

Minutes  
Executive Committee  
November 2, 2015  
Baton Rouge, LA

Executive Committee Participants: Jim Allen, President (Northern Arizona University); Keith Belli, President-Elect (University of Tennessee); David Newman, Secretary-Treasurer, (SUNY-ESF); Phil Tappe, Southern Regional Chair (University of Arkansas); Kamran Abdollahi, Diversity Chair (Southern University); John Hayes, International Chair (Colorado State University); Mike Messina, Northeast Regional Chair (Pennsylvania State University); Janaki Alavalapati, Policy Chair (Auburn University); Terry Sharik, Education Chair (Michigan Tech University); Red Baker, Research Chair (University of Kentucky); Carolyn Brooks (1890s Representative); Mary Watzin, At-Large (North Carolina State University);, Rob Swihart, At-Large (Purdue University); Kurt Pregitzer, Western Regional Chair (University of Idaho), Andy Ezell, Extension Chair (Mississippi State University); Jim Zazcek, North Central Regional Chair, (Southern Illinois University); Tim White, At-Large (University of Florida); Randy Nuckolls, NAUFRP General Counsel; Terri Bates, NAUFRP Executive Liaison,

NAUFRP Members: Adrian Leighton (Salish Kootenai College), Allen Rutherford (Louisiana State University), Dale Green (University of Georgia), Mark Rickenbach (University of Wisconsin-Madison), Joe McNeel (West Virginia University) , Ted Howard (University of New Hampshire), Pat Stevens (Stephen F. Foster),

Guests/Participants: Dave Tenny (CEO, National Alliance of Forest Owners by conference phone); Matt Menashes (CEO, Society of American Foresters), Bob Alverts (President, Society of American Foresters), Rich Guldin (Society of American Foresters Senior Research Fellow), John Barnwell (Director, Government Affairs and External Relations, Society of American Foresters), Jay Farrell (Executive Director, National Association of State Foresters), Larry Biles (Kansas State Forester and NASF Liaison to NAUFRP), Catalino Blanche (National Program Leader, USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture), Felipe Sanchez (Budget Coordinator, USDA Forest Service, Research & Development), Carlos Rodriguez-Franco, Associate Deputy Chief, USDA Forest Service, Research & Development)

Introductions were made.

A motion to accept the March 2-3, 2015 Executive Committee minutes was made by Rob Swihart; second by Andy Ezell. Terry Sharik had several edits and changes to the draft minutes that he will provide to Terri. The minutes were accepted unanimously noting that Terry's changes will be incorporated.

**Treasurer's Report, David Newman:** (Handout) Projected dues income is expected to be down slightly from the 2015 budget. A few more schools did not pay this year. Terry Sharik has a contact to follow-up with at Yale University. David noted that a lot of Northeast programs do not really have forestry. Also the broadening of programs has had an impact. Jim Allen suggested maybe more targeting can be done through the regional chairs. David discussed expenditures in 2015. A process has been set up to receive dues payments via credit card but those who utilize it will pay a three percent administration fee to cover NAUFRP costs. The University of Kentucky has received a modest grant from NIFA for a McIntire Stennis Strategic Planning process. Some of it will be used to reimburse Terri's time for work on this. Expenses related to the annual meeting have increased considerably in the last years. It may be worthwhile to consider meeting offsite at member institutions when the opportunity presents. There was interest in this; there are a lot of advantages to meeting on campus. It might be good to include faculty. It was noted that meeting away from the SAF Convention site could be problematic for attending their early

meetings, for example, accreditation hearings. A question was asked about the last time there was a raise in dues. David reminded that the dues are scaled to McStennis appropriations in addition to a base fee so an increase in the program results in higher dues and vice versa. The proposed 2016 budget was discussed and unanimously adopted.

**Diversity Report, Kamran Abdollahi:** (Handout) Kamran reviewed ongoing Diversity action items including the Diversity Logic Model and sessions at the 2015 SAF Convention and potentially the 2016 Convention. Several potential diversity partners have been identified. Kamran's handout provided descriptive information on these: the President's Board of Advisors on HBCUs, the American Indian College Fund, and the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities. There was a suggestion that the 2016 Universities in Natural Resources Education (UNRE) might offer opportunities for further diversity discussions.

**Research Report, Red Baker:** The research committee is focusing on three things: 1) strengthening and maintaining traditional programs, 2) reaching out to non-traditional partners, and 3) improving upon McIntire-Stennis funding and developing a new Strategic Plan. In March, Red, Phil and Janaki met with several division heads of the National Science Foundation (NSF). NSF's NEON program was discussed and is worth pointing out to faculty. It took some effort at NSF to get them to understand the depth and breadth of forestry research at NAUFRP institutions. They don't like the term 'applied research' and prefer the wording 'broader impacts'. Kurt asked whether they understand the linkages between food and water because, typically, they are not well understood. Janaki believes NAUFRP can help shape the conversation and make the connections that are not well understood. Randy said the agriculture deans are pushing water on production agricultural issues. Jim and Randy would like to see the NSF visits continue. The NSF program reviewers were very interested in NAUFRP's reviewer data base but concerned that they could (*legally*) utilize it. They would like NAUFRP to encourage individual faculty to reach out to them. There was a great deal of interest in bringing NSF to the winter Executive Committee meeting. Janaki thought it might be useful to host a panel and involve other agencies. Kurt suggested putting together talking points/themes for them. Red and Keith Belli returned to DC in August to meet with traditional partners. With NIFA they focused on national capacity and fundamental forestry research for forest research and teaching. They also met with Forest Service and DOE. DOE holds a big bioenergy meeting in July in Washington, DC; faculty should be encouraged to attend it. Red has received a \$30,000 grant from NIFA to begin developing a McStennis Strategic Plan (the previous grant for strategic planning was more than \$100,000). The process will begin on Wednesday with a facilitated (facilitator is Mitch Owen) meeting. Red has tried to identify a wide range of participants, with varied experience and geographic representation; he also invited 1890s and 1990s representatives. Red noted that at last year's ATR meeting, there was not consensus on the need for a new McStennis Strategic Plan.

**FRAC Report, Keith Belli:** (Handout) Keith attended the USDA Forestry Research Advisory Council (FRAC) meeting held in Washington, DC in October. He followed Catalino Blanche (NIFA) on the agenda and was concerned with some of his remarks. Catalino appeared to suggest that FRAC has an informal role for AFRI, perhaps advisory. Keith does not know if this might be coming from the NIFA Director/leadership. Catalino also made some comments regarding some states possibly 'gaming' the formula. Catalino spoke about the impacts of including the 1890s and in the future, the 1990s. Keith stressed the importance of the NAUFRP leadership having a presence at FRAC. He also contributed to the discussion on international projects stressing that they would need to contribute to a national issue/goal. Randy agreed that it is important to try and have Keith or Red attend the FRAC meetings. They are open meetings that are advertised in advance in the *Federal Register*. FRAC is an advisory body on USDA forestry programs to the Secretary. Adrian Leighton is currently a member and he reported that FRAC will brief the USDA Secretary on its recommendations in two weeks. Keith was given agenda time and provided an overview of NAUFRP and stressed that through the McStennis program, the schools provide capacity for forestry research, teaching and extension. This has been

unchanged in the program's history. To illustrate the breadth of forestry programs for FRAC, Keith developed a handout on the disciplines and AFRI/NRI grant funding that goes towards them. Keith pointed out that forestry is doing well although it is not spread evenly; he underscored we are losing capacity to train graduate students in some disciplines.

**Policy Report, Janaki Alavapati:** (Handout) Janaki distributed a written report and discussed the various partner letters that NAUFRP has co-signed in 2015. NAUFRP has been an original member of the Forest Climate Working Group (FCWG) and various NAUFRP members and their faculty have served on technical committees.

**Education Report, Terry Sharik:** (Handout) The November SAF Journal of Forestry issue is focused on 'Education'; Terry contributed an article on "Diversifying Student Demographics". He also has an article addressing undergraduate enrollment trends in natural resources. In 2014, he pushed to form new chapters of the International Forestry Students' Association (IFSA); there are a total of five in the US currently (Oregon State, University of Washington, Michigan Tech, Salish Kootenai College and Yale). He would like to explore whether NAUFRP might become a 'Professional Partner' of IFSA with IUFRO and several other organizations. He is unsure if this would have any related costs. John Hayes said he will look into this for NAUFRP. Terry developed a student survey for those attending last year's IUFRO World Congress and SAF Convention. The response rate was good and he is following that up with a survey to NAUFRP institutions to broaden the scope of the survey and determine the degree of bias. The latter is still in process and he plans to supply the results of respondents directly to their institutions. Terry presented a poster at the 2014 IUFRO World Congress on student and workforce diversity in forestry and related natural resources. He participated in a USDA task force sponsored by NIFA on workforce issues in agriculture and natural resources, representing NAUFRP. Terry was one of 8 on it and the only one with a natural resource background. The report, "Employment Opportunities for College Graduates in Food, Agriculture, Renewable Natural Resources, and the Environment: United States, 2015-2020" was published in May and is available at <https://www.purdue.edu/usda/employment/>. Terry and Adrian participated in a panel on "Workforce Development in Tribal Forestry" at the Tribal Forestry Summit, held at Yale University in October. Adrian reported that 6 out of 42 1990 institutions have natural resource programs; only Salish Kootenai has a forestry program. The others are predominantly environmental science. Under the Intertribal Timber Council (ITC), the Indian Forest Management Assessment Team (IFMAT) periodically assesses the state of Indian forest land; John Gordon has chaired all three of the IFMATs since 1992. One of the issues Adrian pointed out is the disparity in federal investment on National Forest System lands versus tribal lands. The federal investment on National Forest System lands is \$8/acre; it is \$2.54/acre on tribal lands. Workforce development is an issue. There are 190 tribal students in natural resource programs; 40 are at Salish Kootenai and 75 at NAUFRP institutions. The ITC welcomes discussion about how to encourage and help tribal students at our institutions. It doesn't matter where they get their degree just that they get a degree. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has no research capacity. There is a higher percentage of Native Americans in natural resource programs relative to their total population than Latinos or African Americans.

**International Report, John Hayes:** John will look into the IFSA question. He is looking for suggestions for his committee's focus and work. A lot of faculty are involved in international projects; it could be useful to be aware of what they are doing and reach out to include them. It might also be good to engage them and bring their suggestions to the table. Jim Allen reported that he traveled to Bulgaria last May at the invitation of the Deans and Directors of European Forestry Faculties and Schools. It was a good meeting and they paid for all of his travel.

**Extension Report, Andy Ezell:** The Extension Meeting that usually occurs in conjunction with this meeting and the SAF Convention is being held down on the coast at Cocodrie, LA. The 2015 Family

Forests Education Award will be presented tomorrow at the General Assembly. Oregon State University is the recipient for the individual category recognizing the “Women Owning Woodlands Network”. The comprehensive program award will be presented jointly to The Family Forest Research Center which is a cooperative effort between the University of Massachusetts-Amherst and the U.S. Forest Service. Finally, Andy intends to focus on the work Bob Wagner began developing MOAs with partner organizations. Plans are to sign one with the National Association of State Foresters (NASF) later today.

**1890s Report, Carolyn Brooks:** The 1890s were in Washington, DC July 12-16 to commemorate the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Signing of the Second Morrill Act. Hosted by Chairman Conaway, there was a reception for the 1890 University Presidents on the 15<sup>th</sup> and thereafter 6 of the CEOs testified before the House Ag Committee. Engagement from the Members with all 18 of the CEOs was excellent. Because of the attention that was provided from Congress attempts have been made by several in Congress to address the state matching requirement of 1:1 for the 1890s because in the majority of the states in which the 1890s reside, the match is insufficient to meet the 1:1 requirement. Congress has requested that NIFA provide them with a report to allow further analysis of this and actions to be taken accordingly. Several amendments have been drafted to address the matching issue. After the testimonies, the 1890s were hosted by members of the Senate and the House for a huge exhibition by each institution in the Madison Building of the Library of Congress. Guests included Congress, the universities and the federal government and the numbers exceeded 600. The banquet that evening recognized Members of Congress and industry sponsors as 1890 University Champions. (participation exceeded 600). On the final day, the convocation took place in the Coolidge Auditorium of the Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress. There were four speakers, including Sec. of Agriculture, the Honorable Tom Vilsack. Previously the 1890 Day events held at all of the campuses in April engaged the State (governors and State Congressional Members) and the public. Extensive media attention was provided in all of the 18 states. The Walks to commemorate 1890 Day and ‘wellness’ was 1.890 miles and cost was \$18.90 to participate. Funds went to the Justin Morrill Scholarship Funds. Please visit [www.1890universities.org](http://www.1890universities.org) to see the events for the year for the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Signing of the Second Morrill Act. Central State University now receives McStennis funding as a newly established member of the 1890 University section. No new money is provided with their entry. Grambling University has been named a land-grant university in the state of Louisiana and now Rep. Abraham of Louisiana is pushing to have Grambling named as a land-grant institution at the federal level as well. This new challenge of campuses desiring to become land-grant universities is an issue for discussion and for strategy development that must be tackled by the entire land-grant family as the capacity funding is unlikely to be increased to support new members. NIFA is now receiving calls from campuses wishing to become both 1890 and 1862 land-grant universities. U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) announced passage of a Senate resolution he cosponsored that recognizes the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *Second Morrill Act* – legislation passed on [August 30, 1890](#) that led to the creation of 19 historically Black Federal land-grant educational institutions. The resolution also designated [August 30, 2015](#) as “1890 Land-Grant Institutions Quasiquintennial Recognition Day.” Brown is a senior member of the Senate Agriculture Committee.

**Board of Natural Resources Report, John Hayes:** The Association of Public Land Grant Universities (APLU) has a large impact on the federal budget and agriculture is a very strong presence within APLU. The natural resources sector has the potential of being more influential. NAUFRP is one of five discipline organizations comprising the Board of Natural Resources with APLU. There was an APLU agriculture meeting in Rhode Island last summer with natural resource participation (John, George Hopper, Jim Allen and Mary Watzin attended). A focus of the meeting was on developing a common public message regarding the value of agriculture and natural resource education, research and extension. John and Jim were not sure that the meeting was targeted enough to produce a useful product, but agreed that it was important to be there with agriculture at APLU meetings despite the investment required to do

so. Jim also gave a presentation at this meeting to the BAA subgroup on academic programs in which he discussed NAUFRP and the biennial UENR conferences.

**Northeast/North Central Regional Report, Mike Messina:** (Handout) The Northeast and North Central regions met jointly meeting with the FS Northern Research Station (NRS) and Forest Products Lab last July in Philadelphia. Seven NAUFRP and nine Forest Service representatives attended. Their focus was on developing a joint strategic framework for creating a more representative workforce. The intent is/was to have a draft Strategic Framework by July 2015 and once final, an Implementation Plan that includes tactics and timelines. Mike noted that Michael Rains will be retiring as the NRS Station Director at the end of the year. The two NAUFRP regions will have input into the selection of a new Director. NRS will also involve NAUFRP in the upcoming (Dec. 7-11) “Chief’s Review” of the Forest Service in the northeast and Midwest.

**Southern Regional Report, Phil Tappe:** Southern NAUFRP met June 3<sup>rd</sup> at Virginia Beach, VA in conjunction with the Forest Landowners Association annual meeting. There were eight NAUFRP representatives and they discussed the following: the Forest Service five-year regional workforce plan, skill sets needed, forest health issues and the Pathways programs. Scott Jones, FLA Executive Director also met with Southern NAUFRP; FLA has been a long-time advocate for research and extension programs. FLA may add a job board to their website which would be of value.

**Western NAUFRP, Kurt Pregitzer:** (Handout) Western NAUFRP met at the Manitou Experimental Forest in Colorado on June 23-24. The meeting was hosted by Colorado State University with assistance from the Forest Service. The field trips were great. Updates at individual institutions are provided in Kurt’s report. They will meet at Oregon State next summer.

**Washington Report, Randy Nuckolls:** NAUFRP’s FY16 budget requests approved are expected to be flat. The House funded capacity programs and overall agriculture programs; the Senate appropriations subcommittee marked a flat budget. Everything was in limbo until last week when the surprise budget announcement from the House and Senate leadership came out; they were able to work a deal to address the debt ceiling. The important things to know are that in the House: there are about 100 mainstream Republicans who support the leadership; about 40-50 members in the Freedom Caucus who want things to go differently and, about 100 who want to go with the Leadership but are afraid of challenges from the Right. A coalition of moderate Republicans and Democrats got the Export-Import Bank reauthorization bill out of committee and passed. Congressman Ryan, the new Speaker of the House, has reached out in a bi-partisan way. The budget agreement for the next two years will increase by \$180 billion for non-defense discretionary programs which ensures flat funding. There is a small chance the agriculture appropriations subcommittee may get a little increase but if so, that funding will likely go to programs like AFRI. Next year might yield a little more.

**Budget and Advocacy Committee (BAC), Tim White:** Tim reviewed the background of BAC. NAUFRP pays dues to be a member and this keeps McStennis in the top tier of budget priorities. BAC has helped sustain increases for the AFRI programs. RREA is on a secondary list of budget priorities. There are several special issues that BAC is working on including a major water initiative of about \$100 million that will support four geographic centers and make competitive grants in the \$40-\$50 million range. John Hayes asked if the BNR should be more engaged on BAC. Tim said perhaps and suggested working with Wendy Fink at APLU on this. John said this has not come up with the BNR. Randy pointed out that there is no institutional cross-walk between the BNR and BAC.

Rob Swihart requested the Executive Committee consider **a funding proposal on “Measuring Scholarly Productivity and Impact of NAUFRP Faculty”**. This is to provide data and methods for benchmarking bibliometric performances of NAUFRP faculty especially forestry and forest products. The funding

requested is for \$5,000. A similar analysis has been recently completed for wildlife/fisheries faculty at 33 NAUFRP institutions. Discussion on this will continue later.

NAUFRP Website: The NAUFRP website has been moved to a private company based in the DC area. This has allowed Terri to do updates directly. There have been no developments on the proposed redesign of the website, so it was resolved that Jim, Terri and Terry Sharik will follow up on this.

**Dave Tenny, CEO, National Alliance of Forest Owners (NAFO):** Dave noted that NAUFRP's November, 2014 letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on Carbon Science Fundamentals has been very valuable and used over and over. This contribution demonstrates the influence NAUFRP has on various policy issues. NAFO's priorities for 2016 follow. First, the continuing focus on forest carbon issues. NAFO plans an active role in round 1 of state plans for CPP (Clean Power Plants) working at the federal level. This will need research/data on the value of forest management per overall carbon impact (i.e. silviculture and other forest activities with carbon impacts.) Dave sees a larger issue at play --- what is the role of forests in the overall economy? Within CPP, forest carbon will be in a carbon constrained economy. NAFO's second priority is tax reform. NAFO wants to be ready on the issue in 2017 following the presidential election; the issues for policy making will be framed in 2016. There are/will be research opportunities related to localized impacts of tax provisions, particularly if they are taken away. Dave finds that impacts get lost in a national picture; local impacts get more meaningful attention. NAFO's third priority will be continued focus on water issues. He expects another round on forest roads with EPA and water quality (EPA has a decision deadline in May 2016). Research would be very useful on clean water benefits to forest management activities. A new area of focus for NAFO will be the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in terms of bats and the pine snake. FWS looks differently at issues. NAFO wants to position forestry as a means of conserving species – to look at the positive benefits of forest practices.

**Bob Alverts, President, and Matt Menashes, CEO, Society of American Foresters:** Bob reinforced that SAF's relationship with NAUFRP is critical. SAF accredits 72 institutions. Matt said they had anticipated 1,300-1,400 for this convention but it now looks like it will be 1,400-1,500 of which 450 are students thanks to NAUFRP. The November *Journal of Forestry* (JOF) which is just out is the special issue on education. They are trying to internalize the recommendations of the Berkeley conference into SAF actions. SAF is going to have to do business differently: two year institutions moving to offer BS, accreditation of schools outside the US, OPM standards for forestry. The Convention's plenary agenda is partly focused on the JOF issue. SAF will carry diversity and gender issues forward and engage with other natural resource societies. They are setting the table for long-term strategies. Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) issues require continuing commitment. The SAF Board is prepared to put funding out to state societies to help them fully understand the need to be an open and inclusive society. They want to ask the deans, department heads and faculty to help on D&I issues. Jim Allen, Steve Bullard and Kamran Abdollahi are very involved. Let Matt know who else to involve. There will be a workshop on Thursday. The D&I issues are going to feed into where the forestry profession is headed over the next 30 years. Matt says SAF has set up a discussion for the next two years to frame out what is going to happen to the profession called "Evolving Forestry". They want faculty involved to map the metrics and quantify them. They will begin with a survey. Since Matt met with NAUFRP in March, SAF has been denied accreditation by the Council of Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). Matt strongly disagrees with the decision and process. The SAF Board has challenged Matt to go for third party review. There are opportunities for working with the Society of Range Management. This matter should have no implications for individually accredited institutions unless they publish something that references SAF accreditation as certified by CHEA. If SAF pursues CHEA accreditation it will likely take two years to start over; any other path will be equally as long. Matt's instinct is that they will go down the CHEA path. Bob added they don't want to go too quickly because they hope CHEA will modify some of their criteria. Jim Allen asked the Executive Committee if this is causing anyone problems on campus. The

answer appeared to be no from those present. Matt was asked how much the accreditation fee will increase. He said it is too soon to say; the increase will begin in 2017. Matt said they will begin discussions in January on accreditation overall to assure its level of value. The fees for two year schools have been lifted to that of four-years. It's been quite a few years since the last increase in accreditation fees.

**'Assessing Strategic Priorities for Clients of the Forest Service Research and Development Mission Area', Rich Guldin, Senior Research Fellow and John Barnwell, Director of Government Relations, Society of American Foresters:** (Powerpoint) Rich has become a Senior Research Fellow for SAF since he retired from Forest Service R&D last year. SAF has received a grant to assess the strategic priorities of FS R&D partners and stakeholders. It has been 10 years since the last one and 13 years since the NRC report lead by Fred Cabbage. Structured interviews and focus group discussions will be held in DC and around the country. They have already met with NASF, NAFO, AF&PA, SFI and others. There are several options for NAUFRP involvement in this, such as providing input directly and helping to host some of the proposed focus groups on their campuses. Some of the feedback they have heard so far includes adaptation and scale, translation of science is needed (lay language), synthesis of science is needed. Rich was asked to provide the Powerpoint to the Executive Committee and others present (Dale, Ted, Adrian, Mark, Allen Rutherford). *(This has been done.)*

**Carlos Rodriquez-Franco, Associate Deputy Chief, USDA Forest Service R&D:** (Powerpoint) Focus areas for Forest Service R&D are: 1) Sustainability 2) Deliver Benefits to the Public 3) Apply knowledge globally. Priority Research Areas are: disturbance, bioenergy and bio-based products, FIA, nanotechnology, watershed management and restoration, localized/regional needs and urban natural resources. What's new: green buildings, nanotechnology, cross laminated timber, white nose bat syndrome, sage grouse habitat conservation, USDA Climate Change Hubs, City of Excellence. Next week the White House Office of Science will release a multi-agenda study on wildland fire science. Randy commented that FS R&D is not going to have sufficient funding until the fire funding issue is resolved. Fire is sixty percent of the agency's budget. FS F&D is down to approximately 500 scientists from a high of 1,100. Carlos was asked to let us know about 2016 Station Director meetings so a potential joint meeting could be planned.

**Larry Biles (Kansas State Forester) and Jay Farrell (Executive Director) National Association of State Foresters:** Jay Farrell and Jim Allen signed a MOA between the two associations. Larry is now NASF's official Liaison with NAUFRP. He described the State Forester organization. They have six staff and three regional organizations. There are 59 members including the territories and the District of Columbia. Their three elected officers rotate up their Executive Committee structure. Jay would like to explore how best to implement the MOA. NASF has seven standing committees. The South Carolina State Forester is chair of FRAC, so there is a lot of synergy. NASF has four internships a year and coordinates with Terri in circulating the notices. The NASF Strategic Plan guides their activities and policies. They are very focused on appropriations, especially USFS State and Private. Wildland fire funding is the highest priority. The last Farm Bill was very positive for forestry. Other priority issues are carbon, water, ESA. NASF generates resolutions at their annual meeting which represent strong statements leading to policy positions. Resolutions that passed this year were on tax reform, ESA, climate change, carbon, FIA and Tree City USA. An example of a recent partnership between NASF and a university was with Virginia Tech; they worked together to conduct a national BMP survey. The results have been published and can be found on the NASF webpage. NASF will deliver to NAUFRP their research, extension and education priorities. They look forward to our recommendations. Applied research and FIA are on the radar of their forest health and research committee. Jay believes SAF, NAUFRP and NASF truly best represent the breath of the forestry profession. Every State has a five-year Forest Action Plan; there are links to them on the NASF webpage. They have recently hired an outside contractor to develop Performance Measures for Forestry by focusing on 6-7 metrics—ones that can be

easily reported and understood. NASF will host a Partners' Reception on December 7 and invite anyone from the NAUFRP Executive Committee in DC on that date to please attend.

**Catalino Blanche, National Program Leader, USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture:**

The McStennis FY16 allocation will be \$33.94 million – no increase from FY15. Regarding the status of the McStennis program, there are 760 projects by 1,000 plus investigators. Keith asked if the USDA Climate Hubs are an opportunity to push for more extension and RREA? Catalino approved two education projects as a trial/experiment. Catalino believes the preamble of McStennis act specifically precludes international projects. Central State University is the newest institution to become eligible for McStennis funding. They will receive \$100,000 out of Ohio State's allocation. Central State has a strong water program. Catalino is worried about a report ????. Randy suggested a small subcommittee with good geographic representation be formed to work with Catalino on changes to the formula.

Discussion returned to funding proposal brought by Rob Swihart. It is for \$5,000. David said a budget deficit is projected for 2016, but that this proposal would not make the deficit out of line with past years. The proposal was accepted by unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned.

*Minutes Adopted  
March 7, 2016  
Washington, D.C.*