

Minutes of the SC NRCS Civil Rights Advisory Committee

December 13, 2006

Members/Advisors Present

Sabrenna Bryant-MAL, Secretary
Cliff Eaddy-AIANPM/Treasurer
LaKeisha Hill-BEPM
Wayne Henderson-DEPM
Charlie Ogg-MAL
Rafael Mendez-HEPM
Lisa Good-- FWPM
Craig Ellis-Title VI Advisor
Amy Maxwell-Outreach Coordinator
Dory Reeves-Title VII Advisor

Members/Advisors Absent

Lynette Savereno-MAL, Chair,

- I. Eddy, presiding in the absent of the Savereno, called the meeting called to order at 10:05 am.
- II. Budget Report: Eddy proceeded to discuss the budget. Ellis encouraged all members to review the 2007 budget and try to minimize cost for training and travel. The budget was closely analyzed and cuts were made where deemed possible. After changes, the finalized budget request was \$36,200, which is a difference of \$4,015 from the previous budget request of \$40,215.
- III. Minutes from the October 13, 2006 meeting were reviewed and approved.
- IV. Discussion of By-Laws: The by-laws were reviewed by committee members, but it was agreed that action items could wait due to the absence of the Savereno, and further discussion of the By-laws will continue at the next meeting.
- V. Introduction of new members: Wayne Henderson introduced new members of the committee: Sabrenna Bryant--MAL, LaKeisha Hill--BEPM, Lisa Good--FWPM, and Amy Maxwell--Outreach Coordinator.
- VI. EEO Poster: Amy Maxwell said that the EEO poster needed to be updated with the new members. Everyone agreed. Committee decided to leave pictures off the poster, but to add the NRCS web address to the poster. Bryant agreed to place the poster on the NRCS civil rights webpage.
- VII. AIANPM Report: Eaddy reported on having to order additional Native American posters and has extras if anyone had need for one. He also reported that the State Leadership Team recently had a meeting in York, in which they

visited with the Catawba Nation, taking a small tour of the conservation practices on their property.

- VIII. BEPM: Hill reported that she is currently working on her plan of work and planned to meet with former BEPM Dorothea Martinez to fully understand her duties.
- IX. DEPM: Henderson reported that he attended a national meeting in Bethesda, Maryland on the week of December 4th. He reported that it was a good meeting, in which they discussed the “Workforce Recruitment Program”, a program that recruits handicap and disabled students to work for NRCS.
- X. FWPM: No report.
- XI. HEPM/APIPM: Mendez reported that he has been talking to other states (Iowa and North Dakota) about the Student Temporary Employment Program, which recruits high school students to work for NRCS. He suggests that SC use this program as well. Feels it is good for diversity and may bring in future employees. Mendez will talk about this program with Savereno. He will also talk to Wilcox about approving a budget for the program. There will be more discussion about the program at the next meeting.
- XII. Members at Large: Bryant and Ogg had no report.
- XIII. Outreach Report: Maxwell reported that German Glasscho of Kingstree received the SC Small Farmer of the Year award and will be recognized at the Joint Partnership Conference in January.
- XIV. Title VI: Ellis had no report
- XV. Title VII: Reeves advised members of SC NRCS personnel changes and the status of vacancy announcements. Reeves also gave all new members a Memorandum of Understanding to be signed by themselves, their supervisors, and Walt Douglas. She also reminded the group to complete AgLearn training by Friday, Dec 15th. Reeves also discussed the possibility of holding Cultural Awareness day at the SC dept. of Vocational Rehabilitation facility.
Other business:
1) Eddy will send Maxwell/Bryant a finalized copy of the Budget to be given to Douglas for approval.
- XVI. Next meeting will be February 14, 2006 at 10:00am in the SO conference room.
- XVII. Meeting was adjourned at 11:38 AM.