

# SCACAA Board Meeting Minutes

November 14, 2024, 10 AM

Virtual Meeting

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Bryan Smith, Terasa Lott, Rob Last, Eric Eliassen, Jeff Fellers, Susan Lunt, Chris LeMaster, Stephanie Turner, Charly Greenthaler, Bethany Funkhouser, Ryan Bean, Justin Ballew, Chris Talley, Katie Collins, Charley Maxwell, Nicole Correa, Brad Fowler

SCACAA Board Meeting – Virtual Meeting, Zoom

- **Call to Order** – Terasa Lott, meeting called to order at 10:00am
- **Secretary's Report** – Charly Greenthaler
  - **Motion to approve minutes from the August board meeting with edit of adding Chris LeMaster to attendee list was made by Susan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bryan, motion approved.**
  - Membership Drive is currently underway! At this time we have 79 members – 21 first timers, 58 returning, 1 from SC State. The last day to join with the early bird rate is November 22<sup>nd</sup> and last day to join with \$25 late fee is December 13<sup>th</sup>.
- **Treasurer's Report** – Stephanie Turner
  - Checking: 27,264.56
  - Edward Jones: 14,304.92
  - Foundation: 11,365.46
  - Discussion on award winners reimbursement from NACAA and where the situation currently stands. Stephanie requested having people send a screenshot to her when sending in travel report to verify requested amounts match the approved reimbursement amount. **We will need to make sure we make this clear when the time comes for reimbursement after the 2025 NACAA AM/PIC.**
- **Committee Reports**
  - **Leadership & Admin Skills**, Meghan Barkley – no report
  - **Ag Issues**, Charley Maxwell –
    - 3 Farm & Forest Recovery Resource days coming up for those who experienced losses due to Hurricane Helene, <https://www.scemd.org/farm-days/>
    - Hugh Weathers will not be running in 2026, so there is the potential for those running to reach out or attend programs, using that time to campaign. If anyone reaches out to you to campaign,

let Kathy Coleman know and she can help with how to navigate the situation.

- **Early Career Development**, Mallory Maher – no report
- **Teaching & Educational Technologies**, Jaime Pohlman – 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**, Brad Fowler –
  - New Hires - Nicole Goodman, Urban Horticulture Agent, Spartanburg
  - Upcoming Events - 2025 SC Green Conference and Trade Show, Columbia, January 29-30
- **Natural Resources & Aquaculture**, TJ Savereno –
  - 3 new positions are currently being advertised – Climate Smart, Extension Wildlife Damage Specialist, and FNR Agent for Dorchester
- **Sustainable Agriculture**, Chris LeMaster – no report
- **4-H & Youth**, Eric Eliassen –
  - **Agent Updates** – Newberry, Kershaw/Lee, & Greenwood have all been filled; Offer made in Williamsburg; Interviews scheduled in Pickens; Reposted in Berkley; Posted in Charleston and Laurens; Terri Sumpter in Sumter will be retiring this year.
  - **4-H Stats & Statewide Programs**: 4-H year started in September, 376 volunteers, current total individual enrollment 2,662, total enrollment (group & individual) 8,000
- **Communications**, Sarah Scott – She will start sending out a call for entries in January. Categories should be the same as last year as we did not vote to officially change any of them for 2025. All board members will be encouraged to submit at least one award category to set an example for the rest of the association. Let's get our entries back up this year!
- **Professional Excellence**, Rob Last – Sending reminders for poster entries soon
- **Public Relations**, Charly Greenthaler – Sending reminders for Ag Awareness award soon
- **Recognition & Awards**, Jeff Fellers – Sent out AA & DSA voting on Nov 4<sup>th</sup>, closes Nov 15<sup>th</sup>. 63 votes have been made so far, which is up from last year. We can send 3 AA & DSA winners. The top 4 or 5 who receive votes from each category will be asked to complete a one pager, a committee will then select the winners.
  - Other awards reminders will be coming in January
- **Scholarship**, Katie Collins – Scholarships are usually due June 1<sup>st</sup>, with a second round due Dec 1<sup>st</sup>, Katie hasn't heard anything from nationals for the year so she will reach out ask if this is still the case for this year.
- **Search for Excellence**, Justin Ballew – no report

- **AM/PIC**, Chris Talley – Referred to Old Business
  - **Policy & Resolutions**, Ryan Bean – no report
  - **Life Member**, Bryan Smith – Currently have 53 life members
  - **Nominating**, Ryan Bean – no report
  - **State Meeting Fundraising**, Justin Ballew – Has looked at the list and will start to reach out to those folks soon
  
- **Old Business:**
  - **Non Profit Status –**
    - Discussion on if we should proceed with the paperwork or not. It was brought up that we may experience some hefty fees.
    - Stephanie has not reached out to Beth Crocker, she can if we want her to
    - Charly went through all old files/minutes and could not find the IRS form
    - Our two main options are to either do the paperwork and pay fees or we contract out and pay lawyers to proceed
    - It was recommended that we reach out to Adam Kantrovich, as he is very knowledgeable on this issue
    - **No decisions were made. Stephanie will investigate further and we will vote on the issue at a later time.**
  
  - **2025 AM/PIC -**
    - The two main hotel options (Martin Inn & Lakeside Lodge) have conflicts with the original proposed dates (May 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>), but both are available May 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>.
    - Tours will be focused on things around Clemson. Chris is also looking into preconference tour options.
    - Chris has been in contact with Julio Hernandez with the President's office to potentially arrange having the banquet at the West End Zone.
    - PD talk session ideas – PEBA, how to handle confrontational topics (RoundUp), 1<sup>st</sup> amendment auditor talk. Chris will look over survey results from last year's conference to see what other ideas were suggested.
    - **Chris will let us know the official conference dates soon. He is also going to reach out to SCAE4-HA president, Freddricka Pressley, to find out their involvement with the conference.**
  
- **New Business:**
  - **National Committee Changes –**
    - After 2025 AM/PIC there will be two committee changes - Public Relations & Ag Awareness committee will be removed, it will continue to be an award but will be moved to search for excellence.
    - Sustainable Ag & Natural Resources – these two committees will merge into one
    - Immediate Change – Professional Excellence will change name to

Research & Education Posters, **This change needs to be updated on the website.**

- **PD Brainstorming/Joint Extension Conference –**
  - Discussion on ways we can increase professional development and provide more benefits for members -
    - Last year we had a few webinars with great topics but with poor attendance.
    - Ideas thrown around included in-person mid year PD event, oyster restoration project, service project.
  - Discussion on SCACAA's involvement in the upcoming Joint Extension Conference –
    - Terasa received email from Cornelius at SC State, that offered all associations a preconference session, 10am – noon, feb 12<sup>th</sup>, and also opportunity to give lightning talk on feb 13<sup>th</sup>
    - The idea of a lightning round talk about award opportunities was pitched and well received from the board. Terasa recommended reaching out to Sarah to see if she was interested in giving the talk.
    - **Terasa will confirm with Cornelius our interest in lightning round opportunity**
    - Terasa proposed ideas for how we could best use the preconference session on February 12<sup>th</sup>. She mentioned that we could use this preconference time in place of our January meeting, make it an additional meeting, or use it for PD opportunity.
    - **We are moving January Meeting, to Feb 12<sup>th</sup> at 10am**
  - Discussion on service project ideas –
    - Ideas mentioned including potentially attaching this to extension conference, making it an in-person midyear project (late summer/early fall), opening it up to larger membership
    - Other topics discussed included including a new members session at annual conference (similar to first timers one at nationals), preconference webinar for new members, first timers badges, first timers and life members reception with board members.
    - It was decided to offer two service projects (coastal & upstate), to help cut down on travel and allow members the choice to attend most convenient to their location
    - **Katie Collins is going move forward with planning an oyster restoration project for coastal area**
    - **Susan Lunt volunteered to look into an additional stream habitat project for upstate area**
- **Lifetime Members Criteria**
  - In the past the association has presented any retiring members with a cane, we decided last year that a better gift would be to pay for their lifetime membership. Would this be for any retiring member or do we need to set a certain criteria for number of years in the association, held leadership roles, etc?

- **Bryan Smith made motion to provide lifetime membership to any employee who is member of SCACAA for at least 5 sequential years, Stephanie 2<sup>nd</sup>, no discussion, all in favor, motion carries.**
- **Next meeting – February 12<sup>th</sup> at 10am**
  - **Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn was made by Susan Lunt, Ryan Bean 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor, meeting is adjourned.