



MINUTES
National Genetics Resources Council Conference Call
Monday, April 27, 2020, 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. EST.

National Genetics Resources Council Committee Members Present: Dr. Terrence Tiersch, Dr. David Butruille, Dr. Chad Dechow, Mr. Preston Hardison, Dr. Amir Ibrahim, Dr. Steven Kerns, De. Sarada Krishnan, Dr. Stephen Kresovich, Dr. Kevin McCluskey, Dr. James McFerson, and Dr. Margaret Smith

Not: Dr. Katherine Rainey

NAREEE Board Staff: Michele Esch, Executive Director/Acting Chief of Staff, REE and Shirley Morgan-Jordan, Program Support Coordinator

Ex-Officio(s): Dr. Peter Bretting

Others Present: Dr. Harvey Blackburn

I. Welcome and Roll Call of Committee Members and Other Attendees

Michele did a roll call.

There are six documents that have to be complete.

II. Welcome From The Chair

- Dr. Tiersch (Chair) explained to the Council what the duties are, what the council will be doing and past topics that have been discussed. He stated that we should be moving forward and the Council's job is to safeguard global agriculture.

III. Farm Bill

In updating the new members. The new charge for members went from 9 members to 13 members. Membership letters for new nominations will be sent out to the new Board

members. The 2018 Farm Bill charged USDA to develop a plan for the backlog of germplasm and

IV. Update on the Crop Genetic Vulnerability

Michele has sent the new request for the completed Quad charts to the Crop Germplasm Committees. The deadline is March 31. As the quad charts are submitted she will send them to the members of the NGRAC. Peter Bretting has already completed several charts and will send them to the NGRAC.

V. Update on Appointments

We have submitted the appointments for the NAREEE Board to the Secretary and are waiting on the final selections to be made. The NAREEE Board currently has 15 of 25 members. The NGRAC candidates have not yet been submitted but we are preparing to do that soon.

The plan for the NAREEE Board is to hold a virtual public meeting at the end of March (barring any additional delays with the appointment of the members) to resolve old business, including the approval of several pending reports (which will hopefully include the Animal and Aquatic genetic resources report from the NGRAC) and establish the members of the Executive Committee.

Michele stated that we have 3 vacancies on the NGRAC. If all 6 remaining members attend conference calls and future meetings, we do have a quorum.

VI. Update on Establishing a Chair for the NGRAC

Paul Gepts suggested that we establish a Chair for the NGRAC. This was supported by the members. Michele asked that the members determine if they are interested in serving. She committee to sending an email calling for nominations and we will hold a vote by email (or other online tool) before the next conference call.

VII. Next Face to Face Meeting

There was discussion and agreement that we would resolve old business before we hold a face to face meeting. And at our next face to face meeting, likely to be held this summer, will address new and emerging issues.

Kevin McCluskey stated that he still wants the committee to make recommendations on the microbial collection. This collection is housed at the ARS Peoria location and is slated for closure in the FY18 and FY19 Presidents budget.

VIII. Other Business

- None

Next meeting will be scheduled for March 19, 2018 @ 12:00 p.m., EST

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.