### NCERA-197 Agricultural Safety and Health Research and Extension

**Minutes: March 2, 2021**

### 12:00 pm-2:00 pm (EST), 11am – 1pm (CST), 10am – 12pm (MST), 9am – 11am (PST)

**ZOOM conference connection**

**Attendance:** Dee Jepsen (Chair), Michael Pate (Secretary), Brad Rein, Anne Dorrance, Jennifer Lincoln (replaced Brad Hussberg from NIOSH), Aaron Yoder, John Shutske, Cheryl Skjolass, Karen Funkenbusch, Steve Freeman, Scott Cedarquist, Serap Gorucu, Josie Rudolphi, Salah Issa, Christine Johnston, Marsha Salzwedel, Haley Rosson

Call to Order – (Jepsen)

**Welcome and Introductions of committee members & new Admin Advisor.** We spent time for member to introduce themselves and share their capacity to work within Safety & Health at their institutions. Our committee has several retirements, and new additions of faculty from other institutions have joined. It was good to have an update from Brad Rein (National Program Leader) and Dr. Anne Dorrance (new Administrative Advisor), and 15 members.

* Extension members need to be on the NIMSS Roster – Appendix E. Chair Jepsen reviewed this document, and described how to complete the form for academic members. For the members who are not at a land grant university (i.e. NIOSH Centers or industry), Anne can add you to the roster.

**Review of minutes of our June 2, 2020**

**Reporting structure for all members** (Jepsen/Pate). Our committee uses an electronic survey to capture your efforts in your own states/institutions to report collectively the works of our committee members – as your efforts relate to our Committee Objectives. Members are asked to complete the survey each year for our annual report.

**Committee file repository – Microsoft Teams, BOX** (Jepsen/ Pate not present for this item). Our committee files are currently maintained on a BOX Folder. Secretary Michael Pate will add members to these folders.

**Select meeting schedule for 2021** (Jepsen). We discussed various meeting options for the best way to continue meeting in 2021 while many of our members are still on COVID-19 travel restrictions. The new NIFA, Kansas City office is not ready to host us yet. A meeting poll was conducted and a post-meeting email was sent to all members so that absentees could also vote on future meetings. The tally was:

* (2 votes) *Quarterly meetings*
* (6 votes) *Select a Month - meet once a week 90-120 minutes*
* (2 votes) *Select a Week - meet 4/5 days 90-120 minutes*
* (0 vote) *Other options*

\* Several members did not vote – as they were willing to meet as the majority of committee members voted.

**Election of Officers to occur at next meeting.** If committee members are interested in leading this committee, or would like additional information about the expectations of the positions, please reach out to Jepsen or Pate.

**Review Objectives:**

*Objective 1. Promote National Research Agenda (reviewed in 2017) to provide guidance to land grant researchers and educators for prioritizing ag safety & health issues.* There is interest to re-publish.

*Objective 2. Report on past project’s ATV White Paper publications* (Jepsen/Khorsandi not present for report). Several conference presentations & conference papers were written in 2020 to communicate the ATV White Paper. Several manuscripts have been submitted for publication. There may be an opportunity to have a link posted on the NCERA Committee website – to connect people to the published documents.

*Identify new White Paper topic to address a priority safety or health topic.*

• NIOSH reports: Completing a literature review of Robotics and Artificial Intelligence

• AFF: fatigue and shift work

• Surveillance; the NIOSH Ag Centers may be offering a special interest call for publications in the Journal of Agromedicine; also session proposals for NORA to be solicited later this spring (~ April) where topics will emerge.

*Objective 3. Enhance 1862, 1890, and 1994 land grant institution’s participation in the National Research Agenda for Action while collaborating with strategic partners to intensify regional, national and international impact on ag safety & health issues.* Members are encouraged to recruit others in their state, or who they know, from other institutions to join the committee.

*Objective 4. Encourage research, teaching and outreach of agricultural best management practices in partnership with land grant universities to address global safety and health issues associated with ag injuries.*

*• ASHCA collaboration efforts:*  The virtual ASHCA Summit is March 21-23, 2021.

*• NIOSH Ag Centers:*

*Objective 5. Encourage development of new and improved standards, as well as adoption of current standards, to reduce hazards and risk exposures within agriculture.*

*•ASABE Standards:* Scott Cedarquist gave an update on 1) braking standards for towed equipment; 2) farm injury classification codes; 3) ladders/cages/stairs; 4) MS-23 committee is working on electronics; 5) ISO standards; and 6) other topics of drone spraying and feed stations.

*• ASABE virtual conference:* July 11 – 14, 2021.

*Objective 6. Work to ensure sustainability of agricultural safety & health efforts, capacities, and impact by:*

*• ensuring a pipeline of dedicated safety & health professionals who are educated in the science and evidence based practices;*

*• leverage existing partnerships, capacities, organizations and resources;*

*• build awareness of needs among policy makers, ag organizations, university and government administrators and others.*