

Meeting Minutes

NCERA-197

**Agricultural Safety and Health Research and Extension Coordinating Committee
USDA-NIFA Building, Washington, DC
Tuesday-Wednesday, May 17-18, 2011**

Attendees (in room): Aaron Yoder – Chair (Penn State); Bob Aherin (Illinois); Connie Baggett (Penn State); Roberto Barbosa (LSU); Bill Field (Purdue); Scott Fraser (Farm and Ranch Safety and Health Association[FARSHA] of British Columbia); Bobby Grisso (Virginia Tech); Dee Jepsen (Ohio State); Bruce Johnson (FARSHA); Marshall Martin (Purdue); Emily Morehouse (USDA-NIFA); Dennis Murphy (Penn State); Larry Olsen (Michigan State); Michael Pate (Utah State); Mark Purschwitz (Kentucky); Brad Rein (USDA-NIFA); Chuck Schwab (Iowa State).

Attendees (via phone): John Myers (CDC-NIOSH)

Administrative

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. EDT on Tuesday, May 17, 2011. Chair Aaron Yoder had additional copies of the agenda available, which was the updated agenda emailed to the Committee on May 13. He also passed out the Committee project statement for 2010-2015. No corrections were noted to the previously-emailed minutes of the January 26, 2011, conference call.

Administrative Advisor Marshall Martin welcomed the group with a few routine remarks. Yoder briefly discussed the project statement. At that point self-introductions were made around the room for the benefit of John Myers, who had joined by phone. Also, on the agenda, which followed the objectives listed in the project statement, it was noted that Objective 3 (encouraging research and outreach at Land Grant universities) was not included. Yoder said for agenda purposes it had been combined with Objective 6 of the project statement, which was to work to increase infrastructure support for agricultural safety and health within the Land Grant system.

Objective 1 – Develop a white paper that addresses agricultural confined spaces

Bill Field discussed the history of the white paper (a draft dated April 27, 2011 had previously been sent to the Committee), and also discussed confined space incidents and how Purdue obtained and confirmed its data. He reported Purdue had documented 52 grain entrapments in 2010, about half of which were fatal. He said there had been many articles about grain entrapment and safety in the popular press. He also said the National Corn Growers Association had produced a DVD on grain entrapment and are making 15,000 copies to be distributed to every county Extension office and every agricultural education teacher in the country, among others.

Field went on to say that OSHA was making agricultural confined spaces a high priority, with more fines, and is thinking about trying to change the confined space standard to apply to agriculture (production agriculture; it already applies to commercial grain elevators, etc.) He reported the existence of a web link, www.grainsafety.us which will link directly to the Purdue post harvest grain quality page, which in turn has a section on grain safety. (Secretary's note: The grain safety section includes a short and long version of the video, via Youtube.) Field also said they had done approximately 40 interviews over the winter relative to grain bin entrapments.

Field passed out a paper he coauthored with S.M. Reidel for presentation at the upcoming 2011 CIGR meeting (international agricultural engineering conference) this summer, and also passed out a six-page document of example queries with charts and graphs from Purdue's confined space incident database, which he and his staff operate. There was considerable discussion about the various data presented, and Field asked the Committee to determine what kinds of queries it wants to see and use. It was agreed that the draft would show on-farm and commercial facility incidents broken out separately, since farms and commercial facilities differ in regulation and operation.

The draft white paper is to be presented/distributed at the ISASH (formerly NIFS) and ASABE national meetings this summer, for feedback. There was considerable discussion about what types of confined spaces to include in the draft, what issues to be covered, etc. Murphy asked about focus and whether it was best to limit the paper to the "traditional" 4-5 agricultural confined spaces that have historically caused the most problems. It was decided that the paper will be limited to grain bins, grain transport, manure storages, and forage storages. Field passed around examples of color photos that could be used for the cover of the draft and asked for feedback. He made it clear he wanted, and needed, our comments on the draft. Committee members are to give him comments either at the end of the meeting or as soon as possible afterwards.

At this point it was 3:00 and a 15-minute break was taken; Myers had to sign off.

Following the break, there was considerable discussion about the presentation of the draft at the ISASH meeting.

Objective 2 – Sponsor a national conference on agricultural confined spaces

Bob Aherin discussed this objective. He asked the Committee to think about the audience and objectives of the conference, and whether this was intended for farms or commercial facilities or both. He gave ideas for major sections of the agenda, having presenters cover areas such as hazards and awareness; education; research; standards; rescue; etc.

He also asked the Committee to think about whether it needed to hold a conference at all. He said that the Committee needed to hire someone to work on the conference planning

and details; based on the experience of Chip Petrea, it would take \$15-\$20,000. It was noted the timing might be bad for federal agencies due to budgets.

It was decided to include people from the commercial storage and confined space manufacturing industries in the conference. The location would be either at the Univ. of Illinois or Purdue. It would be held no earlier than sometime early in 2012.

There was much discussion on why to hold the conference, concluding the goal was to get solutions, learn more and teach others, and demonstrate. One perspective audience would also be members of the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE).

The discussion and meeting ended for the day at 4:40 pm.

The meeting resumed the next day at 8:15 a.m.

Objective 4 – Encouraging New Standards. (Secretary’s note – as discussed in the opening Administrative section of the notes, Objective 3 had been combined with Objective 6.)

Murphy discussed standards. He said he was visiting OSHA tomorrow to discuss ASABE S607, the new manure pit ventilation standard. He explained the demonstration trailer Penn State had built, and said demonstrations would be videotaped and edited with graphics for website use. He said the trailer might be available for use by others if they paid transportation and/or other necessary costs.

Field said Randy Beaver, one of his grad students at Purdue, has been developing suggested revisions for ASABE EP470 (standard on manure storage.) Field will send those to Murphy. Marshall Martin asked about trends toward manure digestion and the relevance to confined space entry, and this was discussed.

There was more discussion of the white paper. By the first week in June, Murphy will send standards information to Field, and Aherin will send confined space entry information.

The conference was discussed again. Aherin will draft a proposal to raise funds, with a conference target date of March 2012, reiterating the location of either at Univ. of Illinois or Purdue. The following people agreed to work on conference planning: Aherin, Field, Jepson, Pate, and representatives from FARSHA (Farm and Ranch Safety Association of British Columbia) and/or CASA (Canadian Agricultural Safety Association.)

Objective 5 – Identify the next high priority topic; and Objective 6 – Work to increase infrastructure support for agricultural safety and health

Chair Yoder passed out a document proposing the eXtension agricultural safety and health Community of Practice (known as Farm and Ranch eXtension in Safety and Health, or “FReSH”), a list of eXtension.org leaders and members of this COP, and a list

of “tags” or keywords/phrases used by eXtension. The first topic to be covered by this COP is New and Beginning Farmers. NCERA-197 will probably not do a white paper on this (although that is still a possibility) but will certainly use eXtension to cover it. There was discussion about trying to involve the 1890 and 1994 land grant institutions. The eXtension proposal was discussed. Yoder noted that eXtension proposal he submitted was funded at \$60,000 in startup funds for the first year. These funds are to support group travel to organizational meetings and a staff person to help shepherd the development of materials.

At this point the Committee took a short break.

Chair Yoder then discussed the eXtension tags and said that the exact wording of “farm safety and health” should appear in every “frequently asked question” so that it gets tagged properly. Other tags can of course be included. Yoder asked that everyone on NCERA-197 agree to select at least two categories where they will create at least 10 questions and review other questions.

There was discussion on ways to interact as a group. Yoder will send out a Doodle poll on when we can get together online to review questions.

There was a long discussion on “content pages”, including content to be included, appearance, references, etc. This continued after lunch.

At 11:40, the Committee broke for lunch, and reassembled at 1:10 p.m.

The content page discussion resumed. Topics included what needed to be written vs. referenced or linked; the need for guidelines to prevent too much editing; whether we could use industry information or sources; the number of reviewers needed per content document; and how to formulate and name/characterize the reviewing to maximize credit/value for promotion and tenure documentation (e.g., listing reviewers members of a Review Board.)

At this point Brad Rein’s direct supervisor, Dr. Deborah Sheely, stopped in briefly and was introduced by Rein to the Committee. She welcomed us and discussed NIFA.

Discussion resumed on the content pages, including a long discussion about the need to use science-based, research-based, evidence-based information, citing sources, etc.

The question was raised as to the COP’s community of interest? It was decided it would be “new and beginning farmers”, at least as an internal working title.

It was also decided that each person who takes the initiative to produce content can develop the content as he/she sees fit, and then reviewers can decide if the information is accurate and/or appropriate.

At this point the Committee took a brief break, and reassembled at 2:40 p.m.

Agency Reports

NIOSH

John Myers (via phone) said the farmer survey done in conjunction with NASS was scheduled for the first week of August, to be completed by the end of September, with the goal of getting data from USDA by November or December, and making preliminary data available by February or March 2012.

Myers discussed the President's proposed budget cuts of all internal and external agricultural work. NIOSH is proceeding as if funding will be restored (such as review of Ag Center renewal proposals). As of May 16, the CDC Director said there would be no reduction in force at NIOSH, but if the agricultural budget is zero, people would be doing other things. Myers said if that were to happen, he would probably be allowed to wrap up reports, but not collect any new data. He said he would still be available to the Committee as a resource, which the Committee greatly appreciated.

He reported that FACE programs are still being funded in some states, but the federal investigations are near zero. Each state decides what to investigate.

The Committee thanked him for all his work and contributions to agricultural safety and health over the years.

USDA-NIFA

Rein reported that the 2011 budget did not arrive until mid-April 2011, with about a 7% cut. He said he did not know what the 2012 budget would be.

He said he has worked to integrate safety and health into other funding programs and adding it to application requirements, like the CAP program for sustainable biofuels and the specialty crop research initiative. He said within the Ag Systems program, the Beginning Farmer and Rancher grant program (he handed out a program flyer), which is a \$19 million program written into the last Farm Bill, does allow safety and health funding applications. The Small Farm Program, which does not have a NIFA funding line, would be a safety and health funding possibility. Rein also stated that SARE (Sustainable Agricultural Research and Education), an approximately \$10 million/year program, does not have a specific farm safety component, but interested applicants should check the RFP to see if farm safety proposals could be submitted.

Rein reported that AFRI included agricultural systems technology, which was a very broad topic area and did not exclude safety, so that could be a funding source. Agricultural systems technology is one of the AFRI "foundation programs" and if NIFA

can get more applications in that area, it might be possible for NIFA to get more funding in its budget for this area.

The bottom line is that all NIFA RFPs should be looked at to see if agricultural safety and health is not specifically excluded in the RFP, thus making it a possible funding source. He also said the Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) program is found in every federal agency, and that could be a funding source.

Rein reported that the Youth Farm Safety Certification RFA should see an RFA next year (it is in the 2012 budget request), although OMB has put a hold on continuations. He said AgrAbility was in the 2011 budget and they are waiting for money to be released.

At this point it was 3:20 p.m. and John Myers signed off.

ASHCA

Murphy reported that ASHCA was “doing OK” and had some new members, but was not growing as fast as it had hoped. He said they were developing a web presence, via Facebook. He also said they would not have a 2012 annual meeting, other than a teleconference with Board members to meet legal requirements. Murphy went on to say that ASHCA was interested in eXtension, and member companies could be potential financial supporters.

FARSHA and CASA

Bruce Johnson reported for FARSHA and also CASA, since Marcel Hacault of CASA could not be present. He said CASA was not doing anything specifically in confined spaces, but had developed a farm safety management plan program that included risk assessment, working training, etc. The intent was to go Canada-wide, launching it in late fall this year or early spring of 2012. CASA is trying to get financial incentives for producers participating in the program. The CASA annual conference will be in Vancouver in November 2011.

Regarding FARSHA, Johnson said two years ago there was an incident in British Columbia involving a mushroom confined space, where four were killed, another person went into a coma, and a sixth person had a severe brain injury. The BC Workers Compensation Board filed charges against company managers, most of whom pleaded guilty.

Scott Fraser said FARSHA is continuing its development of a confined space program, which includes risk assessments. There is a proposal to work with other groups to develop a Center of Excellence in confined spaces training. FARSHA is already working to develop a training program to produce “qualified persons” who can conduct complex risk assessments in agriculture. Neil McManus is considered the top confined spaces expert in Canada and is advising them. They are also developing a template to help

producers identify confined spaces on their farms. FARSHA is also working on toxic atmospheres on farms at that not in actual confined spaces.

Other Updates

Field said Purdue hosted a conference on Farming with Arthritis, some of which was taped, along with interviews with people who farm with arthritis, and this will be placed on the web. He said there were numerous secondary injuries from this problem.

Murphy said the next “60 Minutes” program on CBS would be doing a segment on child labor in agriculture

Aherin reported that a coalition in grain handling safety was formed last September, in response to the multi-fatality grain storage incident involving youths in Mt. Carroll, IL, in July 2010. He said there was an article in the Chicago Tribune, and they have developed some PSAs. The Grain and Feed Association is working with OSHA to train OSHA inspectors on grain/feed-related confined spaces.

Administrative Advisor

At 4:00 pm Administrative Advisor Martin gave closing remarks and encouraged the Committee to keep things up-to-date for a clean mid-term review.

Final Business

Chair Yoder said he would send out communications regarding an NCERA-197 conference call, probably to be held in November. He said he has travel money for an eXtension face-to-face meeting in September 2011.

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Purschwitz, secretary

NCERA 197 Agricultural Safety and Health Research and Extension

**National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA
800 9th Street SW; Room 3455; Washington, DC 20024**

May 23-24, 2012

Special Notes:

NIFA is able to arrange call-in service for those that cannot make this meeting.

Wednesday call in number (1PM-5PM): 1-800-526-2655; Passcode: 2304669

Thursday call in number (8AM-5PM): 1-800-526-2655; Passcode: 2304669

Wednesday, May 23

Lunch on your own in Wash DC or in route

- 1:00 – 1:05 pm Welcome and introductions (Yoder, Martin)
- 1:05 – 1:10 pm Additions /Approval of previous minutes and agenda (Yoder)
- 1:10 – 1:30 pm Review of 10/1/10 – 9/30/15 project objectives, committee member participation, operational requirements, timing of activities, progress (Midterm Review), etc. (Yoder)
- 1:30 – 2:30 pm *Objective 1. Develop a white paper that addresses agricultural confined spaces.* Review current draft for additional literature, areas of concern, references and educational resources (Field)
- 2:30 – 2:45 pm Afternoon break (on your own, Cantina on 1st floor of NIFA)
- 2:45 – 4:15 pm *Objective 2. Sponsor a national conference on agricultural confined spaces* (Aherin, Field).
- 4:15 – 4:30 pm Update on U of I OSHA grant (Aherin)
- 4:30 – 4:45 pm Update on Purdue OSHA grant (Field)
- 4:45 – 5:00 pm Discuss dinner options, adjourn (Rein)

Thursday, May 24

Breakfast on your own

- 8:00 – 8:15 am Wrap up of whitepaper and conference discussion (Yoder)
- 8:15– 8:30 am Objective 3: *Encourage research and outreach at Land Grant universities associated with agricultural confined spaces* (AFRI) (Rein, Murphy).
- 8:30 – 8:45 am *Objective 4. Encourage new standards.* ASABE EP 470 (Field)
- 8:45 – 9:00 am *Objective 5: Identify the next high priority topic.* Update on New and Beginning Farmer Projects (Murphy)
- 9:00 – 10:00 am *Objective 6. Work to increase infrastructure support for agricultural safety and health.* eXtension.org (Yoder, Fetzer)
- 10:00 – 10:15 am Morning break (on your own, Cantina @ NIFA)
- 10:15 – 10:30 am NIOSH update (Myers)
- 10:30 – 10:45 am USDA-NIFA and DOL-AgHO update (Rein)
- 10:45 – 11:00 am ASHCA, Manure project update (Murphy)
- 11:00 – 11:15 am CASA and FARSHA updates (Hacault, Johnson)
- 11:15 – 11:30 am Other agency and organization updates (Anyone)
- 11:30 – 11:45 am Final comments from Administrative Advisor (Marshall)
- 11:45 am – Noon Wrap up discussion/future meetings/conference calls (Yoder)
- Noon Adjourn

Meeting Minutes

NCERA-197

**Agricultural Safety and Health Research and Extension Coordinating Committee
USDA-NIFA Building, Washington, DC
Wednesday - Thursday, May 23-24, 2012**

Attendees (in room): Aaron Yoder – Chair (Penn State); Bob Aherin (Illinois); Connie Baggett (Penn State); Linda Fetzer (Penn State); Bill Field (Purdue); Kitty Hendricks (NIOSH); Dee Jepsen (Ohio State); Marshall Martin – Administrative Advisor (Purdue); Dennis Murphy (Penn State); Larry Olsen (Michigan State); Michael Pate (Utah State); Mark Purschwitz – Secretary (Kentucky); Brad Rein (USDA-NIFA); Chuck Schwab (Iowa State); Cheryl Skjolaas (Wisconsin); John Slocombe (Kansas State);

Attendees (via phone):

May 23: Marcel Hacault (CASA); Glen Raines (Georgia)
May 24: Bruce Johnson (FARSHA); Glen Raines (Georgia)

Administrative

The meeting was called to order by Chair Aaron Yoder at 1:00 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, May 23, 2012. Administrative Advisor Marshall Martin welcomed the group and reminded us that the mid-term committee review was due December 1. This follows the federal fiscal year and is done in the middle of the third year. Introductions were made; Kitty Hendricks from NIOSH-DSR was welcomed as the replacement for John Myers.

Prior to approval of the 11-23-11 minutes, Brad Rein noted that under “Agency Reports” it should have said that USDA-NIFA funding was down 2% for FY12, not USDA funding down 1%. The minutes were unanimously approved with that correction.

Chair Yoder then passed out the list of committee objectives prior to committee discussion of each objective. He asked that we let him know about anything we did individually or jointly to help NCERA-197 meet its objectives.

Objective 1 – Develop a white paper that addresses agricultural confined spaces

Bill Field handed out a list of Objective 1 recommendations with a draft summary beneath each recommendation of what had been accomplished to date, which was extensive. He said this document was not for release or inclusion in the minutes. Advisor Martin reminded us to include impacts as much as possible in our reporting. Field said the draft white paper had been handed out and discussed at various meetings and the comments logged. He then handed out copies of a 2011 summary of grain entrapments in the United States, as documented by Purdue, which included 2011 data as well as data from previous years. He explained the daily searches conducted for cases, using everything from Google to Westlaw. He also handed out copies of a manuscript

submitted to JASH reporting on 1255 cases of confined space injuries and deaths, and said he believed the manuscript had been accepted.

Field reported that as a result of his talks with the grain vacuum industry, which did not think its machines could cause entrapment, these machines are now labeled accordingly.

After continuing down the list of accomplishments relative to the recommendations, Field said the list would be rewritten and also suggested changing the draft white paper to more of a progress report. There were no objections from the committee to this suggestion.

There was a discussion of OSHA exploitation of loopholes in the regulations and OSH Act relative to enforcement.

A break was taken from 2:40 to 2:55 pm.

Objective 2 – Sponsor a national conference on agricultural confined spaces

Bob Aherin discussed this objective. He has worked out an agreement with Kelley Donham of the Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health (GPCAH) at the University of Iowa to use the annual GPCAH November conference as a vehicle for presentation of the work being done on agricultural confined spaces. This conference would be held in Cedar Rapids, IA, on November 14-16, 2012, and would include a half-day field trip to the large Amana Farms complex nearby. There was a long discussion about the conference, potential program ideas and plans, etc. Aherin and Dennis Murphy indicated they would explore with Kelly Donham the idea of promoting the conference as not just a GPCAH conference but a collaborative event with NCERA-197.

Field and Aherin discussed their OSHA-funded projects, and indicated they were working together to avoid duplication. Purdue is focusing on surveillance, development of four training modules for the FFA curriculum website, and an eight-hour training course on grain entrapment rescue. Illinois is developing four training modules for adult workers; a fifth will be developed by GPCAH. Each module will be designed to be taught in 1.5 to 2 hours. Illinois has developed a coalition on grain storage safety and OSHA has indicated it likes the coalition. There will be a curriculum committee to develop the modules and community-based training methods. Eventually this will all be translated into Spanish.

Michael Pate reported on his grain storage survey and also on working with the Utah educational network. Murphy said Penn State is working on a 2 to 3-year project to develop online design software for engineers to use in designing manure pit ventilation.

The meeting was adjourned for the day at 4:45 pm.

The meeting resumed at approximately 8:20 a.m. on Thursday, May 24. There was more discussion of the Iowa conference and potential agenda. That conference will end at noon on November 16.

Objective 3 – Encourage research and outreach at land grant universities on agricultural confined spaces

Murphy provided stakeholder input for AFRI grants to help get farm safety written into RFAs. Rein has worked hard on this. Dee Jepsen noted that the Priester conference had several farm safety presentations. Field discussed his conversations with Kareem Dale, President Obama's special assistant on disability issues, and noted that AgrAbility was written into the Farm Bill.

Objective 4 – Encourage new and improved ASABE Standards.

It was noted that ASAE EP470 JAN1992 (R2005), Manure Storage Safety, needs revision to incorporate the latest information. (Secretary's Note: Since its adoption in 1992, it has not been revised, and was last reconfirmed in February 2005.) There is a need to find someone to lead a revision of this standard. (Secretary's Note: In the minutes of the May 17-18, 2011, meeting, it was reported that Randy Beaver at Purdue had been developing suggested revisions to EP470 and that Field would be forwarding those to Murphy.)

Field noted that there is no ASABE standard on grain storage safety. However, he reported that an external committee chaired by ASABE Past President Harmon Towne, who is a retired president of a grain bin manufacturer, has a subcommittee to draft a standard to be submitted to ASABE. Field passed out the Purdue Extension bulletin S-77, Beware of Flowing Grain Dangers.

In other standards news, Jepsen reported on the pony cart standard in progress, and Field reported on a newly-published JASH paper proposing the need for a hitch-pin standard.

Objective 5 – Identify the next high priority topic for the Committee

There was discussion on various issues, including the need for training of operators and workers. No conclusion was reached.

Murphy reported Penn State was developing a safety and health resource manual for new and beginning farmers; was developing a manual for farm operators/managers to use in teaching safety and health to new employees; was holding tractor driving workshops; and was developing a manual on how to teach tractor driving. Secretary Purschwitz asked to be kept in the loop on the last manual, as the issue of teaching tractor driving has come up in Kentucky.

Jepsen reported that an email with online survey about agricultural safety and health teaching had been sent to members of the agricultural safety community, and that she really needs that to be completed by those who have not done so.

Objective 6 – Work to increase infrastructure support within the land grant system for agricultural safety and health

Chair Yoder passed out several documents pertaining to the new Community of Practice known as FReSH, or “Farm and Ranch eXtension in Safety and Health.” The CoP is in operation and has been focusing on new and beginning farmers. Linda Fetzer provided more information on the CoP and eXtension, and Michael Pate passed out and explained a document of Google Analytics on the CoP. There was a long discussion about eXtension, including its relationship to NASD, and funding and cost recovery. One of the documents passed out included the 2012 FReSH Business Plan.

Murphy agreed to develop a roll-up banner that promoted the activities of NCERA 197 to be used at ISASH and other conferences where members participate.

A break was taken from 10:30 to 10:45 am.

Agency Reports

USDA-NIFA

Rein reported that USDA-NIFA welcomed a new director, Dr. Sonny Ramaswamy. He also reported that they are providing information to the USDOL related to the current programs that the USDA-NIFA provides related to child labor standards.

ASHCA

Murphy reported that ASHCA was planning a “big tent” event to be open to everyone in the agricultural safety and health community. This would be held in Minneapolis in September 2013 as an Agricultural Safety and Health Summit, focusing on best practices. George Conway, director of the NIOSH Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing (AFF) Sector would be speaking.

The next ASHCA meeting will be held in Kansas City in January 2013.

FARSHA

Bruce Johnson reported on FARSHA’s confined space activities. They have been working with a leading expert in confined spaces and have developed templates for clientele to use in identifying confined spaces, making hazard assessments, and developing entry procedures. FARSHA is developing training programs for safe confined space entry.

He discussed a Coroner's Inquest into a 2008 incident at a mushroom production facility that resulted in three worker fatalities and two workers with brain injuries.

Johnson also said a Center of Excellence is being developed at FARSHA for confined space entry training for all industries.

NIOSH

Kitty Hendricks was welcomed as the replacement for John Myers on NCERA-197. Appreciation was expressed for John's years of excellent service to the Committee.

Other Discussion

There was some discussion on the USDOL Wage and Hour Division notice of proposed rulemaking on child labor in agriculture and its withdrawal by DOL.

Secretary Purschwitz expressed the desire to step down as secretary after four years of service. Michael Pate was elected as the new secretary, effective after this meeting. Dee Jepsen said that if she gets tenure, she will take over as secretary. (Secretary's Note: It was not clear whether that was a serious proposal or not.)

Administrative Advisor Martin thanked the Committee and said that we are doing a good job, and anticipated no problems with the upcoming mid-term review.

In response to a question about the status of Emily Morehouse, Rein reported that she had left USDA and moved back to the Midwest. He provided the names of his program assistants: Patricia McAleer, Cami Compton, and Lexi Wilson.

Chuck Schwab reminded everyone to tell their department heads and research directors about the activities of NCERA-197.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Purschwitz, secretary

Meeting Minutes

NCERA 197

Agricultural and Health Research and Extension Coordinating Committee

National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA

800 9th Street SW; Room 3455; Washington, DC 20024

May 22-23, 2013

Wednesday, May 22

Members in attendance were:

Aaron Yoder
Dennis Murphy
Bobby Grisso
Dee Jepsen
Karen Funkenbusch
Michael L. Pate
Bill Field
Cheryl Skjolaas
Larry Olsen
Chuck Schwab
Connie Baggett
Kitty Hendricks
John Slocombe
Marshall Martin
Aida Balsano
Brad Rein
Bob Aherin

Welcome & Introductions – Aaron Yoder called meeting to order and began introductions.

First item of business – Additions/Approval of minutes from December 10, 2012 meeting
Larry Olsen moved to approve minutes seconded by Dennis Murphy minutes approved by committee.

Second item of business – Review of 10/1/10-9/30/15 project objectives

Six objectives of original proposal for NCERA-197

Opening comments were provided by Marshall Martin. Marshall Martin stated he was delighted to see attendance blossoming and this group has been making a difference addressing important issues and that unfortunately incidents are still occurring warranting the continued efforts of the committee. Marshall Martin recommended the committee considered submitting an application for an accomplishment award.

Aaron Yoder asked for suggestions on changes to the objectives because the committee has made progress on several objectives and wondered if there were considerations to do more. Aaron Yoder noted that the committee was half way the current objectives and thought the committee might consider adding or modifying for future work. Aaron Yoder commented that participation

of committee members was welcomed. Aaron Yoder noted that it was time to elect a new chair for a two year term. Aaron Yoder want to clarify he had finished his second year as chair and was willing to complete another two-year term. Bob Aherin nominated Aaron Yoder for committee chair. John Slocombe second. Aaron Yoder was unanimously elected as committee chair for 2013-2015. Aaron Yoder asked for any comments or concerns before moving on to first objective on the agenda. Chuck Schwab asked if the committee want to sequence chair persons being in tuned with committee procedures. Aaron Yoder indicated he would start counting someone. Chuck Schwab noted that electing a vice chair might help transitions. Bob Aherin noted the secretary normally takes over as chair and that a vice chair would by pass this. Chuck Schwab noted he was curious who might be the next person learning the process of preparing and submitting reports and that shared leadership might help. No further discussion on leadership positions was made.

Objective 1. Develop a white paper that addresses agricultural confined spaces: Review current draft and details of dissemination plan.

Bill Field reported on the status of the white paper dissemination efforts. Bill Field noted that 100 copies of the document were circulated at the MRSASH conference. Bill Field indicated that 120 comments for grain industry representatives were collected. Bill Field stated he was looking for images to include by next Wednesday before the document went to final printing. Bill Field commented that the white paper was the work of the committee and that he would like to have additions on current projects being done. Bill Field noted that at the MRSASH conference he got a substantial number of comments to keep track and incorporate. Bill Field noted the document has increased in size by half since the start of the project. Bill Field called for images representative of confined spaces from other geographic regions such as Michael Pate in the West and Dee Jepsen in Ohio. Bill Field noted that the accomplishments listed in the back of the document were rather impressive meet most of the goals. Bill Field indicated he was appreciative of the committees work and welcomed any suggestions.

Bill Field indicated that the 2012 Summary of Grain incidents were included in the current version of the white paper and the current document will be circulated at ISASH in Ohio. Dee Jepsen commented that registration for ISASH 2012 indicated approximately 100-200 individuals will be in attendance. Bill Field commented that he has worked with NPR aggressively using the freedom of information to get incident cases from OSHA. Bill noted that after review of cases there were some that were incorrectly as chicken processing. There were an additional 17 cases in Kansas added. The number of cases back to 1980 increased. This was included in the white paper.

Bill Field commented that states near Indiana with lower numbers of confined space incidents were probably due to miss-coding creating underreporting of incidents. Bill Field stated that Indiana had the most aggressive attempt to record incidents. Bill Field stated that a graduate student performed a statistical model for estimating confined space incidents and that the model indicated the number of incidents would double with proper reporting. Bill Field indicated that the grain journal published the report and a couple others picked it up.

Entanglement in in-floor augers and sweep augers while removing residual grain is still an issue.

Bill Field called for individuals to send stuff on what you are doing for the white paper. Bill Field indicated the white paper is near closer and is ready to be finished and move on.

Aaron Yoder posed to the committee if biomass harvest storage should be included on the topic of agricultural confined spaces. Brad Rein indicated the level of processing determines how hazardous. Bill Field indicated that this was a concern due to a lack of experience of individuals engaged in ethanol and biomass production. Aaron Yoder questioned which industry this fell under as either agriculture or forestry.

Dennis Murphy asked what the agenda was for publication of the white paper. Bill Field indicated those electronic news releases were used as well as conference publications at ISASH, ASABE and ASEE. Aida Balsano offered new release assistance through NIFA.

Objective 2: Collaborate with other organizations to sponsor a national conference focused on safety and health issues associated with agricultural confined spaces. Report on confined space conference outcomes and details of ISASH PD session.

Bob Aherin, Bill Field, and Dee Jepsen provided a report of collaborative conference efforts. Bob Aherin and Bill Field provided an update on the results of the MRASH conference in Cedar Rapids, IA. It was indicated that this conference was a success and well attended by various stakeholders of the grain industry as well as other safety professionals. The conference looked at a lot of different issues. One issue was the need for an adequate life live and practical solution to be accepted by OSHA to be in a grain bin with a sweep auger. Bob Aherin indicated more will be discussed through a working coalition with grain industry representatives and OSHA. Bob Aherin indicated that there was a higher focus at the MRASH conference on rescue but less on prevention and the issue of prevention needs to move forward. Dennis Murphy stated that we should put forth prevention first. Issues like the tie off for lanyard and harness. Bill Field noted on pages 20-21 of the white paper that the focus on rescue was higher probably due to more funding available for rescue than prevention activities.

Bob Aherin stated that the ASCHA conference in Minneapolis will have a confined space session as well as an expert session called a "Genius Bar." Bob Aherin noted that there were plans for a poster session at the conference. Dennis Murphy explained that more details will be provided on the ASCHA conference during the committee's work session tomorrow. Dennis Murphy stated that there will be a session on grain bin safety standards, a biomass session and a plenary session with Bob Aherin, Catherine an OSHA industry rep working collaboratively. Dennis explained this would be an opportunity to highlight success getting stakeholders together. Dennis stated that Bill Field will be doing something on cost of injury as well as cost estimation on converting grain bins to comply with regulations.

Aaron Yoder continued discussion regarding past and upcoming conferences. Bill Field shared with the committee the proposed ISASH conference professional development session agenda on Agricultural Confined Spaces. Bill Field commented that an ASABE grain bin standard had been proposed but was not well done or partly done.

Dee Jepsen continued the discussion regarding activities at the ISASH conference. Dee Jepsen stated there were plans to present a session on portable units for rescue training to show case sustainable efforts and how to overcome costs restraints.

2:22pm Aaron Yoder called the committee to a recess for a break
Aaron called meeting back to order

Objective 3: Encourage research and outreach at Land Grant universities that utilizes their expertise in addressing safety and health issues associated with agricultural confined spaces. Update on current projects and activities.

Bill Field shared information on Purdue's Susan Harwood grant to develop training resources and is being reviewed by OSHA. Bill Field noted the goal was to provide the training binder on a thumb drive to pass out. Bill Field commented that a draft was floating around on children in Ag confined spaces based on his data collected. Additional efforts were to provide the National FFA website an introduction to grain and hazards curriculum.

Bob Aherin shared with the committee the progress regarding efforts Illinois has made on their Susan Harwood. Bob Aherin commented there was confusion on understanding who were eligible to participate in the trainings.

Dennis Murphy provided updates on Penn State efforts regarding engineering designs for manure gas ventilation for entry in every type of storage. Dennis Murphy provided updates on current efforts for revision of ASABE SO6 Standards for all storage to be covered. Dennis Murphy shared a current issue being investigated was non-enclosed and open air storage with the use of Gypsum bedding producing high levels of Hydrogen Sulfide gas. Cheryl Skjolass indicated this was a concern in Wisconsin and shared efforts to work with nutrient applicators. Bill Field stated that there was a fatality in Saratoga Springs involving a wooden manure storage facility. Cheryl Skjolass stated the manure summit will focus on getting people designing storage systems thinking about safety.

Aaron Yoder commented he noticed the number of digesters increasing.

Charles Schwab provided an update on Iowa State biomass fuel projects involving risk awareness analysis with production of fuels using switch grass, miscanthus and corn.

Aaron Yoder and Dennis Murphy provided an update on a collaborative wood biomass project involving willow shrubs and safety issues with timing of harvest

Marshall Martin inquired if this was more of a economics cost-benefit analysis
Bill Field noted that Europe's power systems using biomass was more of a transportation issue involving low density material and large trucks

Bobby Grisso commented that there were substantial biomass storage fire issues involving outdoor/indoor storage. Bobby Grisso indicated concerns involved putting tarps over bale stacks. Bobby Grisso indicated there were also operational issues due to a lack of constant production capacity. Bobby Grisso indicated material flow-through and business plans no adequately predicting production of units.

5:00pm Aaron Yoder closed the meeting to wrap up on next topic for tomorrow.

Thursday, May 23, 2013

Members in attendance were:

Aaron Yoder
Dennis Murphy
Bobby Grisso
Dee Jepsen
Karen Funkenbusch
Michael L. Pate
Bill Field
Cheryl Skjolaas
Larry Olsen
Chuck Schwab
Connie Baggett
Kitty Hendricks
John Slocombe
Marshall Martin
Bob Aherin
Called in to meeting: Marcel Hacault CASA

Aaron Yoder called meeting to order.

Review of discussion on Objective 1-3

A discussion was generated on fall protection. Cheryl Skjolaas indicated an interest in fall protection. Dee Jepsen shared an update on the barge systems used for grain handling. Dee Jepsen indicated prevalence of problem with falls but nothing out there from their look at design change on barges. Cheryl Skjolaas indicated that she would send an email out to continue discussion with those interested in fall protection issues as an action item. Additional discussion was generated by the committee on large bales and forklift safety concerns.

Objective 4. Encourage new and improved American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineering standards to reduce hazard and risks exposures associated with agricultural confined spaces. Standards activities. ASABE EP 470 and Proposed Grain Bin Standard, ASAE S607, others?

Standards Discussion

Bill Field stated the Grain Bin standard was not shared with him and that no one was allowed to see. The proposed standard was defeated. Bill Field shared updates on develops of a hitch pin standard. Additional discussion was generated on standard labels for grain bin to protect farmers with standards operator's manual versus installation manual. Manure storage ventilation standards progress was being made on software only to update accepted revision. Dee Jepsen shared updates on the revision of the standard concerning animal drawn carts 570.6.1. This involved the lighting and marking of low profile pony carts. Dee Jepsen shared that a plenary session will be held at the ISASH conference with Amish families.

Objective 5: Identify the next high priority topic from the National Agenda for Action document to be addressed by the committee. Update on New and Beginning Farmer Projects. Discuss additional National Agenda topics or updates, possibly biomass.

Aaron Yoder and Dennis Murphy shared updates on their collaborative grant project for new and beginning farmers. Brad Rein commented that BFRD funding to be included in the farm bill. Connie Baggett inquired on Veteran's new farm plan. Dennis Murphy provided comments on website Extension Ag extension educators manual on how to organize tractor safety course. Committee comments indicated interest from CSA non-profit farms as a potential safety market using more small farm conferences. Dee Jepsen provided updates on Cleveland programs for New and beginning farmers. Brad Rein commented that vertical farming taking off found market from warehouse to produce. Additional discussion was generated on green houses and ergonomic issues.

Bill Field inquired if anyone was keeping stats on rising cases concerning this group. Bill Field indicated it could be difficult to classify injuries because most of these farmers work off farm.

Marshall Martin provide an update on new entrance conference in Canada to address higher risk case studies with life style farmers captured in data Oct 7-13th

Aaron Yoder led a discussion on the need to revisit the committee's research agenda to become up to date with more current machinery and technology. A discussion was generated on the next 5 year action plan for the committee. This focused on gathering information to evaluate current position on accomplishments and reprioritize topics.

Aaron Yoder provided an update on eXtension website activities.

Discussion of the function of eXtension COP as gate keeper agreement for review and endorsement of safety materials. Additional discussion on eXtension's role in grant RFA was conducted.

USDA-NIFA updates:

Brad Rein provided an update that budget and accounting is being delayed and accountability procedure getting complex. Brad Rein stated it gets harder every day.

NIOSH update:

Kitty Hendricks provided an update on 2012 childhood data collected with NASS. Kitty Hendricks stated no data collection for this year. Additional updates were provided on the National Ag worker injury and muscular skeletal findings and minorities farm owners. Kitty Hendricks indicated that budget would dependent on 2015 Farm Survey wording regarding manure questions

ASHCA, the summit

Dennis Murphy provide updates on the proposed sessions for the ASHCA conference. Dennis Murphy shared that break-out sessions will be led by Dee, Bob, Bill, and Chuck.

CASA and FARSHA Updates

Marcel Hacault provided an update on New Entrants Conference Oct 9-11th Quebec City, Quebec

Marcel indicated funding was being cut and working to raise funds

No report from FARSHA

Other Agency and organization updates

Dee Jepsen provided update on ISASH sessions. Bill Field discussed ASABE EH&S Committee meeting times are not in program addendum. Bill Field questioned the need for membership at ASABE safety group technical sessions.

Bill Field provided updates on current National AgrAbility.

Final Comments from Marshall Martin were provided thanking leadership of the committee. Marshall Martin stated the committee had great Attendance and discussion on creative and excitement progress.

Aaron Yoder stated he would send a Doodle poll out for November meeting to be set.

Meeting Adjourned

Meeting Minutes

NCERA 197
Agricultural and Health Research and Extension Coordinating Committee
Face to Face, NIFA, Washington, DC
Tuesday, June 03-04, 2014
1:00-5:00 pm; 8am-12pm (Eastern time)

June 03, 1:00pm

Meeting was called to order by Aaron Yoder

Aaron Yoder completed a roll call of members in attendance

Members in attendance were:

Aaron Yoder
Dennis Murphy
Michael L. Pate
Mark Purschwitz
Connie Baggett
Kitty Hendricks
Dee Jepsen
Marshall Martin
Aida Balsano
Bill Field
Cheryl Skjolaas
Larry Olson
Brad Rein

Opening comments provided by Marshall Martin regarding future proposal to continue the committee's work and congratulations on being selected as the North Central representative for the National Multi-state Award.

First item of business - Review the 06/03/14 – 06/04/14 meeting agenda.

Additions to the agenda were called for by Aaron Yoder. No additions were noted.

Second item of business – Review and approve minutes from the December 18th, 2013 teleconference meeting submitted by Michael Pate.

Aaron Yoder called for any revisions or edits to the minutes that were submitted. There were no comments or edits. Dennis Murphy moved to accept the minutes. Motion was seconded by Larry Olson. Minutes were approved by committee.

- 1. Discussion of 2010-15 project objectives, committee member participation, operational requirements, timing of activities, progress, National Award Submission.**

Discussion was led by Aaron Yoder regarding current project objectives. Handout was provided and reviewed with committee members in preparation for the next project submission. Marshall Martin indicated that he would provide a series of key deadlines for the next project submission during the meeting on 06/04/14.

Objective 1. Confined Spaces White Paper Dissemination Plan Discussion –

Bill Field provided an update on dissemination plans for the white paper on confined spaces. Bill Field explained that progressed had slowed but that the layout was being completed by a designer. Cover shots had been selected and plans were in place to print a few copies for dissemination to experiment station directors. Additional plans were discussed on how electronic distribution could be utilized with pdf links on eXtension, extension.org and the NIOSH agricultural safety and health page. Bill Field indicated the confined space issue was going to be around and the paper indicates that the committee has served as an indication of how the Land Grant System is addressing the problems.

Objective 2. Collaboration with other organizations to host conference on confined spaces –

Discussion focused on conference and collaborative events for education on the confined spaces issue in agriculture. Details were provided by Bill Field and Dee Jepsen regarding conferences and training programs that have been hosted collaboratively with other organizations including grain companies, workers compensation groups, as well as OSHA. Dennis Murphy provided an update that Penn State will be working on hosting a training conference with NRCS regarding manure storage safety and gases. Discuss was also provided on the completion of MRASH and ISASH in 2012.

Objective 3. Encourage research and outreach at Land Grant universities that utilizes their expertise in addressing safety and health issues associated with agricultural confined spaces –

Additional comments from Bill Field, Dee Jepsen, Cheryl Skjolaas, Dennis Murphy and Aaron Yoder indicated that the confined space issue is broad can cross-link other multi-state projects including post-harvest grain quality, biomass, pontoon lagoon agitation and livestock housing. Marshall Martin and Brad Rein encouraged committee members to seek out those potential collaborators for future funding and programming efforts.

A recess break was taken from 3-3:15pm

Committee meeting reconvened at 3:15pm

Objective 4. Encourage new and improved American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineering standards to reduce hazard and risk exposures associated with agricultural confined spaces.

Dennis Murphy provided an update on the revisions and approval status of Standard 690 in ASABE. Bill Field reported on the revised grain bin standard and that it would focus more on prevention rather than rescue. Bill Field also provided an update on the Hitch Pin standard approval status. Dee Jepsen reported the lighting and marking standard was

approved last year. Dennis Murphy reported there was a front end loader standard being considered

Wrap and review of Objectives 1-4 discussions

The committee engaged in a brain storming session on new and emerging safety issues in agriculture.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:45pm

June 04, 8:00am

Meeting was called to order by Aaron Yoder

Aaron Yoder completed a roll call of members in attendance

Members in attendance were:

- Aaron Yoder
- Dennis Murphy
- Michael L. Pate
- Mark Purschwitz
- Connie Baggett
- Kitty Hendricks
- Dee Jepsen
- Marshall Martin
- Aida Balsano
- Bill Field
- Cheryl Skjolaas
- Larry Olson
- Brad Rein
- Marcell Haulcault?

Opening comments edit to the agenda Kitty Hendricks provided a report on future farm injury survey to be conducted by NIOSH. Several comments and questions were proposed by the group. Kitty indicated that email correspondence would be best to get ideas for the future survey.

Objective 5: Identify the next high priority topic from the National Agenda for Action document to be addressed by the committee

Cheryl Skjolaas lead a discussion on the teleconference conducted concerning fall related injuries and hazards in agriculture. Aaron Yoder proposed a subcommittee to focus on the falls in agriculture. Cheryl Skjolaas, Mark Purschwitz, Michael Pate indicated interest to keep this effort focused.

Marshall Martin provided updates on key deadlines for NCERA-197 project renewal submission.

Committee members brainstormed ideas regarding issues and justification for project renewal. Ideas generated included Public Perception and compliance issues, mental health, impact of training, sensors and technology and robotics and automation safety.

Objective 6. work to increase infrastructure support for agricultural safety and health within the Land Grant System.

Michael Pate and Aaron Yoder provided a report on the eXtension community of practice. Other opportunities to collaborate and network with other disciplines were discussed.

USDA-NIFA report was provided by Aida Balsano and Brad Rein. AgrAbility and the New & Beginning Farmers RFAs were discussed. NIFA funding and organizational structure was discussed by Brad Rein.

Dennis Murphy provided a report on ASCHA activities. The success of the summit and results of safety grants projects were reported.

Marcell Hacault reported on CASA initiatives and funding. A social media campaign in conjunction with Farm Credit of Canada was shared.

Final comments were provided by Marshal Martin reminding the group of the renewal deadlines and thanking the committee members for their efforts.

Aaron Yoder adjourned the meeting at 12pm.

Meeting Minutes

NCERA 197
June 2-3, 2015
Meeting Minutes
Location: USDA NIFA Building, Washington DC

Members in Attendance:

Connie Baggett, Penn State University
Bob Aherin, University of Illinois
Dennis Murphy, Penn State University
Michael L. Pate, Utah State University
Cheryl Skjolaas, University of Wisconsin
Aida Balsano, USDA-NIFA
Linda Fetzer, Penn State University
Aaron Yoder, University of Nebraska
Dee Jepsen, The Ohio State University
Kitty Hendricks, NIOSH
Larry Olsen, Michigan State University
Brad Rein, USDA-NIFA
Marshall Martin, Purdue University
(no members had called in on the phone conference line)

Call to Order:

1:45pm meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Aaron Yoder

The meeting began with opening comments provided by Administrative Advisor Marshall Martin. Welcoming comments and congratulatory remarks were made regarding the recent successes of the work completed by the committee. Recognition was made for the 2014 North Central Outstanding Multistate Project Award.

Members in attendance introduced themselves.

The new NCERA-197 committee proposal roster was reviewed by the committee chair with members in attendance. Old NCERA-197 committee roster was compared to identify members who had not been placed on the new committee roster. Reminders were provided to contact Experiment Station Personnel to set up membership with the new NCERA-197 committee. Ideas were shared on recruitment of new members who may have expertise to complement the committee's strengths and provide additional collaborative partnerships.

Previous Minutes:

Review of meeting minutes from previous face to face session June 2014 Washington DC.

Motion made by Dennis Murphy to accept minutes as presented

Seconded by Larry Olsen

Motion passed. June 2014 minutes were approved.

Review of Confined Spaces White Paper and Current Committee Member Efforts:

Bob Aherin provided an update on the status of the White Paper on Confined Spaces in Agriculture. Report provided that the document was finalized and ready for publication but lack of funding had not allowed the document to reach printing. Aaron Yoder offered funds to support printing the document. Conferences and meetings were suggested to distribute the document once printed. Conferences suggested were ASABE and a Grain Management and Suffocation Prevention two-day conference in March.

Cheryl Skjolaas shared an update that OSHA had prepared a new construction standard for confined spaces. Suggestions were made to examine it and look at implementation.

Bob Aherin provided a report on grain bin safety training and curriculum activities he has been involved with in Illinois. Committee members discussed these efforts. Concerns were mentioned that farmers may be going into the bin because they know that rescue workers are trained for emergency. Bob announced that the training program and curriculum can be made available for other states.

Dennis Murphy provided a report on manure ventilation rate program and ASABE Standard for Pit ventilation. Results from the gypsum in manure study were shared indicating high levels of hydrogen sulfide generated when slurry is agitated. Safety fact sheet is in development on hazards with using gypsum as bedding.

Dee Jepsen shared results from efforts on training firefighters and emergency management meetings. Relationships with commodity groups have yielded donations to volunteer and career firefighters for safety equipment.

Cheryl Skjolaas provided a report on efforts dealing with motor boats being used to agitate large manure lagoons. Manure digesters were discussed and toxic gases concerns. Larry Olsen shared a concern with being asked to certifying manure applicators.

Other discussion focused on Wayne Bower and the Star of the Wise for grain training programs Aaron Yoder reported on developments in Great Plains NIOSH center region dealing with large poultry houses being used to compost entire flocks of birds infected with Avian influenza. These efforts are targeting producers and workers to help them select appropriate respiratory protection.

3:07 pm Break was called.

3:27pm Meeting Resumed.

Additional comments and efforts were called for by committee chair. None were shared.

ASABE Standards Discussion:

Bob Aherin shared a report on the progress of the grain bin entry and anchor points standard. Report shared that the standard took several iterations before a compromise was reached. The standard did pass with a change in the size of the grain bin opening and anchor points for life line system. Bob indicated that revisions were expected to come in the future.

The materials and dimensions of hitch pins were classified in the new ASABE standard for manufacturing of hitch pins. This was reported by Bob Aherin.

Other discussion was provided on the ASABE lighting and marking standard for agricultural machinery on roadways. Cheryl Skjolaas shared experiences in Wisconsin to educate producers on new legislation concerning agricultural equipment on roadways.

Other Activities and Updates:

Dennis Murphy provide an update on Penn State efforts to assist OSHA LEP on compliance assistance. Alliances were developed between dairy management professionals of Pennsylvania. Cheryl Skjolaas reported that OSHA has asked each state to identify how to increase activities in agriculture. Issues on housing for migrant workers and inspection of work sites.

Bob Aherin shared a report on Susan Harwood Grant efforts to collaborate with farm show vendors to promote grain bin hazard awareness and grain bin safety for FFA students.

At 4:06pm, meeting was recessed until 8am June 3, 2015.

**NCERA 197 Meeting Minutes
June 3, 2015 Meeting reconvened at 8:05am**

Continuation of traffic and transportation issues regarding agricultural equipment.

Cheryl Skjolaas provided additional information on the legislation. Michael Pate asked for any handouts on the issue to share at the International Society for Agricultural Safety and Health.

Discussion on identification of next priority topic from national agenda:

A report was provided by Cheryl Skjolaas on subcommittee efforts targeting the issue of falls in agriculture. Discussion focused on areas to address or identify situations to target for interventions. New concerns have arose with using boats in lagoons. Additional meetings with subcommittee members were noted to be planned.

Revisions of New NCERA-197 Five Year Project Plan

Aaron Yoder led a discussion to generate ideas for addressing reviewer comments. Committee members engaged in discussion and identified objectives/areas to provide effort on.

Committee members in attendance were asked to provide objectives they would work towards accomplishing. Each member verbally identified an objective to work towards.

Aaron Yoder – 1., 6.

Connie Baggett– 2

Larry Olsen– Retire

Linda Fetzer– 6.

Cheryl Skjolaas– 2.

Dee Jepsen – 3.

Kitty Hendricks– 6.

Dennis Murphy – 1., 3., 6.

Bob Aherin – 3., 2., 6.

Michael L. Pate – 6., 1., 4.

Discussion was generated on ways to reach out to other experts that could contribute to accomplishing these objectives. Invitations for membership were encouraged.

Elections of New Committee Chair and Secretary:

Michael Pate was unanimously railroaded into a 2-yr commitment as committee chair. Dee Jepsen was unanimously supported by committee members to serve 2-yr commitment as committee secretary.

Aaron Yoder promised his left toe that he would get back in to being the committee chair after Michael's two year term.

Safety in Agriculture for Youth Project Report

Dennis Murphy provided an update on the status of activities for the Safety in Agriculture for Youth Project. Dennis asked for input on the committee's role in developing a Guidance Document for Youth Working in Agriculture. Committee discussion was provided on different methods to complete this or provide assistance to develop the Guidance Document.

Bob Aherin made a motion to support the concept of pulling together a coalition to focus on the development of the Guidance Document for Youth Working in Agriculture. Cheryl Skjolaas seconded the motion. All members were in favor. Motion passed.

eXtension.org Update for Agricultural Safety and Health

Linda Fetzer provided a handout on the efforts and impact from the community of practice for Agricultural safety and Health that NCERA 197 members have been involved with. A summary of funds supporting research and extension efforts was shared with the committee. Aaron Yoder shared an update on eXtension.org mission and institutional membership changes.

Other Reports and Updates

NIOSH Report

Kitty Hendricks provided a summary of the latest survey efforts with NASS in 2014. She reported that 2014 would be the last agricultural injury surveillance efforts provided by NIOSH. An advisory panel will be used in the future.

USDA-NIFA

Aida Balsano shared a summary of current activities regarding funding opportunities and grant panel reviews. Aida reported on funding opportunities for Youth Farm Safety, Rural Health and Safety, and AgrAbility. Brad Rein provide a presentation summary that was made to NARREE Advisory Board Members. Brad shared other potential funding opportunities to collaborate and integrate agricultural safety and health. Funding opportunities shared included AFRI projects linked to Robotics and Automation as well as Agricultural Systems Technology.

ASCHA

A report on efforts within ASCHA was shared by Aaron Yoder and Dennis Murphy.

Grain Safety Coalition

Bob Aherin showed a video with the committee that provides training on grain safety. Bob shared that the video was developed from external funding.

Final Comments

Marshall Martin provided final comments to the committee thanking them for their efforts and wishing them well. A doodle poll will be generated by Michael Pate to determine the next telephone conference call in October.

Meeting Adjourned by Aaron Yoder.

NCERA197 2015-2020 Objectives

1. Revise the National Agenda for Action document that was published by this committee in 2003 to provide land grant researchers and educators assistance in prioritizing agricultural safety and health issues.
2. Develop a white paper that addresses topics such as: 2.1. current and potential impact of existing and emerging technologies on safety and health in agriculture. 2.2. summary and impact of public policy and regulations related to agricultural safety and health.
3. Collaborate with other organizations (e.g., NIOSH Ag Centers, ASHCA, ASABE, ISASH) to sponsor regional or national conferences focused on safety and health issues associated with topics such as: livestock handling, best safety practices, organic and market growers, mental health, substance abuse, and public policy and regulations.
4. Encourage research and outreach at Land Grant universities that utilizes their expertise in addressing safety and health issues associated with agricultural injuries.
5. Encourage new and improved standards to reduce hazard and risk exposures within agriculture by investigating where the priority areas are within the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineering and other standard developing organizations and groups.
6. Work to increase infrastructure support for agricultural safety and health within the land grant system by: 6.1. continuing the support of the Farm and Ranch eXtension in Safety and Health (FReSH) Community of Practice at www.eXtension.org/AgSafety. 6.2. maintaining a current inventory of ongoing research and extension activities being conducted by various components of the Land Grant system. 6.3. providing appropriate recognition of Land Grant system researchers and educators who are addressing critical agricultural safety and health issues through nominations to current award mechanisms or creation of new mechanisms. 6.4. pressing the need for additional funding to be allocated to agricultural safety and health issues by creating a new committee within the NCRA system that is eligible for internal funds and experiment station acknowledgement, and 6.5. encourage and support positions of "agricultural safety and health specialist" in Land Grant colleges and universities to study, research, advise, teach agricultural safety issues and problems in each state