



## North Central Regional Association of State Agriculture Experiment Station Directors

# NCRA

**197th Meeting**  
**Downtown Marriott, Des Moines, IA**  
**Dubuque Room, 3rd Floor**  
**8-10 am, July 16, 2013**

### FINAL AGENDA and MINUTES

<i>Time</i>	<i>Item #</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Presenter</i>
8:00 am	1.0	Call to Order	Dave Benfield, NCRA Chair 2013
	2.0	Approval of Spring 2013 Minutes, see: <a href="http://ncra.info/docs/Historical/Minutes/April2013.pdf">http://ncra.info/docs/Historical/Minutes/April2013.pdf</a> - <b>Approved</b>	
	3.0	Adoption of the Agenda – <b>Approved</b> ; Karen Plaut gave a brief update on the status Item 10.0 in place of Bill Ravlin and Steve Pueppke.	
	4.0	Interim Actions of the Chair 4.1 ED search update 4.2 Other	
8:10 am	<a href="#">5.0</a>	Executive Director's Report 5.1 <a href="#">NC Canada/US Climate Meeting</a> 5.1.1 USDA's <a href="#">Climate Hub RFA</a> 5.2 Battelle Survey Update 5.3 <a href="#">Marketing Committee Update</a>	Arlen Leholm
8:25 am	<a href="#">6.0</a>	UIC Meeting Report	Abel Ponce de León
8:30 am	<a href="#">7.0</a>	MRC Report 7.1 Projects Approved for FY2014 7.2 OTT funded project recommendations 7.3 <a href="#">NRSP Report</a>	Ernie Minton, MRC Chair 2013  Abel Ponce de León, NRSP Chair, 2013
8:45 am	<a href="#">8.0</a>	ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee Update	Ernie Minton, Karen Plaut
8:55 am	<a href="#">9.0</a>	Nominations Committee Update	Ernie Minton
9:00 am	<a href="#">10.0</a>	International Program Collaborations Update	Karen Plaut
9:05 am	<a href="#">11.0</a>	Funding Trends for Research Support of Animal Agriculture	Dave Benfield, All
9:45 am	<a href="#">12.0</a>	Organics Meeting	Steve Slack

9:55 am	13.0	<p>Other Business</p> <p>13.1 Job Announcements on NCRA website</p> <p>13.2 Relevant personnel changes at your institutions</p> <p>13.3 Other</p> <p>13.3.1 Input on WAAESD question about unpaid assessments</p>	All
		<p>Future Meetings:</p> <p><a href="http://ncra.info/Organization_UpcomingMeetings.php">http://ncra.info/Organization_UpcomingMeetings.php</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint COPs, July 22-25, 2013, Hilton Garden Inn, Manhattan, KS</li> <li>• Fall ESS/AES/ARD Meeting and Workshop, Hilton Easton, Columbus OH, September 24-26, 2013 (Note: Tues-Thurs schedule)</li> <li>• 2014 NCRA Spring Meeting, March 31-April 2, 2013, Amway Grand Hotel, Grand Rapids, MI</li> </ul>	
10:00 am	<i>Adjourn</i>		

**Written Briefs Only:**

[USDA-ARS Report](#)

## ACTION ITEMS

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1. Chris will resend ED position announcement to all lists – Done, 7/18
2. Chris will contact Rebecca Power to stay in touch re: Regional Water Center - Done
3. Rick and Deb will also stay connected through WI and NE regarding Water Center
4. Chris will schedule a conference call on Tuesday, July 23 at 10 am CDT to follow-up on Climate Hub RFA and potential NC locations – Done
5. Steve Slack will bring up the animal advocacy issue for discussion next week at the Joint COPs meeting in KS.
6. Steve Slack will work to set up another session with the NC Organic Farmers during their February LaCrosse, WI meeting.
7. Before 9/1, please send your ideas for a 30 minute special discussion topic for our fall NCRA meeting to Chris

## AGENDA BRIEFS and MEETING MINUTES

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**Attendees:** Deb Hamernik (NE), Karen Plaut (Purdue), Ernie Minton (KS), David Benfield (OH), Steve Slack (OH), John Baker (MI), Abel Ponce de León (MN), Joe Colletti (IA), Rick Lindroth (WI), Marc Linit (MO), Arlen Leholm and Chris Hamilton (NCRA Office)

### **Item 4.0: Interim Actions of the Chair**

**Presenter: David Benfield, NCRA Chair 2013**

- 4.1 ED search update: Position has been posted and distributed widely, but Chris will resend the announcement this week (done). The search committee will meet soon and develop evaluation metrics, rating sheet, etc., as well as interview site/webinar details
- 4.2 Other: Discussion ensued regarding who institutions deal with conducting assessments of large, integrated proposals.

### **Item 5.0: Executive Director's Update**

**Presenter: Arlen Leholm**

#### **Update on NC Water Quality/Quantity Regional Center**

- Ext currently working this proposal
- WI and NE supplying major support, with assessments from other states
- May involve AES in the future, but will keep us informed
- Rebecca Power is EXT point person, Chris will contact her and request to be included in any calls, emails, etc. and share them with the group. Rick and Deb from WI and NE will do the same.

### **Item 5.1: NC Canada/US Climate Meeting**

Group webpage:

[http://ncra.info/docs/NC\\_US\\_Canada\\_Climate/NC\\_US\\_Canada\\_Climate\\_index.html](http://ncra.info/docs/NC_US_Canada_Climate/NC_US_Canada_Climate_index.html)

Google Group for email list and document sharing: <http://groups.google.com/group/nc-us-and-canada-climate-group> (contact Chris to be added to email list)

USDA RFA for Climate Regional Hub for Risk Adaptation and Mitigation to Climate Change: <http://ncra.info/docs/Historical/Minutes/July2013/usda.rfa.hubs.130618.pdf>

Check your email for this Friday's (July 19) webinar on the RFA and Climate Hubs. Chris will schedule a call for July 23 at 10 am for further discussion on this issue.

### **Item 5.2: Battelle Survey Update**

- Simon has only received a 12% return rate on the industry surveys, not ideal execution
- Simon is willing to adjust the contract amount down
- Robin and Arlen will call Simon next week to discuss, more info to come

**Item 5.3: Marketing Update: Contains confidential information. Please contact the NCRA office if you wish to view this material.**

**Item 6.0: UIC Update**

**Presenter: Abel Ponce de León**

Abel discussed his recent interactions with UIC and discussed the difference between UIC and UIDP. UIC is more AES/college level, while UIDP is more system level. There are more NC members in UIDP, so Abel is more inclined to recommend joining this one. Both have the same result, but with different initiatives. More information to come.

**Action Requested: For information only.**

**Item 7.0: MRC Report**

**Presenter: Ernie Minton, 2013 NCRA MRC Chair**

Remaining projects approved by the MRC for renewal (requested revisions received and approved by lead reviewer):

- NC\_temp213, Marketing and Delivery of Quality Grains and BioProcess Coproducts. Lead reviewer: Joe Colletti. Will retain NC213 designation.
- NC\_temp1040, Metabolic Relationships in Supply of Nutrients for Lactating Cows (NC-1009). Lead reviewer: Ernie Minton
- NC\_temp2042, Management Systems to Improve the Economic and Environmental Sustainability of Dairy Enterprises. Lead reviewer, Deb Hamernik. Renewing as NC2042.
- NC\_temp1169, EFNEP Related Research, Program Evaluation and Outreach. Lead reviewer, Archie Clutter
- NCCC\_temp207, Biochemistry and Genetics of Plant-Fungal Interactions. Lead Reviewer, Joe Colletti

Midterm Review Updates:

- **NC1023: Still missing an impact statement, reminder sent to committee on 6/19.**
- NC1100, FY2014 budget and business plan submitted and recommended for approval by MRC
- NC1183: Submitted new impact statement as requested.
- NC1184: Submitted new impact statement as requested.
- NC1186: Submitted new impact statement as requested.
- NC1187: Submitted new impact statement as requested.

Off-the-Top Funded Regional Trusts, FY2014 Budgets and Business Plans:

- MRC committee recommends both NC7 and NC1100 budgets and business plans for approval
- [NC7](#)
- [NC1100](#)

**Action requested: Approval of all MRC recommendations listed above.**

**Action taken: All recommendations approved by NCRA.**

### **Item 7.3: NRSP Report**

**Presenter: Abel Ponce de León, NRSP Chair, 2013**

1. The NRSP-RC met by phone on June 3 and made the following project recommendations for the full ESCOP vote at the Fall ESS Meeting:
  - **NRSP-1 budget increase, as proposed by WAAESD office:** 4/3 against increasing the project's budget to support a full-time impact writer
  - **NRSP\_temp281:** Budget and business plan reviews were favorable and the proposal is recommended for approval/renewal as-is.
2. In addition, the group evaluated the midterm review forms for NRSP4, 6, and 9. All midterm reviews were favorable and the three committees were recommended to continue as-is.
3. Updated NRSP Guidelines, rev. 2012, have been uploaded to the ESCOP webpage here: <http://escop.ncsu.edu/EZcontainer.cfm?pg=guidelines.htm>

**Action requested: None, for information only.**

### **Item 8.0: ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee**

**Presenters: Steve Slack, Ernie Minton, Karen Plaut**

Link to Budget and Legislative Priorities Survey:

<http://ncra.info/docs/ESCOP2013/ESS%20Priorities%20Summary%202013>

**Action Requested: None; for information only**

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**Item 9.0: Nominations Committee Report**

**Presenter: Ernie Minton**

**NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
STATE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION DIRECTORS**

2014 Officers and Committee Members  
(Fiscal Year 2014 begins **October 1, 2013**)

**Officers:**

E. Minton, KS, NCRA Chair (14) ([eminton@ksu.edu](mailto:eminton@ksu.edu))  
D. Benfield, OH, Past Chair (13) ([benfield.2@osu.edu](mailto:benfield.2@osu.edu))

**Executive Committee:**

E. Minton, KS, Chair (14) ([eminton@ksu.edu](mailto:eminton@ksu.edu))  
D. Benfield, OH, Past Chair (13) ([benfield.2@osu.edu](mailto:benfield.2@osu.edu))  
D. Hamernik, NE, MRC Chair (14) ([dhamernik2@unlnotes.unl.edu](mailto:dhamernik2@unlnotes.unl.edu))  
A. Leholm, NCRA, Exec. Vice Chair (Perm) ([leholm@cals.wisc.edu](mailto:leholm@cals.wisc.edu))

**Multistate Research Committee (3-year term):**

D. Hamernik, NE, MRC Chair (14) ([dhamernik2@unlnotes.unl.edu](mailto:dhamernik2@unlnotes.unl.edu))  
Archie Clutter, NE (12-15) ([aclutter2@unl.edu](mailto:aclutter2@unl.edu))  
J. Colletti, IA, (13-16) ([colletti@iastate.edu](mailto:colletti@iastate.edu))  
R. Lindroth, WI, (14-17) ([lindroth@wisc.edu](mailto:lindroth@wisc.edu))  
A. Leholm, Ex-Officio ([leholm@cals.wisc.edu](mailto:leholm@cals.wisc.edu))

**Resolutions Committee (3-year term):**

M. Linit, MO, (11-14) ([linit@missouri.edu](mailto:linit@missouri.edu))

**Nominating Committee (2-year term):**

Ernie Minton, KS (12-14) ([eminton@ksu.edu](mailto:eminton@ksu.edu))

**Committee on Legislation and Policy**

**CLP Chair and NC Representative** (Steve Slack to serve if requested by ESCOP)

A. Leholm, Ex officio, ([leholm@cals.wisc.edu](mailto:leholm@cals.wisc.edu))

**Rural Development Center Board (2-year term):**

J. Baker, MI (perm, MSU rep), ([baker@anr.msu.edu](mailto:baker@anr.msu.edu))  
A. Ponce de Leon, MN, (13-15) ([apl@umn.edu](mailto:apl@umn.edu))  
Daniel Scholl, SD, (12-14) ([daniel.scholl@sdstate.edu](mailto:daniel.scholl@sdstate.edu))

**NRSP Review Committee Representative (NCRA):**

Doug Buhler, MI ([buhler@msu.edu](mailto:buhler@msu.edu))

**ESCOP (3-year term):**

E. Minton, KS, NCRA Chair (14) ([eminton@ksu.edu](mailto:eminton@ksu.edu))  
D. Benfield, OH, NCRA Past Chair (13) ([benfield.2@osu.edu](mailto:benfield.2@osu.edu))

A. Leholm, NCRA (Perm Alt) ([leholm@cals.wisc.edu](mailto:leholm@cals.wisc.edu))

**ESCOP Executive Committee:**

E. Minton, KS, NCRA Chair (14) ([eminton@ksu.edu](mailto:eminton@ksu.edu))  
A. Leholm, NCRA (Perm Alt) ([leholm@cals.wisc.edu](mailto:leholm@cals.wisc.edu))

**ESCOP Chair's Advisory Committee:**

A. Leholm, NCRA (Perm Alt) ([leholm@cals.wisc.edu](mailto:leholm@cals.wisc.edu))

**ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee:**

J. E. Minton, KS ([eminton@ksu.edu](mailto:eminton@ksu.edu))  
Karen Plaut, IN ([kplaut@purdue.edu](mailto:kplaut@purdue.edu))

**ESCOP Communications and Marketing Committee:**

W. Wintersteen, IA ([agdean@iastate.edu](mailto:agdean@iastate.edu))  
W. Ravlin, IN ([ravlin.1@osu.edu](mailto:ravlin.1@osu.edu))  
A. Levine, MN ([aslevine@umn.edu](mailto:aslevine@umn.edu))  
A. Leholm, NCRA (Perm Alt) ([leholm@cals.wisc.edu](mailto:leholm@cals.wisc.edu))

**ESCOP Science and Technology Committee:**

F.W. Ravlin, OH ([ravlin.1@osu.edu](mailto:ravlin.1@osu.edu))  
A. Ponce de Leon, MN ([apl@umn.edu](mailto:apl@umn.edu))  
J. Colletti, IA, ([colletti@iastate.edu](mailto:colletti@iastate.edu))

**ESCOP Science and Technology Committee Social Science Sub-Committee (3-year term):**

Beth Forbes, IN (11) ([forbes@purdue.edu](mailto:forbes@purdue.edu)) - Ag Communications  
Scott Loveridge, MI (13) ([loverid2@anr.msu.edu](mailto:loverid2@anr.msu.edu)) – Ag Econ (Joe Colletti to replace when Scott steps down)  
Mike Retallick, IA (13) ([msr@iastate.edu](mailto:msr@iastate.edu)) – Ag Education  
Soyeon Shim, WI (13) ([sshim7@wisc.edu](mailto:sshim7@wisc.edu)) – Human Sciences  
Vacant – Rural Sociology

**ESCOP NIMSS Oversight Committee/NRSP1:**

J. Colletti, IA ([colletti@iastate.edu](mailto:colletti@iastate.edu))  
F.W. Ravlin, OH ([ravlin.1@osu.edu](mailto:ravlin.1@osu.edu))

**North Central Bioeconomy Consortium**

NCBEC Vice President, J. Colletti ([colletti@iastate.edu](mailto:colletti@iastate.edu))

**Action Requested: Need volunteer to serve as NC representative to NRSP-RC**

**Action Taken: Doug Buhler will serve as NC rep to NRSP-RC, effective 10/1/2013**

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**Item 10.0: International Programs Collaborations Update****Presenter: Karen Plaut, replacing Bill Ravlin and Steve Pueppke**

Karen provided a brief update on this project. Bill Ravlin completed the spreadsheet and sent it on to the committee. Getting some push-back from International Programs, but highlights might be OK. More information should be available at fall NCRA meeting.

**Action Requested: None, for information only.****Item 11.0: Funding Trends for Research Support of Animal Agriculture****Presenter: Dave Benfield**

There is a good presentation on the need for increased funding for animal agriculture by Lowell Randel, Science Policy Director for the Federation of Animal Science Societies:

<http://www.slideshare.net/trufflemedia/mr-lowell-randel-grand-societal-challenges-and-the-role-of-animal-science>

Also the National Association for the Advancement of Animal Science:

<http://animalsciences.us/#/home/>

has worked towards proposed language in the current Farm Bill called the FARM ANIMAL AGRICULTURE INTEGRATED RESEARCH INITIATIVE located on page 921 of the Senate-passed version S. 954 - Agriculture Reform, Food and Jobs Act of 2013 (Senate Passed, as sent to the House) located on the Senate web site: <http://www.ag.senate.gov/issues/farm-bill> . This initiative calls for funding at \$50 million for each of fiscal years 2014-2018.

**Action Requested: Steve Slack will bring up the animal advocacy issue for discussion next week at the Joint COPs meeting in KS.****Item 12.0 NC Organics Meeting****Presenter: Steve Slack**

Steve requested input from the NCRA on whether they would be interested in meeting again with the MOSES group at their February session in LaCrosse, WI to help them better understand our structure. All were favorable and interested. Steve will look into setting this up and will provide more information soon. Animal and plant reps welcome to join.

**Action Requested: None, for information only.****Other Business: None**

**Future Meetings:** Please send ideas for a 30 min special topic for fall NCRA meeting to Chris.

*Meeting adjourned, see you all in Columbus, OH!*

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Written Brief:  
 USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS)  
 Report to NCRA State Agriculture Experiment Station Directors

July 2013

**Area Leadership**

**Northern Plains Area**

Area Director: Larry Chandler  
 Associate Area Director: Michael (Mickey) McGuire  
 Colorado, *Kansas*, Montana, *Nebraska*, *North Dakota*, *South Dakota*, Utah, Wyoming

**Midwest Area**

Area Director: Robert Matteri  
 Associate Area Director: J.L. Willett  
 Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Wisconsin

**Budget Information**

**FY 2013 Appropriations**

- ARS Salaries and Expenses: \$1,101,853,000
  - 2.513% Rescission which is a reduction of \$27,690,000
  - Spending cuts required by sequestration of \$55,067,000
  - **Final Budget Authority for FY 13 is \$1,019,096,000**
  - Represents a reduction of funding to ARS of \$157 million in the past 24 months

**FY2014 President's Budget for ARS**

<b>Salaries and Expenses: FY2014 Appropriation</b>		<b>\$1,124,003,000</b>
<b>Proposed Increases</b>		\$154,580,000
	FY2014 Pay Costs	\$6,376,000
	Program Initiatives	\$148,204,000
<b>Proposed Decreases</b>		<b>(\$131,923,000)</b>
	Proposed Termination of Extramural Research	(\$32,052,000)
	Proposed Termination of Ongoing Research	(\$3,347,000)
	Proposed Laboratory/Location Consolidations	(\$16,996,000)
	Proposed Redirection of Ongoing Research	(\$72,829,000)
	Unspecified Decreases	(\$6,699,000)
<b>FY2014 Buildings &amp; Facilities</b>	Biocontainment Lab & Poultry Research Facility, Athens, GA	<b>\$155,000,000</b>

## **FY 2014 House Markup**

- The bill provides \$1.074 billion for ARS Salaries and Expenses, an increase of \$57 million or 5.6 % above current operating level.
- No funding is provided for the ARS Buildings and Facilities Account.

## **FY 2014 Senate Markup**

- The bill provides \$1.123 billion for ARS Salaries and Expenses, an increase of \$107 million or 10.5 % above current operating level.
- No funding is provided for the ARS Buildings and Facilities Account.

### ***Research Priorities and Initiatives***

ARS research continues to address priorities in the following program areas: Animal Production and Protection, Crop Production and Protection, Natural Resources and Sustainable Agricultural Systems, and Nutrition, Food Safety and Quality.

### ***New Leadership and Vacancies***

#### ***Midwest Area (MWA)***

- Illinois
  - National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research (Peoria)
    - Plant Polymer Research Unit (vacant, Gordon Selling, Acting RL)
- Iowa
  - National Animal Disease Center (Ames)
    - Marcus Kehrli, New Center Director
    - Virus and Prion Research Unit (vacant, Susan Brockmeier, Acting RL)
- Minnesota
  - Cereal Disease Laboratory (St. Paul)
    - Shahryar Kianian, New RL
  - Plant Science Research Unit (St. Paul)
    - Vacant, (Deborah Samac, Acting RL)
- Wisconsin
  - Dairy Forage Research Center (Madison)
    - Center Director: Neal Martin retired, January, 2013 (Rich Muck, Acting CD).

#### ***Northern Plains Area***

- Kansas
  - Center for Grain and Animal Health Research (Manhattan)

- Stored Product Insect Research Unit, Vacant (Brenda Oppert Acting RL)
- Nebraska
  - U.S. Meat Animal Research Center (Clay Center)
    - Environmental Management Research Unit, Vacant (Tami Brown Brandl, Acting RL)
    - New Unit: Genetics, Breeding and Animal Health Research Unit, Gary Bennett, RL
- North Dakota
  - Red River Valley Agricultural Research Center (Fargo)
    - Insect Genetics and Biochemistry Research Unit, Vacant (Bill Kemp, Acting RL)

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