SCACAA Board Meeting Minutes

March 27, 2025, 12:30 PM
Darlington County
Extension Office

Terasa Lott, Chris Talley, Justin Ballew, Ryan Bean, Brad Fowler, Jeff Fellers, TJ Savereno, Rob Last, Charly Greenthaler, Janet Steele, Bethany Funkhouser, Charley Maxwell, Eric Eliassen

SCACAA Board Meeting – Darlington County Extension Office

- **Call to Order** – Terasa Lott, meeting called to order at 12:31 pm

- **Secretary's Report** – Charly Greenthaler
  - **Motion to approve minutes from the February board meeting was made by Justin, 2nd by Ryan, all in favor, motion passed.**

- **Treasurer's Report** – Stephanie Turner
  - Checking: $34,419.51
  - Edward Jones: $14,534.32
  - Foundation: $12,075
  - Our efforts to increase AM/PIC registration prices and reduce meeting costs have stabilized our spending/income ratio:
    - 2023 income 24888 spending 42639 (-17,751)
    - 2024 income 36867 spending 47826 (-10,959)
    - 2025 income 36484 spending 38200 (budgeted) (-2,716)

- **Committee Reports**
  - **Leadership & Admin Skills**, Meghan Barkley – no report
  - **Ag Issues**, Charley Maxwell –
    - **Farm Bill Update –** There may not be a traditional/official farm bill, but may piggy back crucial elements onto other bills; NACAA is having a farm bill update webinar on April 23rd, 1-2pm
    - **Other Updates -** Another candidate for Commissioner of Ag has been announced (2 so far); Consistency of agritourism across counties has recently become a hot topic
  - **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 –
    - **Team Updates -** Open position in Union County; No updates on Charleston County position; Interviews conducted for Sumter County; Statewide Master Gardener Coordinator position has been recently hired
    - **Other Updates –** There has been interest in starting a SC Chapter of the Sports Field Management Association
- **Natural Resources & Aquaculture**, TJ Savereno – New FNR agent hired in Dorchester County and will cover Savannah Valley District
- **Sustainable Agriculture**, Chris LeMaster – no report
- **4-H & Youth**, Eric Eliassen –
    - **Team Updates –** New hires in Laurens and Charleston Counties; Openings in Sumter, Chester, Dorchester, and Berkley Counties; Retirement in Bamberg/Barnwell
- **Communications**, Sarah Scott – We had 39 entries for communications awards. State winners are due to regional chairs by April 1. Winners will be notified so they can register for the state mtg.
- **Professional Excellence**, Rob Last – 11 poster submissions this year, 1 research and 10 educational
- **Public Relations**, Charly Greenthaler – 1 Ag awareness submission this year
- **Recognition & Awards**, Jeff Fellers – Certificate of merit has 4 applicants (can award 5); friend of extension has 4 applicants (can take 3); media award had no applicants; outstanding specialist had 1 applicant
- **Scholarship**, Katie Collins – no report
- **Search for Excellence**, Justin Ballew – 4 applicants in 4 different categories
- **AM/PIC**, Chris Talley – referred to old business
- **Policy & Resolutions**, Ryan Bean – no report
- **Life Member**, Bryan Smith – no report
- **Nominating**, Ryan Bean – referred to new business
- **State Meeting Fundraising**, Justin Ballew – $4,400 currently raised, waiting to hear back from all who were contacted

- **Old Business:**

    - **2025 AM/PIC –**
        - Registration has been sent out and shared with membership!
        - **Award Banquet** – Any PowerPoint/presentations needed for the banquet need to be turned in a couple days before; Decided to go forward with doing an award booklet; Chip or no one from Sunbelt can be there; Bill for banquet was much hirer than what was originally said (just cleaning fee)
        - **Hotel details –**Hotel block will close April 7th; Nothing about cancellation

in hotel contract and no deposit was required, so if we for some reason have to cancel, we will not be out of any money

- **Other Details -** Social has been booked; Currently have 3 forestry vans reserved for transportation
- **Questions & Considerations Concerning Recent Travel Restrictions –**
  - **Unsure how this will affect the meeting and need to wait for more information from Dean to decide if we should proceed with the currently planned meeting or not**
  - **In the past when the event has been canceled, the meeting has been moved to a one-day event, if this is the case we would need to move it to somewhere central**
  - **We should have more details next week. Based on what we hear – we will call an executive meeting to plan one day meeting if needed**
  - **Other questions we need answers to –** What does this mean for the national meeting? Looks like leadership, official business, award winners, and presenters would still be able to go, but should know for sure after next week.

- **Professional Development –**
  - Susan Lunt update for stream habitat project for upstate area – Tentatively scheduled a service project/professional development opportunity with SCDNR in the Upstate (Clemson Area) for Monday, August 4, 2025, noon - 3 pm to install artificial attractors or plant aquatic vegetation in one of the Upstate lakes. Approximately 15 SCACAA (non-water resource team) individuals can participate. The water team is already included in the service project.
  - **PD opportunity will be first shared with board/committee chairs and then opened up to membership if spots don't get filled**

- **New Business:**

  - **Nominations**
    - Most current committee chairs whose terms expire this year have confirmed that they would like to continue serving
    - Ryan is working to secure proposed slate for Vice President, District 2 Director, Ag Economics Chair, Ag Issues & PR Chair, Agronomy & Pest Management Chair, Communications Chair (potentially), Early Career Development Chair, Recognition & Awards Chair, and Teaching & Technologies Chair

  - **Annual Treasurer's Audit**
    - Justin, Ryan, and Terasa are going to review the books on April 22nd at the Greenwood Extension office

  - **Non-profit status**
    - Terasa spoke with Russell Duncan and it seems we never went forward with obtaining that status.

        - We need to know when we were founded to proceed with paperwork; Terasa says it would be 1937/1938 based on what she found in old books
        - Steve Richards may be able to help us proceed **(Stephanie will connect with him)**

- **Next SCACAA Board Meeting – May 21st**
    - **Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn was made by Eric, 2nd by Talley, all in favor, meeting is adjourned.