

SCACAA Board Meeting Minutes

February 6, 2024

10:00 AM, Lexington County
Extension Office

Janet Steele, Charly Greenthaler, Rob Last, Eric Eliassen, Justin Ballew, Ryan Bean, Stephanie Turner, Mallory Maher, Susan Lunt, Samantha Porzelt, Jeff Fellers, Chris Talley, Sarah Scott, Charley Maxwell, Terasa Lott, Nicole Correa, Meghan Barkley, David DeWitt

SCACAA Board Meeting – Lexington County Extension Office,
605 West Main St. Lexington, SC 29072

- **Call to Order** – Ryan Bean, meeting called to order at 10:00 am
- **Secretary's Report** – Charly Greenthaler
 - Membership Drive Update – 131 members for 2023-2024!
 - Motion to approve minutes from the September board meeting with was made by Janet , 2nd by Charley M, motion carried
- **Treasure's Report** – Stephanie Turner
 - Checking: 30,958.43
 - Edward Jones: 13,782.13
 - Foundation: 23,027.57
- **Committee Reports**
 - **Leadership & Admin Skills**, Meghan Barkley – No report
 - **Ag Issues**, Charley Maxwell – Currently there are no bills of interest for Ag, still early in the session
 - **Early Career Development**, Mallory Maher – Turnout for the first webinar was not great. If there are any other topics or ideas for future webinars, please let Mallory know
 - **Teaching & Educational Technologies**, Jaime Polhman – No report
 - **Agricultural Economics & Community Dev**, Will Culler – No report
 - **Agronomy & Pest Management**, William Hardee – No report
 - **Animal Science**, Amber Starnes – No report
 - **Horticulture & Turfgrass**, Justin Ballew – NACAA has been sending emails about horticulture pretour at this years national meeting. Let Justin know if you are interested in attending and he can send you the tentative agenda
 - **Natural Resources & Aquaculture**, TJ Savereno – No report

- **Sustainable Agriculture**, Adam Gore –
 - Organic Commodities & Livestock Conference will be held on March 1st at the University of Mount Olive Student Farm in Mt. Olive, NC.
 - Monthly Virtual High Tunnel Meetings are held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, January – October. Visit this link to register - [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUpduGqzwiGdQwk0QqqWlhUS65QVYCCYqI#/registration](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUpduGqzwiGdQwk0QqqWlhUS65QVYCCYqI#/registration)
 - Projects selected for the 2024 On-Farm Research Grants will be announced in late February 2024
 - If you're interested in seeing a list of grants and projects done via SARE, see <https://southern.sare.org/state-profiles/south-carolina/>
- **4-H & Youth**, Eric Eliassen –
 - Agent Updates - 2 agents have left Extension, Lee Co is open, offers have been made for Oconee & Abbeville counties, Cherokee and Greenville now have coverage, and equine specialist in process of hiring
 - Statewide program news – State horsebowl hippology recently held, WHEP competition and Legislative Day at capital are all coming up
- **Communications**, Sarah Scott – Award season is upon us! There have been a few award submissions, they seem to be coming in slower than past years. Make sure to submit awards early and she can ensure the awards are submitted in the correct category and provide feedback prior to the deadline. Deadline for submission is March 15th
- **Professional Excellence**, Rob Last – Poster submission now open, there are two categories, at the moment no entries, but will send reminder email soon
- **Public Relations**, Charly Greenthaler – The Ag Awareness & Appreciation Award is now open. We have not had anybody submit for this award since 2018, so hoping that this will change this year
- **Recognition & Awards**, Jeff Fellers – DSA & AA winners have been selected & submitted. The one pager required this year worked well. Discussion was had on this process and everyone was in favor of keeping the one pager for next year. Jeff talked about how voting was down this year and discussion was had on ways to get it up. Also, discussed the Outstanding Specialist Award, including who qualifies. He will send email to encourage submissions and to spell out who all is eligible
- **Scholarship**, Samantha Porzelt – Membership email was sent back in November to announce applications which were due one Dec 1st
- **Search for Excellence**, Chris Talley – He will send email to encourage applications soon
- **AM/PIC**, Terasa Lott – Covered in old business

- **Policy & Resolutions**, David Dewitt – No report
 - **Life Member**, Bryan Smith – No report
 - **Nominating**, David Dewitt – No report
 - **State Meeting Fundraising**, Chris Talley – Letters have been sent to everyone who donated last year, has received notification from several that they will sponsor again including Sunbelt, WP Law, Corteva, Farm Bureau, SC Soybean Board, Americot, Ag South, and still waiting to hear back from a few. If you know of any tractor dealers, chemical dealers, electric co-op, who you think would be interested in sponsoring the meeting, let Chris know and he can send them a letter. Currently we have around \$4,050, either in or committed
- **New Business:**
 - **Leadership Discussion** – Discussion on Terasa’s new position that she will be starting this spring and whether that will get in the way of what the association is doing. It was decided that at this time, the executive board does not feel that this will be a conflict of interest, but we can meet again to discuss if needed
 - **Budget Update and Proposal** – Stephanie presented the board with a proposed budget for the year in order to provide a bigger picture of our finances. One main take away is that our increase in membership fees this year seems to have been a great idea and will allow us some cushion for AM/PIC to cover increase in cost with this year’s location
- **Old Business:**
 - **SCACAA AM/PIC** –
 - Discussion on prices for conference, nonmember vs member, last year it was \$125 for members. Proposed costs for this year is \$175 (member)– early, \$75 late fee, non member is \$250, banquet only \$100 (hidden ticket item), and \$50 cruise ticket
 - Proposed Tours – Spring Island (Mallory & Zack), Lady Island Oyster Farm & Neymours (Meghan), Seaside Grown & Morning Glory (Chad Carter) – tours can be picked during the registration process
 - Registration add-ons include the preconference oyster reef restoration and sunset cruise
 - Banquet will be held on the first night, May 15th and will include all awards. All were in agreement to have the award booklets like last year
 - Megan said she could make QR code for conference guide, including fun things to do, friendly tips, tour names, and agenda
 - Hotel Information - Holiday Inn in Beaufort, block rates will be \$149/night king, \$139/night two queens, these rates start on Feb. 14th and end on April 14th
 - Motion was made by Susan for SCACAA to pay for one hospitality suite, 2nd by David, motion carried
- **Next meeting – May 15th @ 10am at Holiday Inn in Beaufort**
 - **Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn was made by Susan, 2nd by Eric, motion carried