

# National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education and Economics Advisory Board

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## MINUTES Executive Committee Conference Call Friday, January 26, 2014, 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. EST.

**Executive Committee Members Present:** Dr. Milo Shult (Chair), Dr. Charles Boyer, Dr. Patsy Brannon, Dr. Carrie Castille, Leo Holt, Dr. Mark McLellan, and Dr. Robert Taylor

**Executive Committee Members Absent:** Dr. Steven Daley-Laursen (Vice Chair)

**NAREEE Board Staff:** Michele Esch, Executive Director; Shirley Morgan-Jordan, Program Support Coordinator

**Others Present:** Dr. Ann Bartuska, REE, Deputy Under Secretary, Sharon Drumm, Bill Hoffman, and Caren Wilcox

### I. **Welcome and Roll Call of the Executive Committee Members and Other Attendees**

Michele Esch conducted a roll call of the Executive Committee once members signed on to the conference call.

### II. **Welcome from the Chair**

Dr. Shult welcomed everyone on the call. He then turned the meeting over to Dr. Woteki.

### III. **Comments from the REE Office of the Under Secretary**

Dr. Bartuska welcomed everyone on the call. Dr. Woteki sends her regrets. She is attending the Foundation of Food and Agriculture Board meeting.

- Dr. Bartuska stated that the budget was released and they were happy with the results. The REE Budget is \$3.2 B, \$450 M went to Competitive Grants which is more than the previous year. She stated that there was some reinforced value on AFRI. She said they need to reinvest in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century technology. Honey and bee pollinator received \$74 M and \$52 M went to antimicrobial resistance programs in ARS, NIFA, and REE.

- Dr. Bartuska stated on January 7, 2015, a new report was released from National Research Council concerning Animal Science and Research Production's increased investment in animal research and plant research.
- She stated that REE is looking forward to the release of the new pollinator initiative within the next 45 days.

#### **IV. ARS-Animal Handling and Welfare Review Subcommittee**

Michele Esch stated the Board has been notified concerning the prompt attention of the NY Times Article to USDA. She stated that the charge is now being reviewed and is in clearance. Overall, the charge asks for the review and research of animal care and animal use procedures. The review will be completed in two phases and the first report is due in mid-March.

Phase I will consist of a review of the policies and procedures and their implementation at the Clay Center, Nebraska facility. They will identify if the facility is in compliance with institutional policies and procedures, the process for reviewing research protocols, and the current review of the well-being of the animals. The subcommittee has to submit their response within 60 days.

Phase II will be done within 180 days. The subcommittee will visit an additional 3-5 ARS facilities to conduct a similar review.

Dr. Shult suggested adding another name to the candidate slate.

Dr. McLellan stated that he was impressed with the quality of members that were on the list.

Michele Esch stated that the nominees came from ARS, the Secretary's office, members of the NAREEE Advisory Board, and REE. The Secretary has asked that Dr. John Clifford, APHIS Chief Veterinary Officer, be a part of the subcommittee. There will be a total of 6 members on the committee plus 1 NAREEEAB member.

Michele Esch went over the list of names that were selected with the committee. She stated that the EXECOM will need to agree with the names to make the final suggestions for appointment. It was agreed amongst the EXECOM to keep Temple Grandin on the list for Phase II since previous commitments would not allow her to be available for Phase I.

Dr. McLellan stated that for long purposes, there should be 2 more individuals nominated due to circumstantial situations that may arise and member weren't available to attend the site visit.

Dr. Boyer stated that we should double up on the animal welfare selection.

It was also stated that the group could make Temple Grandin a consultant if she could not attend any part of the site visits. The group also stated that adding Jim Goodman to the subcommittee would be idea.

The group agreed to ask Aaron Olsen or Lonny Dixon to chair the committee.

Michele Esch stated that Temple Grandin has offered to provide her with some commentary concerning animal welfare.

The Executive Committee voted to recommend the following members of the Animal Handling and Welfare Subcommittee:

- Aaron Olsen (possible Chair)
- Lonny Dixon (possible Chair)
- Stephen Ford
- Mo Salman
- John Clifford
- Jim Goodman

**V. Review of Citrus Disease Subcommittee FY2015 Priorities**

Dr. McLellan provided an update on the recent activities of the Citrus Disease Subcommittee (CDS). He stated that the CDS had met and developed a series of recommendations related to the Request for Applications for the FY2015 Citrus Disease Research and Extension Program. Due to time constraints, the CDS has drafted a memorandum to the Under Secretary and Director of NIFA. The Executive committee approved the submission to move forward to the full Board.

Bill Hoffman asked if the recommendations will be handled the same as all the reports concerning the process. Michele Esch stated that the report must go to the Full Board for approval before being final.

**VI. Relevancy and Adequacy Update**

Michele Esch provided a brief update. The Relevancy and Adequacy Report is moving along very well. The FY2015 report will provide a synthesis to the new proposed process for completing the relevance and adequacy review.

**VII. Other Business**

**There being no additional business, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.**

The next Executive Committee teleconference is scheduled for March 6, 2015.

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Dr. Milo Shult  
Chair

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Dr. Steven Daley-Laursen  
Vice Chair

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Michele Esch  
Executive Director

APPROVAL BY ADVISORY BOARD: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Initials following Advisory Board Approval