

# Notices

Federal Register

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Monday, October 25, 2021

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.

## UNITED STATES AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

### Public Quarterly Meeting of the Board of Directors

**AGENCY:** United States African Development Foundation.

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. African Development Foundation (USADF) will hold its quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors to discuss the agency's programs and administration. This meeting will occur at the USADF office.

**DATES:** The meeting date is Tuesday, October 26, 2021, 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held by teleconference. Please see contact information for invitation details.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Nina-Belle Mbayu, 202-233-8808.

*Authority:* Public Law 96-533 (22 U.S.C. § 290h).

Dated: October 20, 2021.

**Nina-Belle Mbayu,**

*Acting General Counsel.*

[FR Doc. 2021-23193 Filed 10-22-21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 6117-01-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

October 19, 2021.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13. Comments are required regarding; whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the

agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments regarding this information collection received by November 24, 2021 will be considered. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website [www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain](http://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain). Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

### Farm Service Agency

*Title:* American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Section 1005 Loan Payment (ARPA).

*OMB Control Number:* 0560-0300.

*Summary of Collection:* The Farm Service Agency (FSA) implemented the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA; Pub. L. 117-2) to provide payments up to 120 percent to socially disadvantaged borrowers who have ARPA-eligible Farm Loan Programs (FLP) in the Direct and Guaranteed Farm Loan programs and Farm Storage Facility Loan Program (FSFL) loans for the loan balances as of January 1, 2021. This program will provide immediate financial relief from the COVID related economic crisis to approximately 24,000 FSA borrowers who are eligible.

*Need and Use of the Information:* FSA is using the form FSA-2601, Notification of FSA's Decision-ARPA that includes the information to borrowers to accept, discuss with FSA before making a decision, or decline the

financial assistance. The borrowers have 60 days to return FSA-2601 to accept the payment calculations and request payment; self-certify racial and/or ethnic eligibility; acknowledge that ARPA is subject to public disclosure; acknowledge probable tax liability; assign payment to FSA for the amount of the ARPA eligible debt as of January 1, 2021. The balance sent to the borrower to allow to schedule a meeting to discuss with FSA before making a decision; or decline ARPA.

*Description of Respondents:* Farms.

*Number of Respondents:* 24,000.

*Frequency of Responses:* Reporting; Other (one-time).

*Total Burden Hours:* 6,000.

**Ruth Brown,**

*Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2021-23118 Filed 10-22-21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3410-05-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

### Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement

#### Advisory Committee on Minority Farmers

**AGENCY:** Office of Partnerships and Public Engagement, USDA.

**ACTION:** Notice of conference call meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Department of Agriculture and the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), that a public teleconference of the Advisory Committee on Minority Farmers (ACMF) will be held to discuss USDA outreach, technical assistance, and capacity building for and with minority farmers; the implementation of the Socially Disadvantaged and Veteran Farmer and Rancher Grant Program (2501 Program); and methods of maximizing the participation of minority farmers and ranchers in the U.S. Department of Agriculture; and to plan mechanisms for best providing advice to the Secretary on the issues outlined above.

**DATES:** The meeting will be held virtually, Wednesday, November 3, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. Central Standard Time (CST).

**Public Call-in Information:**  
Conference Join ZoomGov Meeting  
<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/16146435155?pwd=eWFuSkJlUmgrQnE3bUhHK0dpUDF2Zz09>.

Meeting ID: 161 4643 5155.

Passcode: ACMF.

One tap mobile:

+16692545252,16146435155# US (San Jose).

+16468287666,16146435155# US (New York).

Dial by your location:

+1 669 254 5252 US (San Jose).

+1 646 828 7666 US (New York).

+1 669 216 1590 US (San Jose).

+1 551 285 1373 US.

Meeting ID: 161 4643 5155.

Find your local number: <https://www.zoomgov.com/u/amr6G32xI>.

**Public Comments:** Written comments for the Committee's consideration may be submitted to email: [ACMF@usda.gov](mailto:ACMF@usda.gov). Written comments must be received by November 2, 2021.

**Availability of Materials for the Meeting:** General information about the ACMF as well as any updates concerning the meeting announced in this notice, may be found on the ACMF website at <https://www.usda.gov/partnerships/advisory-committee-on-minority-farmers>.

**Accessibility:** USDA is committed to ensuring that all persons are included in our programs and events. If you are a person with a disability and require reasonable accommodations to participate in this meeting please contact Eston Williams at [Eston.Williams@usda.gov](mailto:Eston.Williams@usda.gov) or (202) 596-0226.

Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

General information about the committee can also be found at <https://www.usda.gov/partnerships/advisory-committee-on-minority-farmers>. Any member of the public wishing to obtain information concerning this public meeting may contact Eston Williams, Designated Federal Officer (DFO), at [Eston.Williams@usda.gov](mailto:Eston.Williams@usda.gov) or at (202) 596-0226.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Background:** The Committee was established in the U.S. Department of Agriculture pursuant to section 14008 of the Food Conservation and Energy Act of 2008, Public Law 110-246, 122 Stat. 1651, 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2279).

The Committee works in the interest of the public to ensure socially

disadvantaged farmers have equal access to USDA programs. The Committee advises the Secretary on the implementation of section 2501 of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990; methods of maximizing the participation of minority farmers and ranchers in U.S. Department of Agriculture programs; and civil rights activities within the Department, as such activities relate to participants in such programs.

Dated: October 13, 2021.

**Cikena Reid,**

*USDA Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2021-23235 Filed 10-22-21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3412-88-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**Rural Utilities Service**

[Docket Number: RUS-21-Telecom-0010]

**Rural eConnectivity Program**

**AGENCY:** Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

**ACTION:** Funding opportunity announcement.

**SUMMARY:** The Rural Utilities Service, a Rural Development agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), hereinafter referred to as "RUS" or "the Agency" is issuing a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) to announce that it is accepting applications for fiscal year 2022 (FY 22) for the Rural eConnectivity Program (the ReConnect Program). In addition, this FOA defines requirements that are determined at the time a funding announcement is published, as outlined in the regulation. As part of this announcement, the Agency is also informing potential applicants and other interested parties about its intention to seek information on a topic that will help inform future funding announcements. More information is located in Section G of this announcement.

**DATES:** Beginning on November 24, 2021, applications can be submitted through the RUS on-line application portal until 11:59 a.m. Eastern on February 22, 2022. Applications will not be accepted after February 22, 2022 until a new application opportunity has been opened with the publication of an additional FOA in the **Federal Register**.

**ADDRESSES:** Applications must be submitted electronically through the RUS on-line application portal located at <https://www.usda.gov/reconnect>. This FOA will be made available for informational purposes on [Grants.gov](https://www.usda.gov/grants).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For general inquiries regarding the ReConnect Program, contact Laurel Leverrier, Assistant Administrator, Telecommunications Program, Rural Utilities Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), email [laurel.leverrier@usda.gov](mailto:laurel.leverrier@usda.gov), telephone: (202) 720-9554.

For inquiries regarding eligibility concerns, please contact the ReConnect Program Staff at <https://www.usda.gov/reconnect/contact-us>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Overview**

**Federal Agency:** Rural Utilities Service.

**Funding Opportunity Title:** The Rural eConnectivity Program.

**Announcement Type:** Funding Opportunity Announcement.

**Assistance Listing:** 10.752.

**Funding Opportunity Number (grants.gov):** RUS-REC-2022.

**Dates:** Beginning on November 24, 2021, applications can be submitted through the RUS on-line application portal until 11:59 a.m. Eastern on February 22, 2022. Applications will not be accepted after February 22, 2022 until a new application opportunity has been opened with the publication of an additional FOA in the **Federal Register**.

**Administrative:** The Agency encourages applicants to consider projects that will advance the following key priorities:

- Assisting Rural communities recover economically from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly disadvantaged communities.
- Ensuring all rural residents have equitable access to Rural Development programs and benefits from Rural Development funded projects.
- Reducing climate pollution and increasing resilience to the impacts of climate change through economic support to rural communities.

In addition, the Agency would like to highlight the importance of creating good-paying jobs with strong labor standards.

**Program Description**

1. Program purpose. The ReConnect Program provides loans, grants, and loan/grant combinations to facilitate broadband deployment in rural areas. In facilitating the expansion of broadband services and infrastructure, the program will fuel long-term rural economic development and opportunities in rural America.

2. Statutory authority. The ReConnect Program is authorized by the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 (Pub. L. 115-141), which directs the