

Minutes, 9/22/2011
NC-1182 Business Meeting
Teleconference

Attending:

Wayne Coblentz (Chairman), USDFRC
Phillip Lancaster (temporary Secretary in place of Gerald Horn), Oklahoma State University
Ken Coffey, University of Arkansas
Rhonda Miller, Utah State University
John Guretzky, University of Nebraska
Mike Schmitt (Administrative Advisor), University of Minnesota
Randy Jackson, University of Wisconsin
Geoff Brink, USDFRC

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 P.M. on 9/22/2011 by Chairman Wayne Coblentz.

1. Report from Administrative Advisor – Dr. Mike Schmitt

The committee received a brief report from the Administrative Advisor. Dr. Schmitt emphasized the need to write an annual report, including minutes of the business meeting. Dr. Mike Schmitt indicated that he will step down as the Administrative Advisor for the committee due to changes in his appointment at University of Minnesota. He suggested that we should identify a new administrative advisor instead of having one appointed. Please forward suggestions for potential new administrative advisors to Wayne Coblentz and Gerald Horn. Dr. Mike Schmitt emphasized that his stepping down would not affect the 5-yr plan of the project. The committee acknowledged great appreciation to Dr. Mike Schmitt for the guidance and input he has provided.

2. Project updates were provided.

2a. Wayne Coblentz indicated that he was able to harvest alfalfa hay using different preservatives. Hay samples are currently being fed to lambs at University of Arkansas to determine improvements in digestibility in response to rates of propionic acid application at baling.

2b. Geoff Brink and Randy Jackson indicated that they have completed multiple years of a project evaluating the extent and timing of grazing on regrowth and persistence of forage grasses.

2c. John Guretzky reported that colleagues at University of Nebraska are continuing work related to the feeding of ethanol by-products to grazing cattle on subsequent nutrient cycling in the animal and pasture.

2d. Phillip Lancaster reported that a second year of a study evaluating nitrogen fertilizer versus distillers grains supplementation to grazing cattle was completed with differing results from previous year due to drought conditions.

2e. Rhonda Miller indicated that they are in the process of establishing legumes in tall fescue pastures for future grazing research.

2f. Ken Coffey reported that they have completed a second year of a project evaluating clipping date and height on forage quality of sericea lespedeza for small ruminants.

3. Planning for 2012 meeting

The committee selected Arkansas to host the 2012 meeting, and proposed that Oklahoma host the meeting in 2013. It was suggested to move the meeting date to October for 2012. It was indicated that the first week of October does not work well for those University of Wisconsin due to Dairy Expo being held that week. Ken Coffey suggested that the meeting should be held in the middle of the week due to difficulty with flight schedules into and out of Fayetteville on Mondays and Fridays. Ken Coffey and Gerald Horn will work to find potential dates and send them to everyone.

The format of the meeting was discussed. Past meetings have focused on tours, focused on research presentations, or a combination of both. It was decided that the combination of tours and research presentations provides the most meaningful meeting format. The 2012 meeting will include one day of touring research facilities and one-half day of research presentations.

Wayne Coblenz mentioned that attendance at the 2011 meeting (teleconference) was down due to one-time scheduling conflicts, which resulted in the business meeting being held via teleconference. He suggested that we need to continue to think of others that might be interested in joining the committee.

4. Selection of Officers

Wayne Coblenz called for nominations or volunteers for incoming Secretary for 2012 (Chairman for 2013). Geoff Brink volunteered to be Secretary for 2012 and was elected unanimously.

5. Requirements for annual report

Dr. Mike Schmitt indicated that annual reports need to be kept simple and focus on the main points that are relevant to the objectives of the committee's proposal. Wayne Coblenz emphasized that everyone needs to follow the same report format as last year and that reports need to be submitted as a Word document instead of as a Portable Document File (PDF). Annual reports from each state will be sent to Gerald Horn and Phillip Lancaster by November 15, 2011. The combined annual report will be submitted by December 31, 2011.

A meeting report is due within 60 days of the annual meeting (November 21, 2011).

6. Other business

None

The meeting was adjourned at 2:18 P.M. on September 22, 2011 by Chairman Wayne Coblenz.