

AGENDA
BUDGET AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE
BOARD ON AGRICULTURE ASSEMBLY

Conference Call

January 17, 2017

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CALL IN INSTRUCTIONS

Number: 1-800-264-8432

Passcode: 734155#

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AGENDA

- I. Call to Order (Grant)
- II. Roll Call (Gouge)
- III. Appropriations Update (Cornerstone)
- IV. Follow up on Appropriations Strategy Discussion (Cornerstone)
- V. Other Business

Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Alan L. 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 Polytechnic Institute and State University*
Orlando F. McMeans (*Advocacy Chair*), *West Virginia State University*
William F. Brown (*ESS*), *University of Tennessee, Knoxville*
J. Mark Erbaugh (*IAS*), *The Ohio State University*
Albert E. Essel (*1890 Extension*), *Lincoln University*
Karen L. Jones (*Non-Land-Grants/NARRU*), *Southern Illinois University at Carbondale*
Raúl E. Macchiavelli (*Insular/ Territories*), *University of Puerto Rico*
Robert T. (Tom) Jones (*CARET*)
Cheryl Achterberg (*BoHS*), *The Ohio State University*
James P. Thompson (*Veterinary Medicine*), *University of Tennessee*
John P. Hayes (*Section on Forestry Resources*), *Colorado State University*
Gregory A. Bohach (*CLP*), *Mississippi State University*
Gary A. Thompson (*BAAPBD*), *The Pennsylvania State University*
Jay T. Akridge (*BAAPBD*), *Purdue University*
Ian L. Maw, *APLU*
Eddie G. Gouge, *APLU*
Wendy Fink, *APLU*
Alton Thompson, *Association of Research Directors (1890)*
L. Washington Lyons, *Association of Extension Administrators (1890)*
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*
Jeremy Witte, *Cornerstone Government Affairs*
Alice J. Gómez, *Cornerstone Government Affairs*

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

John C. Stier (*APS*), *University of Tennessee, Knoxville*; **Douglas L. Steele** (*CES*), *Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service*; **Bobby R. Phills** (*1890 Research*), *Southern University and A&M College*; **Gabrielle Serra** (*Council on Governmental Affairs*), *Oregon State University*; **Hanan Saab** (*APLU*); **Andrew Maccabe** (*Veterinary Medicine*), *Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges*; and, **H. Michael Harrington**, *Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors*

The following guest participated in the conference call: **Robin Shepard**, *North Central Cooperative Extension Association*.

Agenda

A motion to adopt the agenda was approved.

Minutes

The minutes, as distributed, from the BAC conference call on December 13, 2016 were approved.

Appropriations Update

Cornerstone Government Affairs reported that:

- no decision has been made by the leadership of Congress on how to proceed with Fiscal Years 2017 and 2018
- the leadership of Congress wants to finish Fiscal Year 2017 as soon as possible but they have not agreed upon an approach to do so
- it may be as late as May 19, 2017 before the new Administration submits its budget
- some of the Congressional organizational meetings have taken place and the following is known:
 - Congressman Robert Aderholt (R-AL-4) will remain Chairman of the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA, and Related Agencies of the House Committee on Appropriations and Congressman Sanford Bishop (D-GA-2) will be the Ranking Member
- the Senate Appropriations Committee has not named their subcommittee chairs yet, and there is likely to be a change in the chair of the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, FDA, and Related Agencies of the Senate Committee on Appropriations but Senator Jeff Merkley (D-OR) is likely to remain the Ranking Member

Follow Up on Appropriations Strategy Session

Cornerstone Government Affairs reported that the idea of a single line request had been floated with Congressional staff and, without exception, the response has been “that makes sense and would make things easier.”

Greg Bohach reported that the Southern AHS and AES expressed overwhelming support for the idea and the consensus was that the BAA should move forward. The Southern AHS and AES did have some suggestions to add to the FAQ list.

Robin Shepard indicated that the North Central Extension and Research Directors held a joint conference call and supported the unified ask. They thought Option A was a simple message. There also was interest in how to address the concern of the 1890s.

L. Washington Lyons said that the 1890 deans and directors had a long conversation about the single ask proposal. They were concerned about the proportionality of the proposed BAC

recommendation. They recommended that the BAC consider taking 2% off of the top of any increase for research and extension and have the remaining 96% of the funding be distributed proportionately.

The BAC had discussion about how the system would get everyone lined up behind the single ask. It was decided that once the BAA Policy Board of Directors had approved the single-ask request, Cornerstone Government Affairs would send out the request electronically to CARET and AHS. It was felt that there would not have to be a lot of explanatory effort made.

The BAC requested that Cornerstone Government Affairs start working on the budget documents without the actual budget numbers. Cornerstone Government Affairs will work with the Executive Directors on the final budget document to modernize the look of the documents.

A motion was made (Tom Jones), seconded, and adopted to authorize Cornerstone Government Affairs to move forward with the single-ask request and the actual numbers would be filled in during the February 21, 2017 conference call.

Cornerstone Government Affairs was asked to take Option A and use the scenario presented by L. Washington Lyons of taking 2% off the top for 1890 research and extension to create an Option B.

The BAC agreed that BAC Chairman Alan Grant and Cornerstone Government Affairs should conduct a conference call in February for the groups (Board on Human Sciences, Board on Veterinary Medicine, Section on Forestry, Non-Land-Grants, and Academic Programs) that had not had a chance to discuss the potential change in advocacy strategy. Eddie Gouge was asked to arrange the conference call.

Adjourn

Chairman Grant adjourned the meeting at 4:43 p.m. (EST).