

Agenda Item # S5

ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee Agenda Brief

The committee holds regular conference calls on the last Tuesday of each month. These calls have generally been well attended. The current B&L Committee membership is shown below.

<p>Chair: Bill Brown (UTK)</p> <p>Delegates: Bobby Phils (ARD) Alton Thompson (ARD) Karen Plaut (NCRA) Ernie Minton* NCRA Sabine O'Hara (NERA) Jon Wraith (NERA) George Hopper (SAAESD) Saied Mostaghimi (SAAESD) Jim Moyer (WAAESD) Glenda Humiston (WAAESD) Executive Vice- Chair Mike Harrington (WAAESD)</p>	<p>Liaisons</p> <p>Doug Steele (ECOP Liaison) Bob Holland (NIFA) Paula Geiger (NIFA) Josh Stull (NIFA) Glen Hoffsis (APLU Vet Med) Eddie Gouge (APLU) Ian Maw (APLU) Becky Walth (CARET) Cheryl Achterberg (APLU - BoHS) Jim Richards (Cornerstone) Hunt Shipman (Cornerstone) Vernie Hubert (Cornerstone) Jeremy Witte (Cornerstone)</p> <p>*Chair elect</p>
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The committee holds regular monthly conference calls.

The B&L Committee held a breakfast meeting on March 5 in conjunction with the AHS-CARET meetings. Doug Steel (ECOP B&L Committee chair) was also in attendance. Discussions focused on advocacy for the single increase budget request for NIFA, strategic realignment efforts, and work products for the 2018 year.

T&E Reporting: A revised [fact sheet](#) was released November 9, 2017. The revision included the B&L requested a set of bullet points that would capture NIFA expectations. Also requested were examples of problems that have surfaced in audit/reviews. The restriction on using federal funds in grant writing was missing. Recent discussions focused on the Council on Government Relations (COGR) input into the NIFA Time and Effort reporting fact sheet. It is COGR's opinion that certain items in the fact sheet would require OMB approval in order to implement.

Strategic Realignment of small lines: The Committee has discussed the realignment of small lines concept and is in favor of moving this effort forward.

All documents related the federal budget are located at the land-grant.org.