

## Minutes

**Work Group members in attendance:** FDPIR Program Staff: Tod Robertson (NAFDPIR President); Jaime Prouty (NAFDPIR Treasurer); Perry Martinez (SWR VP), Connie Martinez (SWR), Carmen Robertson (NAFDPIR SWR Nutritionist); Gloria Goodwin (MWR); Jenelle Gimlin (WR VP); Mary Greene-Trottier (MPR VP), Jana Millner (NAFDPIR MPR Nutritionist); Roxanna Newsom (Ad Hoc Vendor Pilot Advisor); Lou Hankins (FNS SWRO); Samia Hamdan (FNS MWRO); Jessica Creed-Capsel (FNS MPRO); Melissa Baker (FNS WRO); Lena Milton (FSA); Sara Hernandez (AMS); Pat Scott (DoD, DLA); Julie Skolmowski (Chief, PSB, FDD), Matthew Martin (FNS), and Stephanie Cooks (FNS).

**Work Group members not at the meeting:** Fi Davis (NAFDPIR Parliamentarian); Anna Sterner (NAFDPIR Secretary); Susie Roy (MWR VP), Theresa Gordon (NAFDPIR MWR Nutritionist); Charles “Red” Gates (MPR); Lorraine Davis (WR), Desiree Jackson (NAFDPIR WR Nutritionist).

**Visitors:** Dana Rasmussen (Chief, Policy, FDD), Barbara Lopez (FDD), Erica Antonson (FDD).

- I. FDPIR Food Package Review Workgroup Webpage Updates:** The December face-to-face meeting minutes, voting tally, and supporting documents have been posted to the FD Food Package Review Workgroup webpage. The Workgroup Contact List and Goals and Structure membership for 2013 to 2015 will be updated over the next few days. Each member is encouraged to visit the webpage to view the updates.
- II. Seneca Nation Shell Egg Pilot:** The Seneca Nation shell egg pilot continues to be a success and shell egg distribution will continue beyond the end of January. FNS HQ is working with FNS Northeast Regional Office and Seneca Nation staff to get feedback on shell egg distribution during the pilot. FNS will review the feedback and share it with the Workgroup before deciding next steps for shell egg distribution in FDPIR. **ACTION ITEM:** FNS will also get a status update for the vendor currently providing egg mix for FDPIR and provide an update at the April meeting.
- III. December face-to-face meeting follow-up:**
  - a. DoD Update** – DoD is reviewing recent vendor contract modifications to determine which contracts have added language to provide shell eggs. **ACTION ITEMS:** For the April meeting, DoD will provide FNS a list of all States that have added the contract language for shell eggs. DoD will also provide cost, shelf life, and seasonal/domestic availability information for the following items: fresh string beans, lemons, spinach, green chiles, fresh cranberries, heads of lettuce, strawberries, watermelon, clementines, garlic, cilantro/herbs, leeks, and green onions.
  - b. Bison, pork chops, and turkey roast** – AMS is reaching out to vendors to get cost and delivery information for bison and pork chop. A timeline will be established for bison and pork chop procurement once all vendor information is received. Turkey roast procurement has been challenging in the past. AMS is trying out a new procurement method for turkey roast in FY 2015. FDPIR will continue to receive the holiday hams for the 2015 holiday season. AMS will explore potential turkey roast availability for the 2016 holiday season.

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- c. **Blue cornmeal and wild rice** – FSA posted a Request for Information/Sources Sought to Fed Biz Ops for blue cornmeal and wild rice. Responses are due by late February/early March. Links to the postings were forwarded to the NAFDPIR Board. FSA welcomes feedback from all manufacturers/vendors for blue cornmeal and wild rice. FSA will compile all information received into a report to FNS that will be shared with the Workgroup.
- d. **Milk cost comparison and yield information** – In response to a request at the December meeting to consider changing the guide rates to combine 1% UHT and skim evaporated milk into one category, FNS provided cost and yield information for 1% UHT and skim evaporated milk. After further consideration and discussion, this change cannot be supported as it would result in increased food package costs and would not be a cost neutral food package change. **ACTION ITEM:** As requested, FNS will send out a chart to workgroup members providing nutrition information for skim evaporated and 1% UHT milk.

## IV. FDPIR Funding and Participation Updates

- a. **FDPIR Funding** – The full FDPIR funding allocation for FY 2015 has been received and provided to Regions.
- b. **FDPIR Participation** – The most current FY 2015 FDPIR participation data was sent to Workgroup members by email. The data reflects participation for October 2014.

## V. Other Business

- a. **Brown rice and tuna in FDPIR** -Participants in New Mexico have been asking if brown rice and tuna will be available in the food package. Brown rice is not being offered because nationally, participants have indicated that white rice is preferred to the brown rice. Tuna was removed from the FDPIR food package several years ago because of a lack of domestic supply.
- b. **Frozen fish** – While frozen fish was a wish list item for FDPIR, the decision was made not to add frozen fish to the food package because it ranked last in preferred protein items for the food package. Based on Workgroup feedback, bison and pork chops are the preferred protein items for procurement in FY 2015.
- c. **Duplicate protein items in the food package** – Mountain Plains and Western Regional representatives would like the Workgroup to revisit the wish list. Since there are duplicates among the fresh, canned and frozen items in the food package, Western Region programs expressed interest in eliminating a canned item so that a new item can be added to the food package. **ACTION ITEM:** Review of the food package wish list will be added to the April meeting agenda.
- d. **Traditional foods for programs participating in the Regional Vendor Pilot** – Additional funding is not available to purchase Regional traditional foods solely for programs participating in the Regional Vendor Pilot. The Workgroup voted to use the \$5M in traditional food funds to purchase bison for all programs nationally.
- e. **Next Workgroup call:** The next workgroup call is scheduled for April 2, 2015.

## VI. Meeting Adjourned