CIRE Planning Session: Next Steps

1. Brief review of current projects, activities and collaborations
   - RGBI
   - Ogallala Aquifer Program
   - TWDB Projects
   - Stormwater (Jaber – EPA funded)

2. Brief review of current and emerging issues and opportunities
   - Cameron Turner presentation (he highlighted several issues and opportunities)
   - Urban water conservation – need for increased efforts
     - (Research and Education) Expand to other major urban centers
     - (San Antonio collaborations as example)
   - Implementation of strategies in Water Plans (cost effective)
   - Public education and awareness (esp. ag water footprint and similar)
   - Policy and economic analysis – statewide (expand upon OAP study)
   - What do producers want? They want useful tools that fit their needs.
     - Identify what works, tools / applicability
   - Partnerships with seed companies and other agribusiness
     - (public/private partnerships)
   - Education at Farm Shows. CEUs offered.
   - Conferences (Beltwide Cotton Conference, for instance)
   - Meter calibration/testing? Need for facilities (TCAT?)

3. What one thing can we do to improve water conservation?
   - Specialty crops support?
   - What can we do to help rice producers? (Help them transition to pressurized irrigation, using available and emerging technologies.)
   - Water/Energy nexus
   - How can we tell our story more effectively?
   - Management data and education support are needed to optimize benefits of technologies. (NRCS EQIP program is moving that way).
   - Demonstrations to promote adoption of technologies.
   - Use economics to promote adoption.
   - Address need for improved management: Management & hardware – good management is key to get the most benefit from technologies.
   - Do we have the personnel to provide the training? (funding and staffing)
   - Issues (climate/drought X regulations/paperwork)
   - Training for decision makers.
   - Visibility
4. **Upcoming Meetings: Opportunities to tell our success stories, promote our programs**


   b. Irrigation Association Show and Conference
      - 2012: Nov. 2 – 6, 2012, Orlando, FL
      - 2013: Nov 4 – 8, 2013, Austin, TX (Call for papers early 2013)

   c. Beltwide Cotton Conference
      - 2013: January 7-10, 2013, San Antonio
      - Irrigation Workshop, Wednesday Jan 9

      - Spring Specialty Conference: Ag Water Hydrology & Water Quality, March 25-27, 2013, St. Louis, MO

   e. American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers
      - Texas Section Meeting, October 3-5, 2012, San Antonio
      - Annual International Meeting, July 21-24, 2013, Kansas City, MO

   f. United States Committee on Irrigation and Drainage – [USCID.org](http://USCID.org)
      - Managing Irrigation Systems in Today's Environment
      - Nov. 13-16, 2012, Reno, NV

   Using 21st Century Technology to Better Manage Irrigation Water Supplies
   - 7th Intl. Conference on Irrigation and Drainage, April 16-19, 2013, Phoenix, AZ. Abstracts due October 15

   g. American Society of Civil Engineers Environmental and Water Resources Institute
      - 2013 World Environmental and Water Resources Congress, May 19-23, 2013, Cincinnati, OH

   h. ASA-CSSA-SSSA International Annual Meeting – Nov. 3-7, 2013, Tampa, FL

   i. High Plains Irrigation Conference and Trade Show, January 17, 2013, Amarillo

   j. International Desert Technologies Conference – Bourlag Institute:
      - San Antonio, Nov. 2013

5. **Funding Opportunities**

   - USDA-NRCS Conservation Innovation Grant
     - Deadline: Oct 15, 2012 (Grants.gov)

   - NOAA Climate Program Office FY 2013
     - Deadline: Nov. 6, 2012 (Grants.gov)

   - NIFA Agriculture and Food Research Initiative: Food Safety
     - Deadline: Dec 5, 2012 *

   - NSF Nitrogen: Improving on Nature
     - Deadline: Feb. 1, 2013

   - TWDB Agricultural Water Conservation Grants Program (January 2013?)

   - Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board 2013 Clean Water Act 319(h) Nonpoint Source Grant Program
     - Deadline: October 12, 2012