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Thanks for joining us in Nashville. We had a short but meaningful face-to-face meeting and per action item #1, the minutes are posted on the website for your perusal and comments.

“Work the problem people. Let’s not make things worse by guessing.” – Ed Harris portraying NASA flight Director, Gene Kranz in the film, ***Apollo 13***.

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### Action items:

- The notes from NERA’s face-to-face meeting on September 25th are archived on the NERA website. Check them out. Any comments or corrections?
- Jody Jellison has asked how each of the stations in our region meet their match. We appreciate that required match for capacity funds is shown on the Appendix A’s in the OFGM. How do you meet that designated match requirement? By the skin of your teeth? Through a direct state allocation? ...through matching state salary and fringe? ...in kind? ...other (please describe)? Please send me short note on how you make match. I’ll summarize and share with the region.
- David Leibovitz will be soliciting you for availability for a quarterly conference call to be held in early December. Please respond to his poll, we value your input.
- Second time: Mark your calendars, June 8-10, 2020: NERA, NEED, and the University of Maine will be hosting the 2020 Northeast Joint Summer Session in Portland, Maine. While details are yet to come, the Joint Session’s theme will be focused on innovation. Programming will begin on Monday, June 8th in the afternoon. Rooms will be available for those who will be travelling on Sunday, June 7th.

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### Reminders/Updates:

- The fall NERA meeting ushered in a new Executive Committee that includes Ted Andreadis (chair), Jody Jellison (past chair), Carol Thornber (incoming chair), and Gary Thompson (officer-at-large.)
- The Multistate Activities Committee will be meeting by Zoom on October 16th at 8:00 AM. Items on the agenda include approval of a coordinating committee, a request to write, and a planning grant; revision of the NERA planning grant RFP; consideration of AA replacements (NERA is seeking an AA to replace Fred Servello on NE1962 - Outdoor Recreation, Parks and Other Green Environments: Understanding Human and Community Benefits and Mechanisms, any takers?), nomination for a multistate project, impact writing workshop and nomination of a NE multistate project for national recognition. As a heads up, chair Fred Servello is rotating off the committee and Brad Hillman will be taking over as chair. Matt Wilson will also be joining the committee. Meeting minutes will be posted shortly after the meeting.

- The APLU is currently securing CARET designates for 2020. The form for making the designation should be forwarded to Eddie Gouge.
- Scott Angle has reported that the language of the Continuing Resolution provides the Secretary with the latitude to waive the 1:1 federal:non-federal match requirement for the Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI.) As you've seen, pre-applications are being accepted (due date is October 15, 2019) and there are no match documents required for the pre-application. While the issue of match on SCRI is not fixed, we are creeping toward a solution.

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**Informational items:**

- The College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at the University of Georgia is seeking an Assistant Dean for the Tifton Campus.
- NIFA is searching for a host of different positions including a Supervisory Biological Scientist Specialist(Division Director) and a Supervisory Social Scientist Specialist (Division Director.)
- The University of the District of Columbia is searching for a number of positions, all of which are listed on the NERA website ([click to view](#)).



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