

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of the Secretary

Notice of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board Meeting

AGENCY: Research, Education, and Economics, USDA.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App., the United States Department of Agriculture announces a meeting of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board, which represents 30 constituent categories, as specified in section 802 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (Pub. L. 104-127), has scheduled a National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board Meeting, March 13-15, 2000.

On Monday, March 13, the Advisory Board will sponsor its 4th National Stakeholder Symposium, focusing on the Integrated Authority for Research, Education, and Extension, as announced in Press Release No. 7.99, Secretary of Agriculture, USDA. The Symposium will begin promptly at 9 a.m. and use a panel format as in previous years. Each panelist will be permitted to make a presentation, with time limits to be announced, and will receive questions from the Advisory Board members. If you wish to be considered as a panelist or would like to nominate a panelist, please forward speaker names, phone numbers, and a brief summary, outline, or similar indication of the intended remarks regarding the topic area to the contact person below for Board consideration. Names for panelists will

be reviewed and selections will be made by the Advisory Board and its Executive Committee. The general Advisory Board meeting will begin at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, March 14, and continue until approximately noon on Wednesday, March 15. During this time, the Advisory Board will (1) incorporate input of stakeholders for use in recommendations for the FY 2002 priorities and the integrated authority; (2) hear a report on the progress of REE programs and projects with regard to relevance to research priorities and adequacy of funding; (3) hear progress reports on Advisory Board working group activities; (4) conduct a focus session on "Changing Pricing and Marketing Structures in the Food and Fiber System;" (5) discuss plans for a summer regional listening session; (6) and conduct other business as needed.

Dates: March 13—9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. 4th National Stakeholder Symposium; March 14—9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; March 15 9:00 a.m. to Noon.

Place: Crown Plaza Hotel (Crystal City), Grand Ballroom, 1489 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202.

Type of Meeting: Open to the public.

Comments: The public may file written comments before or after the meeting with the contact person. All statements will become a part of the official records of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board and will be kept on file for public review in the Office of the Advisory Board; Research, Education, and Economics; U.S. Department of Agriculture; Washington, DC 20250-2255.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Deborah Hanfman, Executive Director, National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board, Research, Education, and Economics Advisory Board Office, Room 344A Jamie L. Whitten Building, U.S. Department of Agriculture, STOP: 2255, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-2255. Telephone: 202-720-3684. Fax: 202-720-6199, or e-mail: lshea@reeusda.gov.

Done at Washington, DC this 20th day of January 2000.

I. Miley Gonzalez,

Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics.

[FR Doc. 00-2571 Filed 2-3-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Research Service

Notice of Appointment of the Advisory Committee on Agricultural Biotechnology

AGENCY: Office of the Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics, USDA.

ACTION: Notification of Appointment of the Advisory Committee on Agricultural Biotechnology.

SUMMARY: The Office of the Under Secretary, Research, Education, and Economics of the Department of Agriculture, in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2, announces members appointed to the Advisory Committee on Agricultural Biotechnology. Thirty-eight members were appointed from nominations of more than 220 well-qualified individuals, representing the biotechnology industry, conventional, sustainable, and organic farmers, food manufacturers, commodity processors and shippers, environmental and consumer groups, along with academic researchers as well as experts on consumer attitudes, bioethics, and legal issues. Equal opportunity practices were followed in appointing committee members. To assure that recommendations of the advisory committee take into account the needs of diverse groups served by the Department, membership includes, to the extent practicable, individuals with demonstrated ability to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.

The following appointments to the Advisory Committee on Agricultural Biotechnology have been made:

Dennis E. Eckart will serve as Chair of the Committee. He is an attorney at Baker and Hostetler, LLP, in Washington, DC, and a former member of Congress from Ohio;

Dale E. Bauman, Liberty Hyde Bailey Professor and Professor of Nutritional Biochemistry in the Department of Animal Science and the Division of Nutritional Sciences at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York;

Daniel R. Botkin, Research Professor, Department of Ecology, Evolution and Marine Biology, University of California, in Santa Barbara, California;

Carolyn Brickey, Executive Director, National Campaign for Pesticide Policy Reform, in San Francisco, California, and member, National Organic Standards Board;

R. Jeffrey Burkhardt, Professor of Food and Resource Economics, Food and Resource Economics Department, University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida, and member, US/EU Committee on Ethics and Food Biotechnology;

R. James Cook, R. James Cook Endowed Chair in Wheat Research, Department of Plant Pathology, Washington State University, in Pullman, Washington;

James F. Dodson, Farmer and seed sales representative for Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc., in Robstown, Texas and Chairman, Environmental Task Force, National Cotton Council;

Linda J. Fisher, Vice President for Government and Public Affairs, Monsanto Company, in Washington, DC;

Carol T. Foreman, Distinguished Fellow and Director, the Food Policy Institute, Consumer Federation of America, in Chevy Chase, Maryland, and member, USDA Meat and Poultry Inspection Advisory Committee;

David J. Frederickson, President, Minnesota Farmers Union, in St. Paul, Minnesota;

Rebecca J. Goldberg, Senior Scientist, Environmental Defense Fund, in New York, New York;

Michael K. Hansen, Research Associate, Consumer Policy Institute, Consumers Union, in Yonkers, New York;

Neil E. Harl, Professor of Economics and Charles F. Curtiss Distinguished Professor in Agriculture, Iowa State University, in Ames, Iowa;

Thomas J. Hoban, Professor, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, North Carolina State University, in Raleigh, North Carolina;

Marjorie A. Hoy, Eminent Scholar and Davies, Fischer, and Eckes Professor of Biological Control, Department of Entomology and Nematology, University of Florida, in Gainesville, Florida;

Charles S. Johnson, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc., and member, USDA-Foreign Agricultural Service Emerging Market Committee, in Des Moines, Iowa;

Anne R. Kapuscinski, Professor and Extension Specialist, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, University of Minnesota, in St. Paul, Minnesota;

Edward L. Korwek, Attorney at Hogan and Hartson, LLP, in Washington, DC;

Sharan A. Lanini, Farmer and Sales/Marketing Manager for Growers Transplanting, Inc./Rocket Farms, and

member, California Department of Food and Agriculture Organic Food Act Advisory Committee, in Salinas, California;

Mark Lipson, Organic Farmer and Policy Program Director, Organic Farming Research Foundation, in Davenport, California;

Marshall A. Martin, Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics, Purdue University, in West Lafayette, Indiana, and member, National Agricultural Biotechnology Council;

Mary-Howell Martens, Organic Farmer and Adjunct Biology Instructor, Finger Lakes Community College, in Penn Yan, New York;

J. Calman McCastlain, Attorney at Pender, McCastlain, and Ptak, P.A., Farmer and Grain Elevator Operator, and Director, Arkansas Wheat Promotion Board, in Little Rock, Arkansas;

E. Bruce McEvoy, Chief Executive Officer, Seald Sweet Growers, Inc., in Vero Beach, Florida;

Margaret G. Mellon, Director, Agriculture and Biotechnology Program, Union of Concerned Scientists, in Washington, DC;

Lorraine D. Nakai, Entomologist and Farmer, Navajo Agricultural Products Industry, in Farmington, New Mexico;

Philip T. Nelson, Farmer, Chairman, Livestock and Dairy GRITS Committee, Illinois Farm Bureau, and Chairman, American Farm Bureau Federation Swine Advisory Committee, in Seneca, Illinois;

Carol Nottenburg, Attorney and Director of Intellectual Property and Principal Scientist, Center for the Application of Molecular Biology to International Agriculture, in Red Hill, Australia;

Roger C. Pine, Farmer and President, National Corn Growers Association, in Lawrence, Kansas;

Channapatna S. Prakash, Professor of Plant Molecular Genetics, College of Agriculture, Tuskegee University, in Auburn, Alabama, and member of the U.S. Sweetpotato Crop Advisory Committee;

Frank L. Sims, President, North American Grain, Cargill, Inc., in Minnetonka, Minnesota, and member, Chicago Board of Trade;

J. Michael Sligh, Director for Sustainable Agriculture, Rural Advancement Foundation International—U.S.A., in Chapel Hill, North Carolina;

Jerome B. Slocum, Farmer and President, North Mississippi Grain Company, in Biloxi, Mississippi;

Austin P. Sullivan, Jr., Senior Vice President for Corporate Relations, General Mills, Inc., in Plymouth,

Minnesota, and Chairman, Biotechnology Task Force, Grocery Manufacturers of America;

Virginia V. Weldon, Physician and Director, Center for the Study of American Business, Washington University, in St. Louis, Missouri, and member, President's Committee of Advisors on Science and Technology;

David M. Winkles, Jr., Farmer and President, South Carolina Farm Bureau, in Sumter, South Carolina, and member, United Soybean Board;

Margaret M. Wittenberg, Vice-President of Government and Public Affairs, Whole Foods Market, Inc., in Dripping Springs, Texas, and member, National Organic Standards Board;

Michael W. Yost, Farmer and President, American Soybean Association, in Murdock, Minnesota.

Committee members will serve two-year terms. In the event of a vacancy, the Secretary will appoint a new member as appropriate and subject to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. The duties of the Committee are solely advisory. The Committee will advise the Secretary of Agriculture on a broad array of issues related to the expanding dimensions of agricultural biotechnology. These issues may include: effects of industry concentration and consolidation on farmers and consumers; effects of changing intellectual property right status of agricultural materials on farmers; ways to maximize or encourage potential benefits of biotechnology and minimize potential adverse effects in different sectors of the agricultural economy; guidance on priorities and resource allocations for research, and for other activities to help the functioning of the agricultural marketplace; recommendations for scientific studies that might be conducted by the new USDA-sponsored Standing Committee on Biotechnology at the National Research Council; ways to improve public understanding and input into USDA's regulatory process; and USDA's role in assuring that farmers have an array of choices for future agricultural technology and practices.

The Committee will advise the Secretary through an annual report and other means as necessary and appropriate.

The Committee will meet in Washington, DC, up to four (4) times per year.

Committee members will serve without pay. Reimbursement of travel expenses and per diem costs shall be made to Committee members who would be unable to attend Committee meetings without such reimbursement.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions should be e-mailed to michael.g.schechtman@usda.gov, faxed to 202-690-4265, or telephoned to Michael Schechtman, 202-720-3817; all mailed correspondence should be sent to Michael Schechtman, Designated Federal Official, Office of the Deputy Secretary, USDA, 202B Jamie L. Whitten Federal Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250.

Dated: January 21, 2000.

I. Miley Gonzalez,

Under Secretary, Reserach, Education, and Economics.

[FR Doc. 00-2570 Filed 2-3-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-01-P

COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List; Proposed Additions and Deletions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Proposed Additions to and Deletions from Procurement List.

SUMMARY: The Committee has received proposals to add to the Procurement List commodities and services to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and to delete commodities and services previously furnished by such agencies.

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE: March 6, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Gateway 3, Suite 310, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-4302.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Leon A. Wilson, Jr. (703) 603-7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 47(a)(2) and 41 CFR 51-2.3. Its purpose is to provide interested persons an opportunity to submit comments on the possible impact of the proposed actions.

Additions

If the Committee approves the proposed additions, all entities of the Federal Government (except as otherwise indicated) will be required to procure the commodities and services listed below from nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities. I certify that the following action will not have

a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the commodities and services to the Government.

2. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the commodities and services to the Government.

3. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the commodities and services proposed for addition to the Procurement List. Comments on this certification are invited. Commenters should identify the statement(s) underlying the certification on which they are providing additional information.

The following commodities and services have been proposed for addition to Procurement List for production by the nonprofit agencies listed:

Commodities

Line, Multi-Loop
1670-01-062-6305
NPA: Industrial Opportunities, Inc.,
Marble, North Carolina
Thumbtacks, Maptacks and Pushpins
7510-00-272-6886 (Thumbtacks)
7510-00-272-6887 (Thumbtacks)
7510-00-272-3099 (Maptacks)
7510-00-285-5844 (Maptacks)
7510-00-940-0935 (Pushpins)
NPA: Delaware County Chapter, NYSARC,
Walton, New York

Services

Base Supply Center, Operation of Individual Equipment Element Store and HAZMART, McConnell Air Force Base, Kansas
NPA: Envision, Inc., Wichita, Kansas
Commissary Shelf Stocking, Custodial and Warehousing, Fort Hamilton Commissary, Brooklyn, New York
NPA: Goodwill Industries of Greater New York, Astoria, New York
Food Service Attendant, Air National Guard Base, 50 Sabre Street, Battle Creek, Michigan
NPA: Calhoun County Community Mental Health Services Board, Battle Creek, Michigan
Grounds Maintenance, U.S. Army Reserve Center, Worcester, Massachusetts
NPA: Seven Hills Occupational & Rehabilitation Services, Inc., Worcester, Massachusetts
Janitorial/Custodial, 126th Air Refueling Wing, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois
NPA: St. Clair Associated Vocational Enterprises, Inc., Belleville, Illinois

Janitorial/Custodial, U.S. Army Reserve Center, OMS, Kittanning, Kittanning, Pennsylvania
NPA: ICW Vocational Services, Inc., Indiana, Pennsylvania
Office Supply Store, Main Interior Building, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC
NPA: Blind Industries & Services of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland
Operation of Individual Equipment Element Store, Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska
NPA: Raleigh Lions Clinic for the Blind, Inc., Raleigh, North Carolina
Operation of Individual Equipment Element Store, Youngstown Air Reserve Station, 910th Air Lift Wing, Vienna, Ohio
NPA: North Central Sight Services, Inc., Williamsport, Pennsylvania
Telephone Switchboard Operations, Dyess Air Force Base, Texas
NPA: San Antonio Lighthouse, San Antonio, Texas

Deletions

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities.

2. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the commodities and services to the Government.

3. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the commodities and services proposed for deletion from the Procurement List.

The following commodities and services have been proposed for deletion from the Procurement List:

Commodities

Amplifier Subassembly
5831-00-087-3408
Kit, Shaving, Surgical Preparation
6530-00-676-7372
Specimen Kit, Urine
6530-00-075-6636
Pillowcase, Disposable
6532-01-125-3269
Aerosol Paint, Lacquer
8010-00-721-9483
Enamel, Lacquer
8010-00-852-9034
8010-00-616-9144
8010-00-878-5761
8010-00-764-8434
8010-00-782-9356
Enamel, Aerosol, Waterbase
8010-01-363-1632

Services

Commissary Shelf Stocking, Naval Training Center, San Diego, California