

Minutes

Work Group members in attendance: FDPIR Program Staff: Tod Robertson (NAFDPIR President),; Perry Martinez (SWR VP), Connie Martinez (SWR); Jenelle Gimlin (WR VP), Lorraine Davis (WR); Desiree Bergeron (WR); Mary Greene-Trottier (MPR VP), Charles “Red” Gates (MPR); Gloria Goodwin (MWR - Proxy for Betty Jo Graveen); Lou Hankins, (FNS SWRO); Kathy Sweitzer (FNS MPRO); Melissa Baker (FNS WRO), Samia Hamdan (FNS MWRO); Sara Hernandez (AMS), Lena Milton; Laura Walter (FNS), Patti Schock (FNS) Stephanie Cooks, (FNS).

Work Group members not at the meeting: Jaime Prouty (NAFDPIR Treasurer); Anna Wright (NAFDPIR Secretary), Fi Davis (NAFDPIR Parliamentarian); Susie Roy (MWR VP), Betty Jo Graveen (MWR); Sharon Wheeler (SWR); Lucy Atteberry (MPR); NAFDPIR MWR Nutritionist – vacant.

Visitors: Laura Castro (Director, FDD); Janice Fitzgerald (Chief HH Ops, FDD); Matthew Martin (FDD), Barbara Lopez (FDD); Erica Antonson (FDD); Jeramia Garcia (FDD).

- I. **Welcome/Member Roll Call** – The meeting opened with member/visitor roll call.
- II. **Updates to the annotated wish list and the FY 2014 work plan**–Workgroup members are encouraged to review status updates to the wish list and the work plan and provide any comments/edits to FNS before the next workgroup meeting.
- III. **NAFDPIR Preference Survey Results** – Programs provided additional survey feedback indicating food demos, recipes, and nutrition information might help to highlight the benefits of items that are currently slow movers in the FDPIR food package. The nutrition/health expert subcommittee will convene to discuss strategies and a possible plan for providing additional information to programs. **ACTION ITEM:** The subcommittee had a call on May 7th and discussed available resources and the subcommittee’s contributions going forward. Highlights of the meeting will be discussed on the next workgroup call.
- IV. **FNS Product Status Updates**
 - a. **Nutrition and cooking information for parboiled and regular rice:** The workgroup will poll programs in their respective Regions to determine preference for either regular or parboiled long grain, enriched, white rice and provide a response to FNS by the workgroup call in September 2014. FNS will provide nutrition information and cooking time estimates for both products so that programs can make a side-by-side comparison. The 2 lb. pack size of parboiled rice is currently not available through USDA vendors, therefore a per lb. price is not available. **ACTION ITEM:** FNS has provided nutrition and cooking time information to the workgroup.
 - b. **Boxed spaghetti in 1 lb. pack size** - FNS has purchased spaghetti in 1lb. boxes and the new pack size is in AIS. The 1 lb. boxes are available in the Nampa warehouse and will begin arriving at programs next week. Paris Brothers warehouse still has inventory of the 2 lb. pack size of spaghetti. Once the 2 lb. product inventory is distributed, programs serviced by Paris Brothers will begin receiving the 1 lb. boxes of spaghetti. The new pack size comes 20 – 1 lb. boxes to a case. **ACTION**

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ITEM: FNS sent out a guide rate update and fact sheet highlighting addition of the 1 lb. pack size.

- c. **Complaints updates** - The FNS Complaints Team conducted a webinar on April 23, 2014. The webinar demonstrated the proper procedure for entering complaints into the system.

V. DoD Fresh Update

- a. **Shell egg pilot** – FNS has contacted the Northeast Regional office and Seneca Nation to discuss a possible shell egg pilot in fall 2014. Currently, the only DoD contract which has been amended to allow FDPIR programs to receive shell eggs is the contract for service to the Seneca Nation. Therefore, a pilot can be conducted in Seneca to determine if DoD contracts should be amended to allow other programs to try shell eggs in lieu of egg mix. Workgroup members would like to see the shell eggs piloted at a tailgating site when possible.
- b. **Customer service surveys** – DoD has received 50 customer service surveys from ITOs. Programs have given thoughtful feedback and DoD is working closely with program staff to answer questions and address service delivery issues. DoD is also responding to ITO requests for smaller pre-packaged produce items consistent with the pack sizes in AIS. Midwest FDPIR programs requested a report on the survey feedback received from all Midwest tribes. **ACTION ITEM:** DoD provided a report of all the surveys received to date.

VI. Other Business -

- a. **Regional vendor pilot update** – The regional vendor pilot contract allows for a base year and four option years. The base year was completed in March 2014 with 4 participating Oklahoma tribes. The first option year has been exercised to continue the pilot for the 4 base year tribes however; additional programs will not be added at this time due to a lack of available funding. **ACTION ITEM:** FNS sent a notice updating the status of the vendor pilot to Regional staff to forward to programs.

- VII. Next two workgroup calls** - The NAFDPIR Board President requested a workgroup call for June 13, 2014. Following this call, the next workgroup call will be on September 4, 2014.

VIII. Meeting Adjourned