

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

**Conference Call**

**October 17, 2017**

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CALL IN INSTRUCTIONS

Number: [1-800-264-8432](tel:1-800-264-8432)

[Passcode: 734155#](#)

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AGENDA

- I. Call to Order (Grant)
- II. Roll Call (Gouge)
- III. Approval of the Minutes from September 18, 2017 conference call
- IV. Appropriations Update
- V. Other Business

## **Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chairman Alan Grant called the meeting to order and asked Eddie Gouge to call the roll. The following participated in the conference call:

Alan L. Grant (*Chair*), *Virginia Tech*  
Orlando F. McMeans (*Advocacy Chair*), *West Virginia State University*  
Douglas L. Steele (*CES*), *Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service*  
William F. Brown (*ESS*), *University of Tennessee, Knoxville*  
J. Mark Erbaugh (*IAS*), *The Ohio State University*  
Bobby R. Phills (*1890 Extension*), *Southern University*  
Karen L. Jones (*Non-Land-Grants/NARRU*), *Southern Illinois University at Carbondale*  
Robert T. (Tom) Jones, (*CARET*), *Arizona*  
John P. Hayes (*Forestry Resources*), *Colorado State University*  
Gregory A. Bohach (*CLP*), *Mississippi State University*  
Gary A. Thompson (*BAAPBD*), *The Pennsylvania State University*  
Gabrielle Serra (*CGA*), *Oregon State University*  
Eddie G. Gouge, *APLU*  
Richard M. Klemme, *APLU*  
Wendy Fink, *APLU*  
Alton Thompson, *Association of Research Directors (1890)*  
L. Washington Lyons, *Association of Extension Administrators (1890)*  
Jim Richards, *Cornerstone Government Affairs*  
Vernie Hubert, *Cornerstone Government Affairs*  
Maggie Earle, *Cornerstone Government Affairs*  
Alice Gomez, *Cornerstone Government Affairs*

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

**John C. Stier** (*APS*), *University of Tennessee, Knoxville*; **Albert E. Essel** (*1890 Extension*), *Lincoln University*; **Elvin Román Paoli** (*Insular/Territories*), *University of Puerto Rico*; **Cheryl Achterberg** (*BoHS*), *The Ohio State University*; **Bryan K. Slinker** (*Veterinary Medicine*), *Washington State University*; **Jay T. Akridge** (*BAAPBD*), *Purdue University*; **Ian L. Maw**, *APLU*; **Hanan Saab**, *APLU*; **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*; **Maggie Earle**, *Cornerstone Government Affairs*; and, **Alice Gomez**, *Cornerstone Government Affairs*.

## **Minutes**

The minutes, as distributed, from the conference call on September 18, 2017 were approved and adopted a motion to forgo approval of the minutes of June 20, 2017.

## **Appropriations Update**

Cornerstone Government Affairs reported that:

- the House of Representatives has passed all twelve appropriations bills and they are pending in the United States Senate
- the Senate has reported the Fiscal Year 2018 Agricultural Appropriations Bill and hope to complete action on it later this week; this could be irrelevant but will provide a benchmark for a conference with the House on the omnibus appropriations bill
- the House of Representatives has passed the Fiscal Year 2018 budget resolution while the Senate resolution is still pending, and there will be a conference agreement hammered out once the Senate has acted
- there is hope that the conference agreement will contain an amendment to the Budget Control Act that will provide some vehicle for the appropriators to provide some relief for 302(a) allocations
- if relief is provided, the Congress may be able to reconcile their 12 appropriations bills in early to mid-December and craft an omnibus bill
- the House has passed a \$35 billion bill for disaster relief and there is hope that the Senate will do the same
- there probably will not be another disaster relief bill until December and it could be made a part of the omnibus bill
- more about the appropriations strategy may be available in November

## **Farm Bill Update**

Cornerstone Government Affairs reported that:

- nothing has changed in relation to the timing of the House of Representatives on the Farm Bill, and they want to proceed with the first opportunity this Fall or early next year
- Cornerstone Government Affairs has gathered a group of concepts and will not proceed to go through the Farm Bill title by title to see where the land-grant university system can most effectively work
- the United States Senate has focused on various aspects of the Farm Bill but has focused on the various nominations submitted by the Trump Administration so they probably will not get to the Farm Bill until next year
- some of the issues still hanging are – naming additional land-grant universities; SNAP, SNAP-Ed, and EFNEP and where the House of Representatives might be going; and, increasing Cooperative Extension's role in the Conservation Title

Greg Bohach, Chairman of the BAA Committee on Legislation and Policy (CLP), reported that the BAA Policy Board of Directors had decided not to sign onto the letter being circulated by the Supporters of Agricultural Research (SoAR). However, the BAA Policy Board of Directors will be doing a separate letter that supports the practical and political goals of the APLU Board on Agriculture Assembly. At this point in time, there does not seem to be a mechanism in the Farm Bill to bring additional resources to the table.

### **Communications and Marketing Update**

Gary Thompson reported that the BAA Policy Board of Directors had appointed a working group (Beverly Durgan, Faith Peppers, and Rick Rhodes) to examine the structure and positioning of the Communications and Marketing Committee. They are expected to have a report to be considered by the BAA Policy Board of Directors at their November 2017 meeting in Washington, DC.

### **Other Business**

In conjunction with the APLU Annual Meeting, the BAC will meet at 11:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on November 11, 2017 in the Washington Wardman Park Hotel.

### **Adjourn**

Chairman Grant adjourned the meeting at 4:41 p.m. (EDT).