

Minutes

Work Group members in attendance: FDPIR Program Staff: Tod Robertson (NAFDPIR President), Jaime Prouty (NAFDPIR Treasurer); Fi Davis (NAFDPIR Parliamentarian); Susie Roy (MWR VP), Gloria Goodwin (MWR Proxy); Perry Martinez (SWR VP), Connie Martinez (SWR), Carmen Robertson (MPR Nutritionist); Jenelle Gimlin (WR VP), Lorraine Davis (WR), Desiree Bergeron (WR); Mary Greene-Trottier (MPR VP); Roxanna Newsom (Ad Hoc Vendor Pilot Advisor); Lou Hankins, (FNS SWRO); Pat Scott (DoD DLA); Sara Hernandez (AMS); Lena Milton (FSA); Matthew Martin (FDD), Stephanie Cooks (FNS).

Work Group members not at the meeting: Anna Wright (NAFDPIR Secretary), Betty Jo Graveen (MWR); Charles “Red” Gates (MPR); Jana Millner (NAFDPIR MPR Nutritionist); NAFDPIR MWR Nutritionist – vacant; Melissa Baker (FNS WRO), Kathy Sweitzer (FNS MPRO); Samia Hamdan (FNS MWRO); Julie Skolmowski (Chief, PSB,FDD); and Patti Schock (FNS).

Visitors: Laura Castro (Director, FDD); Janice Fitzgerald (Chief HH Ops, FDD); Dana Rasmussen (Chief, Policy, FDD), Jeramia Garcia (FDD); Andre Orange (FDD); Lindsay Walle (FDD).

- I. **Welcome/Member Roll Call** – The meeting opened with member/visitor roll call. The following new members were welcomed to the workgroup: Roxanna Newsom (Ad Hoc Vendor Pilot Advisor), Carmen Robertson (SWR Nutritionist), Jana Millner (MPR Nutritionist), Julie Skolmowski (Chief, PSB, FDD). Lindsay Walle was introduced to the workgroup. She replaces Emily Buday as the FDD staff lead for communications initiatives.
- II. **Final vote for regular versus parboiled white rice** - To date, Western Region, Southwest/Southeast Regions, and Midwest/Northeast Regions have voted to maintain the regular long grain enriched rice in the FDPIR food package. Mountain Plains Region will provide their final vote at the November 2014 workgroup meeting.

Complaints update - The FDD Complaints Team is working with programs to enter complaints into the system. If there are any concerns, please notify Andre Orange and he will assist programs one-on-one to get complaints entered. 8 Northern Pueblos and Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma reported there is still an issue with macaroni packages that are not properly sealed. FNS is working with FSA to transition to a boxed macaroni product.

- III. **DoD Fresh Update**
 - a. **Shell egg pilot** – The shell egg pilot for Seneca Nation of Indians is scheduled to begin in early October 2014, with the option to continue through the end of January 2015. Shell eggs will appear on the FFAVORS catalog in the Northeast Region only. Shell eggs will be available to order beginning on September 29, 2014. Seneca Nation can expect deliveries of shell eggs to begin the week of October 6, 2014, depending on their normal produce delivery schedule. The shell eggs will be packaged in 12 count clam shell cartons similar to those offered in grocery stores. There will be 30 dozen cartons to a case. During the pilot, Seneca Nation participants will receive one dozen shell eggs instead of the powdered egg mix. Seneca Nation conducts home delivery FDPIR distribution which will give

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some insight into best practices for transporting and delivering shell eggs to more remote areas.

- b. Midwest Region sub-contracting update** – DoD’s Contracting Office continues in their efforts to identify a potential new sub-contractor for the Midwest Region. DoD will update FNS and programs of any new developments as information is available.

- IV. Nutrition and Health Expert Subcommittee update** – The subcommittee met twice during the summer months to discuss strategies and resources for maximizing the benefits of slow moving USDA Foods in the FDPIR food package. The What’s Cooking site web link was provided to programs. The site is colorful and engaging and features FDD fact sheets and recipes using USDA Foods as well as consumer purchased foods. SNAP-Ed, Child Nutrition Program, and Household recipes are available on the site. Visitors to the site can build a cookbook of their favorite recipes and track the nutritional value of the recipes they choose. Desiree Bergeron, Western Region’s Nutritionist, recently spent 2 weeks onsite in Native Alaskan communities developing recipes using fresh and canned salmon. Many of these recipes can be shared with other FDPIR programs that receive canned salmon.
- V. NAFDPIR Traditional Foods Survey Results** – The NAFDPIR Board conducted a survey of FDPIR program managers to determine Regional preferences for traditional foods in FDPIR. Based on directors’ assessment of participant preferences, the preferred top four traditional foods were: ground bison, wild rice, frozen salmon, and blue cornmeal. **ACTION ITEM:** FNS will distribute the survey results to workgroup members with a plan to further analyze the results at the face-to-face meeting later this year.
- VI. Tribal location for the fall 2014 face-to-face meeting** – The NAFDPIR Board requested the face-to-face meeting be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The Sheraton Uptown Hotel offers the government rate and could accommodate the meeting either the week of December 1st or December 8th. Southwest Region ITOs in New Mexico would host the meeting with plans to visit program sites at 8 Northern Pueblos, Acoma, and 8 Sandoval. The sites chosen would highlight distribution using the store and tailgating models. **ACTION ITEM:** The NAFDPIR Board will finalize coordinations with the hotel and Southwest Region program sites and provide information to the workgroup to begin travel plans for the meeting.
- VII. Other Business -**
 - a. Reprogrammed funding for FDPIR** – In FY 2014, FDD received an additional \$15.5 million to purchase food for FDPIR due to a food funding shortfall. The reprogrammed funds were used to purchase foods participants normally receive in the food package.
 - b. Next workgroup call** - Workgroup members will consider November 5th and 6th as potential dates for the next workgroup call. **ACTION ITEM:** FNS will send an email to determine the best date for the next meeting and notify the workgroup.
- VIII. Meeting Adjourned**