

The S1086 annual meeting was held online on May 20, 2026; The zoom link was as follows: <https://msstateextension.zoom.us/j/91020676935?pwd=eYEnD7fEB4Vxvg13HoKLihTqcHla f K.1>. All attendees introduced themselves and then we proceeded with the NIFA report from Dr. Bob Godfrey. Dr. Godfrey indicated that he would be retiring in 120 days. Dr. Godfrey indicated to be sure and pay attention to the new executive orders; as there were lots of new terms and conditions. There are lots of new rules about what can and cannot be done. At this time there is not a date released for the AFRI-NOFO. He also reminded everyone to be sure to sign up for NIFO notifications. Also, for any questions about NOFO phone calls may work best because they can do more with a phone call than an email in many cases. Also, he provided the following links: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/executive-orders/> <https://www.usda.gov/directives/sm-1078-021> <https://www.usda.gov/ree/reorganization>

Dr. James Matthews gave his report and indicated that the report was due 60 days from this annual meeting. Everyone agreed to a deadline on July 6, 2026; for submitting their information for the annual report. We indicated that a reminder would be sent out on July 1, 2026. We discussed setting up a google doc for everyone to enter their information into the document to streamline the reporting process. Dr. Matthews also indicated the importance of Impact Statements and remember that connectivity and collaborations were very important. The venue for this year's meeting was supposed to be in Texas but due to the limited number of people able to attend in person the venue was postponed until 2027. Dr. Andy Herring and Dr. David Riley extended the invitation to come to Texas for next year's annual meeting in Texas. The group elected for next year's meeting to be on May 18 -20, 2027 and was motioned by Megan Rolf and seconded by Andy Herring. In addition, due to the limited number of attendees Dr. Matthews asked if they were willing for the Chair and Chair-elect to remain for one more year. At this time the Chair is Rhonda Vann; Chair-elect is Micheal Gonda; and Secretary is Emily Baker; motioned by Brian Rude and seconded by Andy Herring. Motion carried no nay votes.