



## COLORADO FOOD SYSTEMS ADVISORY COUNCIL

**Thursday, June 27th, 10:30am-12:30pm**  
**Colorado Department of Agriculture**  
**305 Interlocken Parkway, Broomfield, CO 80021**

**Present:** Joel McClurg (member), Karen Falbo (member), Tracy Miller (member), Sandy Stenmark (member), Chris Wiseman (member), Wendy Peter Moschetti (member), Jody Beck (member), Dawn Thilmamy (member), Dave Carter (member), Becca Jablonski (staff), Reuben Gregory (guest), Charlie Severance-Medaris (guest), Kaitlyn Matthews (guest)

**Phone:** Meigan Lovelace (member) and Brehan Riley (member)

### Minutes

1. Postmortem on LiveWell's COFSAC bill (Wendy)
  - Goal was to merge COFSAC and farm to school task force, and get a full time staff person to provide support.
  - Senate Bill 267 did not pass, died right before the end of the legislative session. Had bi-partisan support out of the house, so LiveWell was surprised it did not pass.
    - Justification was that not enough evidence of why staff person was needed.
  - Take away – solid plan with support (Farm to School and COFSAC), and bill died for political reasons.
  - Next year if we're going to continue, need to start earlier – politics usually not as big at the beginning, but with Governor's race this year it will be a contentious year.
  - Does COFSAC want to move forward with this? Are there other opportunities to bring COFSAC and Farm to School Task Force together even without a bill?
2. COFSAC's sunset review (Becca)
  - Agreed that we as a group want to continue COFSAC.
  - Draft of the sunset review doc was passed out and reviewed.
    - Suggestion to add additional reasons for COFSAC to continue exist:
      - Recognition that Colorado agriculture is incredibly diverse – commodities, eco systems/regions – COFSAC brings these opportunities together.

- Federal funding and other resources are available right now (and they are here to address perceived issues in the food system – such as food insecurity) – COFSAC can bring the right folks together to go after these resources.
      - Food insecurity is kicking up again, and finding opportunities requires understanding the food system.
        - Other groups are working to address this, but largely in the food security space, and COFSAC can expand the network and bring in a larger group.
    - If going to include an anecdote, include more than one.
    - In section about the six issue briefs – can we add more detail about impact – not just getting funding?
      - Want to be able to articulate benefits across the entire food system, but we also want talking points across COFSAC (keep in part for the next attempt at a bill and on the website)
3. Opportunities to collaborate with the Farm to School Task Force? (Dawn/Wendy)
  - COFSAC has the right to meet however it wants – so could start meeting with farm to school task force.
  - Will plan to do that for next meeting in Sept.
4. COFSAC leadership transition
  - Chairmanship
    - Nobody stepped up to take over as Chair, Meighen is willing to stay as Vice Chair
    - Dawn willing to stay until December 2017 or September 2018 (end of sunset period)
      - Even if Dawn stays on, need transition plan
    - Moving forward, Chair will need to:
      - Provide leadership for action items coming out of the CO Blueprint of Food and Ag that COFSAC is going to tackle (may involve travel, and coordinating subcommittee with specific topic area focus)
      - Logistical support/oversight (with Becca)
  - Staffing/logistics
    - CSU is happy to continue in current role with Becca providing staff support, no evidence from CSU leadership that they don't want to continue this.
      - One challenge is maintaining the website
    - LiveWell has provided substantial support – but can't maintain website long-term
    - Opportunity to define responsibilities moving forward – sunset is not just about the mission, but also about logistics
    - Charlie (LiveWell) will agree to take on the website in the short-term – Becca will send him all documentation.
  - Committees
    - Need to reinstate the committees

- Should the committees be based on programming areas or logistical challenges/opportunities?
  - Should these be aligned with COFPN committees? Perhaps COFPN could provide leadership for programming and COFSAC for the logistical issues
    - Given that the committees may have overlap with other groups – COFSAC members may join other existing groups to liaison with existing COFPN, CDA, CFVGA, etc. groups.
5. CO Blueprint - update and next steps (Dawn)
- Completed 12 regional meetings in 9 region – website has all materials compiled before and after the meeting. Tried to be very transparent with process
  - Stakeholder/industry group meetings
    - Producers on the West Slope
    - Beverage Industry
    - Natural resources – land/water access
    - Food access/security today
    - Made full invitations to others, but some places really just wanted presentations not townhalls per se.
  - Now looking for way to solicit public comment/feedback
  - Some clear themes emerged
    - Hopefully COFSAC will lead thinking about programming and policy barriers for those things that showed up in ~4-5 stakeholder groups
  - Is there a mechanism to see what comes out of the Blueprint’s recommendations? Can we ask ‘leaders’ on specific strategies to track some of these things?
    - How do we track what was accomplished?
6. CO Blueprint to End Hunger – and intersections (Sandy, Joel, and Wendy)
- Reinforcing that we need connective tissue between COFSAC and CO Health Foundation. We do have representation from COFSAC on the steering committee (Meighen, Bre, Wendy, Joel, and Tracy).
7. Next meetings (September and November)
- Need to discuss leadership transition
  - Next meeting should include farm to school task force – Wendy will invite them
  - Discussion of Blueprint recommendations and COFSAC subcommittees
    - Provide draft Blueprint to COFSAC membership before Sept meeting
    - COFSAC membership could come prepared with ideas for subcommittees
      - Perhaps plan on subcommittees meeting in November
  - September 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> – CSU Ag Innovation Summit
    - Had promised to release the draft Blueprint then, but now going to be invitation only
    - Still going to be a Blueprint Session ~2pm on September 7<sup>th</sup> – also webcast – roll out of Blueprint
    - COFSAC meeting before/after the meeting on September 7<sup>th</sup> @ 2pm