

# SCACAA Board Meeting Minutes

February 12, 2025, 10 AM

Columbia Metropolitan  
Convention Center

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Charly Greenthaler, Terasa Lott, Stephanie Turner, Susan Lunt, Katie Collins, TJ Savereno, Brad Fowler, Mallory Maher, Ryan Bean, Chris LeMaster, Amber Starnes, Sarah Scott, Rob Last, Charley Maxwell, Eric Eliassen, Will Culler, Bryan Smith, Chris Talley, Jaime Pohlman, Justin Ballew, Nicole Correa, Bethany Funkhouser, Meghan Barkley

SCACAA Board Meeting – Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center

- **Call to Order** – Terasa Lott, meeting called to order at 10:03am
- **Secretary's Report** – Charly Greenthaler
  - **Motion to approve minutes from the November board meeting with the spelling correction on page 3 (immediate) made by Susan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Chris Talley, all in favor, motion approved as amended.**
  - Membership drive for the year was a success! We ended with 133 total members, 2 lifetime, 29 first time, 102 returning, 2 of the 133 are from SC State
  - Last year we had 131, 37 of those did not renew this year and 6 are no longer with Extension
  - Dues have been submitted and accepted by nationals!
- **Treasurer's Report** – Stephanie Turner
  - Checking: \$40,249.24
  - Edward Jones: \$14,418.60
  - Foundation: \$12,365.61
  - As we go forward and with the increase in AA's & DSA's, we may have to make some changes to make sure we have enough money to support award winners going to NACAA
- **Committee Reports**
  - **Leadership & Admin Skills**, Meghan Barkley – no report
  - **Ag Issues**, Charley Maxwell –
    - 70 bills that have been introduced this cycle have something to do with agriculture
    - In 2026 we will be electing a new Commissioner of Ag, make sure to reach out to our governmental affairs team if you have candidates reaching out to attend your programs
  - **Early Career Development**, Mallory Maher – no report

- **Teaching & Educational Technologies**, Jaime Pohlman – no report
- **Agricultural Economics & Community Dev**, Will Culler –has been in communication with the National board for monthly calls
- **Agronomy & Pest Management**, William Hardee – no report
- **Animal Science**, Amber Starnes –
  - **Program Highlights/Updates** - State Cattlemen’s Association meeting recently took place and there are many upcoming Hay and CAMM workshops
  - **Team Updates** - New hire for Edgefield/Aiken counties; Greenwood/Laurens and McCormick positions will be posted soon
- **Horticulture & Turfgrass**, Brad Fowler – Hort positions will be opening soon in Charleston and Union
- **Natural Resources & Aquaculture**, TJ Savereno – FNR team has a new hire - extension associate at TEACH center to help with team evaluations and program delivery; position for Jasper/Beaufort is tbd; interviews for state silviculture specialist (failed and will be reopened); new regional water agent recently hired
- **Sustainable Agriculture**, Chris LeMaster – numerous homesteading programs will be offered this spring throughout the state
- **4-H & Youth**, Eric Eliassen –
  - **Program Highlights/Updates** - over 400 kids and families participated at this year’s STEM Challenge
  - **Team Updates** - New hires for Kershaw/Lee, Greenwood, Newberry, Williamsburg, and Pickens counties, also, Abigail Phillips transitioned to new position as Google grant coordinator; Position openings in Chester, Charleston, Berkley, Dorchester and Allendale; Interviews complete and offers made for Laurens County position; Teri Sumpter in Sumter County recently retired
- **Communications**, Sarah Scott – It is award season! - submissions are due March 15<sup>th</sup>; Nationals are going to be very strict on attending the national AM/PIC to receive awards (NACAA board approves any absences), published photo and individual newsletter are the only two categories that have sole people, others can have team members (use this is if you can’t commit to attending the national meeting); A topic/question that has been brought up a lot this year is using AI programs – the board is going to approve the use of that this year, but will probably be reviewed at nationals
- **Professional Excellence**, Rob Last – urges everyone to submit posters, deadline is March 15th
- **Public Relations**, Charly Greenthaler – sending reminders for Ag Awareness award soon, no submissions yet
- **Recognition & Awards**, Jeff Fellers – AA & DSA nominations have been submitted to nationals, this year we were eligible to send 3 for each award and we filled all of those nominations; Friend of Extension, Media

Award, Outstanding Specialist, and Certificate of Merit have been emailed to the membership for nominations (we currently don't have any); Jeff has been chair of this committee for almost 20 years and would like to pass the torch to someone else once his term ends this year

- **Scholarship**, Katie Collins – no report
- **Search for Excellence**, Justin Ballew – accepting applications until March 15<sup>th</sup>, as of now there have been no applications, monetary prize on state and national level
- **AM/PIC**, Chris Talley – referred to old business
- **Policy & Resolutions**, Ryan Bean – no report
- **Life Member**, Bryan Smith – 53 life members currently
- **Nominating**, Ryan Bean – sent out email to gather nominations for upcoming board, will select these with executive board, next step is to reach out and see who is willing to serve based on nominations; 13 current committee chairs up for rotation including Jeff and Janet who are stepping down
- **State Meeting Fundraising**, Justin Ballew – moved to old business

- **Old Business:**

- **2025 AM/PIC –**

- **Fundraising –**

- Stephanie has \$3300 so far including communication sponsors, we have commitment for \$3250 more and waiting to hear back from a few others.
- Stephanie drafted letter for Field Ops to encourage travel support for award winners (all associations). It was recommended that we include examples of what each award winner would be spending, as well as some awards that would be funded. Discussion was had on if the letter should come from us or Extension Senate.
- Discussion on other ways to fundraise including a push for people to donate to the foundation account and giving extra drink tickets for those who sign up for tax deduction. We can find out who all is currently signed up from our foundation contact. **It was decided that we will encourage donating to the foundation account through annual meeting registration, QR code at registration table, and extra drink tickets.**

- **Other details –**

- Theme – “What Clemson has to offer”
- Planning committee - Mallory, Susan & Chris
- Date - May 21-23<sup>rd</sup>
- Lodging - Primary hotel is Martin Inn, 40 room block, \$139/night

- Madren Center auditorium room and breakout rooms are reserved (\$2686), discussion on if to change reservation under SCACAA vs Clemson Extension. Would just have to pay tax if change to SCACAA.
- Banquet will be in president's suite at stadium on 21<sup>st</sup>, field ops on board to cover banquet, our only cost is \$129 for cleanup fee
- Transportation – have checked in on CAT bus options (3 size options)
- Tours - have lots of ideas but still need to be finalized, also need to decide about transportation for tours (Clemson or enterprise), may also be able to use forestry vans if not being used for summer camp
- Social – will be on night of tour day, looking into marina, pavilion at martin inn, Esso club or shotgun range
- Other details and costs that need to be finalized – meals and snacks

▪ **Schedule –**

- Pre conference – Fish habitat/striper fishing half day on the \$20<sup>th</sup> (\$125/person, first come first serve)
- Day 1- Keynote speaker starts at 1pm; other presentations - 1<sup>st</sup> amendment auditors, wrap up at 4:30; award banquet/social hour starts at 5:30
- Day 2 – Tours, tour ideas – University historian (ag history), athletics turf grass (they are on board and confirmed), farm tours (dairy, beef, equine, Musser, organic), Dr. Whiteside with packaging science (ice cream/blue cheese), Alex Thompson with his brew lab, finalizing tour numbers and then can figure out registration
- Day 3 – Dr. Dobbins update, Dr. Holt (trying to get secured), SCACAA business meeting, PEBA representative to present on retirement (virtual), NACAA update
- 4-H Association – Jessica has agreed to help out, room is reserved for their breakout business meeting, Lucy is in charge of awards this year, Meghan will help with registration
- Discussion on if we should cover the costs to have the PEBA representative come and present in person. Also, brought up how banquet will be much less than in years past so discussion on if we should ask field ops to cover other costs (transportation, etc.)
- **Chris will send proposed registration rates to the executive board; goal is to have registration out by the end of the month**

- **PD Brainstorming –**
  - Katie Collins' update for oyster restoration project for coastal area - she will check to see when best time for organizers would be, she is also going to connect with Zack Snipes
  - Susan Lunt update for stream habitat project for upstate area –time of year/staff capacity would not work out for pre-conference, but could happen in August, SC DNR is interested! She will have more details later
  
- **New Business:**
  - **Award Eligibility**
    - Posed question - What if someone cannot make it to our state meeting, but can make the national meeting?
    - In the past people have received the award, but have not received the monetary prize
    - **If someone has a conflict, let the board know as soon as possible**
    - **Every award chair needs to confirm with applicates that they can attend state & national meeting, if they can't attend state, they needed to let us know by end of early registration date.**
  - **Admin Association**
    - In the past SCACAA has given the admin association a \$500 sponsorship for their annual meeting, discussion on what/if we should give to them this year
    - **Justin made motion to give the admin association \$500 to go towards this year's meeting, Bryan 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor, motion approved.**
  
- **Next SCACAA Board Meeting – March 27th at 10 am**
  - **Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn was made by Ryan, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Susan, all in favor, meeting is adjourned.