriations

In relation to the COVID-19 appropriations, Cornerstone Government Affairs made the following points:

- everything is subject to change under CARES 3.5 and the funding bill is expected to pass the Senate today and the House on Wednesday
- the U. S. House of Representatives will take the lead on CARES 4.0, and the BAA will shoot for this vehicle for the \$380 million supplemental request; the House and Senate versions of this vehicle could be different and we will need to wait and see what the final resolution of CARES 3.5 will be
- the next step will be to take the \$380 million request to Congress and work with them in connecting the funding with specific funding accounts, and this needs to be done as soon possible since we would want this funding in the next package that comes forth next week

The BAC adopted a motion unanimously to accept the funding allocation contained with the ESCOP infrastructure as indicated below and/or the [document](#) on the BAC website:

Proposed Allocations by Program		
Program	FFY2020 Actual (\$M)	Supplemental (\$M)
Hatch	259	85.0
Evans-Allen ¹	67	36.2
McIntire-Stennis	36	11.8
Tribal Research	3.8	5
AFRI	425	150
Federal Administration	---	12
Grand Total	---	300

¹Section 1445(a)(2) NARETPA (7 U.S.C. 3222(a)(2)), as amended by Section 7122 of the 2008 Farm Bill with Evans-Allen not less than 30% of Hatch Act appropriations.

Caron Gala reported on the sign-on letter requesting \$380 million and indicated that we had 40 national organizations to sign and that the letter had been distributed to the staff of the House and Senate. The letter would be kept open for additional signatures until 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 29, 2020. It was noted that the organization who had signed onto the letter realize the true value of what the land-grant university system does. Chairman Beyrouthy thanked all who had helped in this sign-on effort.

It was noted at we would continue with business as usual in regard to the unified ask. There would be no change in strategy in regard to the unified ask and the BAC needed to reinforce this fact within the land-grant university system and with their CARET delegates.

Other Issues

Doug Steele indicated that a national webinar was needed for the Board on Agriculture Assembly so that everyone knows what the BAA is doing and it needs to be structured in the right way. The staff at APLU is working on that now.

Chairman Beyrouthy asked Cornerstone Government Affairs to provide the BAC with an executive summary of the type and timing of advocacy that is needed as we move forward.

Next BAC Zoom Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the BAC will occur at **4:00 p.m. (EDT) on Tuesday, May 19, 2020**.

Adjourn

BAC Chairman Beyrouthy adjourned the meeting at 5:12 p.m. (EDT).