

## Wednesday July, 31<sup>st</sup>- NASCOE Convention Delegates Meeting

- 3 types of meetings
  - General Session
  - Breakout Committee
  - Are Committee
- Purpose of Meeting
  - Decision
  - Bi-laws
  - How to make decision
  - Decisions get made
  - Only one motion at a time
    - Motion needs to be moved and 2<sup>nd</sup>
    - Chairs need to make sure it is decent and prepared
  - Chairs will ask about debate and wrap up discussion
    - Amendment may pop up
      - Needs to be voted (debate)
        - 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion
- State has to be present to receive stipend and have to be present to vote.
  - If something pops up talk to Dennis
  - No proxies allowed
  - Elections require 2 votes by the by-laws
- General Session
  - 2 votes
- Committee Meeting
  - 1 vote (authorized representative)
- Chairperson- Area meeting- need a secretary
  - NASCOE member can make motions, etc.
- Voting
  - Convention bids 2021
  - By-law changes
- Question & Answer on Thursday
  - Ask Away
- Memorial- Saturday Morning
  - Please be prompt
- **Reminders**
  - New employees- new member packets out?
  - New leadership- how can you help build a good team?
- Corrected admin memo was sent out this week
- Schedule of state and area photos- look at schedule to see when your area has their photo.
- Break out meetings
  - Identical but TSP- first for early to mid employees
  - Second for close to retirement employees

Thursday, August 1<sup>st</sup> – NASCOE Convention

- **Steve Peterson**- Association of Administrative Operations and Management
  - FSA Reorganization
    - Mission Deliver
    - Business Center
      - Not fully staffed
      - Agency is still adjusting to alignment of business center
      - Hoping for increase in efficiency
        - Hopeful for minimal change at CO level
        - Increase in change at STO
        - Major change at National Office level
- **Budget**- Came late in the year
  - We were in the red two months ago
  - Budget staff all new employees
  - In June reassessed budget, back in the black
    - Business model
    - Awards hopefully being a benefit
    - Travel- not nearly as tight on restrictions
    - Temporary's- more flexibility
- **Programs**
  - 2019 Farm Bill passed in December
    - 1.) DNC- 53% enrolled in production history, sign up until September
    - 2.) ARC/PLC- National Training to take place next week and farm record training.
    - 3.) CRP- December 3<sup>rd</sup> General S/U all statutory changes included. Continuous CRP S/U June 3<sup>rd</sup>-August 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- **Disaster Programs**
  - ELAP
  - LIP
  - NAP
  - Additional Supplement
    - WHIP
    - PP
    - Farm Grain Storage
    - Dairy
- **MFP**
  - 40,000 Applications already enrolled
  - Expecting 183,000 producer sign ups.
- **Policies and Procedures**
  - National wants to keep rolling out timely
  - They need more employees
  - Workload due to additional programs
  - Trying to minimize time with producers to increase efficiency

- **Peggy Browne**- Deputy Admin of Field Operations
  - Goal to get to CO employees on how to help
    - Provide help with efficiency
    - Feedback is appreciated
  - Administrators Vision
    - Administer Task Force
      - 15 people across the nation
      - Meet often virtually
    - Building a more robust training for COT's
      - Interactions with management and staff
      - Training material more readily available
  - Ability to hire COT's and CED's in specific locations
    - Currently working on this
    - CED vacancy to be advertised
    - Rolling out in October-ish
  - **Workbook analytics release 5.0**
  - Working on modeling, etc
  - Her team is already developed
  - Rolled out to CED's to better manage CO employees
    - Open office hours for training
    - Dashboards
    - Validation page
  - She worked on process for processing receivables/checks
  - Negotiation Schedule
    - Performance Standards
    - Re-tooling
  - Budget- 2018 and 2019 same amount of money for budget
    - Stagnant spending
      - Increase in expenses still happening
      - Doing what they can
    - Working very collaboratively due to budget
      - Ad-Hoc programs
      - IT investment
      - Make our handbooks more searchable
- **Brad Karmen**- Assistant Deputy Admin of Farm Programs
  - **Farm Bill**
    - WHIP
    - WHIP+
    - MFP
  - In addition to other programs and disaster programs

- **Darren Ash**- FPAC Business Center Information and Solutions Center
  - RMA
  - NRCS
  - FSA
    - **All under FPAC umbrella**
- Make it easier for our employees to implement programs
  - Get rid of swivel chair
  - 3 different cultures, technology, organizations, management styles
  - His focus is on software
    - Focus on good equipment- ability to be mobile- SED, CED's, and DD's.
    - Dock stations
    - Access to authorization- speed process up, hurts employee, management and producer
    - Bandwidth- upgrade to improve connectivity
      - CDC can be more proactive with STO & CO's
  - Farmers.gov- Variety of capabilities, programs, and tools
    - How understandable is that content?
      - Needs to be producer friendly
      - Listen to customer and make it so it makes sense- producer language
  - Want to increase electronic methods to benefit producer
    - Will make it easier for CO employees
      - Accepting more documents electronically
        - Continue to accommodate producers either way
  - E-Commerce- debit and ACH
    - Hope to get to credit cards use soon
      - Pay.gov integrated w/NRRS
  - Shared Management- Will we be able to increase PT positions
    - No, because of decrease in ceiling for hiring, productivity, etc.
  - Press Releases before FSA is educated
    - MFP- wait for secretary to make announcement
    - Can have impact of "actual" markets, don't want adverse reaction
    - Did have leaks to press about MFP

## Break Out Sessions

- **Scholarships & Awards**

- Decrease in funding for 2019, less to operate this year
- New Application for Scholarships
- Prototype for DSA's is forthcoming
  
- Task for 2019 to update our publicity for handbook, etc
  - Look at updating price awards for scholarships, revamp letters & literature... or tweak
- Creating calendar for deadline dates to print
  - Asking Exec for sick leave awards
- Going to align dates for state and area leaves for scholarships
- Use word "Ranking" instead of "Winning"
  - State will submit finalists to area
- Trying to limit DSA's to 500 word limit to make more fair to all nominees
- Revision to handbook request for DSA winners to eliminate ability to use past year's DSA winners if not a present year DSA nominee. Defeats purpose of encouraging your co-workers to recognize those deserving every year.
- Submitting proposal to change and have deadline to submit all supporting documentation for National winners to get money.

- Awards & Scholarships- NWA

- Scholarships are the same
- DSA's were down due to furlough
- Sick Leave submitted on-line

## Friday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>- NASCOE Convention

- **John Lohr**

- Dillard's- NASCOE National Benefits Provider
- NAFEC's National Benefits Provider
- Federal Credentials
  - Donated \$48,500 to NASCOE
  - \$78,400 to states
  - \$ 54,000 in door prizes
  - **\$180,920 total**

- **Hunter Moorhead**

- Crossroad Strategies NASCOE Legislative Consultant
  - Worked on Capitol Hill for 12 years
  - Lobbyist
  - Independent Contractor
    - Bi-partisan
      - Expertise in house, white house, and senate
        - 800 county office position openings nationwide
        - Keep lobbying for more money
        - Has to be justified for Congress
          - Why it's important and justify
  - Senate passed 2 year budget spending...
- Farm Bill- large workload for this farm bill not including disaster programs and MFP.
  - Senators introduced a new bill that would not allow an actual shutdown once shutdown kicks in a CR would be implemented keeping us open.
  - Mandatory roll-call for political figures
  - Also would shut-down travel until government opens
    - Proposed bills, not LAWS
    - Dennis Ray sent letter to Sonny Purdue about us going back to work without pay.

- NWA Breakout Session

- Negotiations
  - Was in May with Management in WDC
  - PT to increase to a grade 8
  - COT's knowing before training program where they are going to go. Re-branding CED's.
- Membership/Publicity
  - Clean up email listings
  - Newsletter Revamp
  - 79% membership increased by 6%
  - SD NASCOE Membership increased
  - SD finished at 96% for the year.
- Change in by-laws
  - Change in wording to approve/disapprove to be compliant with IRS
    - NASCOE working with states who aren't compliant.
  - Elections
    - Joel nominated NWA Exex, Dane nominated for Alt

