

Minutes

Work Group members on call: FDPIR Program Staff: Roxanna Newsom (NAFDPIR President), Jaime Prouty-Nolan (NAFDPIR Treasurer), Gloria Goodwin (NAFDPIR Secretary); Jenelle Gimlin, Lorraine Davis, (WR); Mary Greene-Trottier, Charles “Red” Gates, Kathy Walter (MPR); Tod Robertson, Florence Calabaza, Nanelle Micco (SWR); Susie Roy (MWR); Laura Walter, Patti Schock, Stephanie Cooks (FNS); Sara Hernandez (AMS); Sharon Hadder (FSA); Lou Hankins (FNS SWRO), Kathy Sweitzer (FNS MPRO).

Work Group members not on call: Gregory Nothstine, Desire Simeon (WR); Betty Jo Graveen, Sherry Bebeau (MWR), Samia Hamdan (FNS MWRO), Melissa Baker (FNS WRO).

Visitors: Shirley Roberts, Dana Rasmussen, Janice Fitzgerald, (FNS, FDD); Bob Dalrymple (FNS ORA)

I. Introduction

Work Group members were reminded to view the minutes and Workgroup Goals and Structure document that have been posted to the FDD website.

II. USDA Updates

a. AMS Procurement

- i. **Whole muscle turkey breast** – the contract was awarded to House of Raeford in late January. Deliveries are scheduled to begin in April. The turkey roasts will be about 3.25 lbs. each and 12 roasts will be packed in a case. This item will be fair shared due to an expected high take rate. FNS will send out an email allowing program directors to limit distribution of the turkey roasts until deliveries stabilize.
- ii. **Fruit and Nut mix** – the solicitation has gone out and award is expected by March 1, 2012. The mix is expected to contain equal parts of dried apricots, cranberries, dates, figs, and almonds.
- iii. **Cream of chicken and mushroom soups** – the vendor has the go ahead to resume production of the creamed soups, however, the vendor must first resolve some outstanding financial issues with AMS. Deliveries are tentatively anticipated for summer 2012.
- iv. **Fat content of ground beef** – AMS verified the label and packaging is consistent with the specification for an 85% ground beef product. Sara will check on this issue once she receives information for the specific vendor in question to determine if product is meeting the specification.
- v. **Extended Shelf-Life (ESL) Eggs** – a specification has been developed and two vendors are interested in providing the product. Product shelf-life remains an issue of consideration.
- vi. **Frozen fish** – a few frozen fish options are being considered. Year round availability is the primary concern. A 2-lb. bag of individually frozen tilapia filets is commercially available. AMS is researching the cost.
- vii. **Frozen pork chops** – AMS is waiting for vendor price information and the possibility of providing a frozen versus a fresh chilled tray pack product.

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b. FSA Procurement

- i. **Wild rice** – sources are being sought for wild rice. ITOs feel commercially produced wild rice is not acceptable due for quality and nutritional reasons. All ITO regions expressed an interest in receiving wild rice. ITOs would also like to try samples of wild rice at the 2012 NAFDPIR national meeting in Buffalo, NY.
- ii. **Pasta in damaged bags** – the vendor has been contacted and agreed to replace the bags of damaged pasta. FNS complaints will check with FSA and confirm replacement of the pasta.
- iii. **Best-if-used-by (BIUB) dates on flour bags** – vendors were consulted about adding BIUB dates however; they feel adding BIUB dates in lieu of pack dates will not resolve the issue. Vendors feel more education is needed to explain what the dates mean. Standing Rock has also had a problem with Hudson Cream flour not being securely closed. They will submit a complaint to FNS so the issue can be resolved.
- iv. **Reduced sodium lowfat bakery mix** – the change to a smaller pack size will be a longer process because of the Ability One requirements. ITOs will continue to receive the 5 lb. bags until the smaller pack size process is complete and all 5 lb. bags have been distributed.

c. FNS Update

- i. **Wish list foods update** – The sodium level in Lite Spam is too high to meet the healthy guidelines specified.
- ii. **Butter** - an options memo is being reviewed by FNS senior management to determine next steps for reintroducing butter into the food package.
- iii. **Interim guide rates** – Final interim guide rates are being drafted to include feedback from the NAFDPIR Board.
- iv. **Vendor Pilot** – Technical documentation is being completed by FDD and will be sent to FNS Contracts. Once the solicitation goes out, the Workgroup will be notified.
- v. **FDPIR Program messaging** – a small amount of funding has been provided to produce a one page information sheet and some photo images in support of program messaging. The Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion (CNPP) is working with FDD on this project. NAFDPIR has established a marketing committee and would like to develop some PSAs for FDPIR featuring Native athletes and other famous personalities from Indian Country. NAFDPIR also plans to set up a Facebook page for program promotion. Local Native colleges may be interested in supporting the audio and video production of the PSAs. FNS will consider the availability of administrative funds for program promotional resources.
- vi. **Cell phones** – no new information. FNS will check for any updates.
- vii. **Process cheese purchases** – cheese purchases were made in early February. Once the vendor is known, FNS will provide additional information.
- viii. **FDPIR end-of-year food purchases** – FNS will have an idea of available year-end funding by May 2012 and will provide an update to the Workgroup.

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- ix. **Lima beans** – lima beans were removed from the warehouses due to very low take rates and product going out of condition.
- x. **Skim evaporated milk** – skim evaporated milk was an even exchange replacement for regular evaporated milk in the food package to maintain cost neutrality.

III. Meeting Adjourned – Next meeting May 2, 2012 from 1:30 to 3:00 PM EST.