**GACAA Board Meeting Minutes**

Rock Eagle 4-H Center, Eatonton, GA

March 16, 2022

**Board Present** –Justin Shealey (President), Brenda Jackson (President Elect), Lucy Ray (Vice President), Brooklyne Wassel (Secretary), Ty Torrance (Treasurer), Savannah Tanner (SE), Campbell Vaughn (NE), Hailey Partain (NW *virtual*), Kim Post (SW), Scout Carter (SE), Shanna Reynolds (NE), James Morgan (SW), Wes Smith (GOTCAA *virtual*)

Guest: Laura Perry Johnson (Associate Dean of Extension)

Absent: Gary Hawkins (Past President), Laurel Dunn (SS), Ted McAvoy (SS)

**Proceedings:**

Meeting called to order at 10:21 pm by Justin Shealey.

Ty Torrance gave the invocation.

**Guest Announcements:**

**Laura Perry Johnson –** Discussed the increase in requests from media regarding the freeze and its affects on blueberries in the state. The blueberry commission is planning to look at research projects with windmills with both Wes Porter and Pam Knox. A needs assessment is coming soon, be sure to fill it out. The Northeast DED search is in progress, and the Northwest DED, Clinton McRae, just started. Be sure to tune in to Dean Place’s meetings to stay up to date with the college. The governor should be signing the supplemental budget today to include the $5,000 cost of living raise. This would go info effect April 1, 2022 and aid in restoring budget cuts that took place. This would raise the starting salary for agents from $47,000 to $52,000 a year. She stated that she would be available at lunch time to answer any additional questions.

**Office Updates:**

**Secretary Report by Brooklyne Wassel** – Presented and reviewed the minutes from the January 11, 2022 board meeting. The blog is currently running and has had a few posts concerning NACAA and various topics.

*Ty Torrance made the motion to accept the minutes. Brenda Jackson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Treasurer Report by Ty Torrance** – The report was provided to all present in hard copy. A summary page and balance sheet was provided. Taxes will also need to be filed and will require a motion. Brooklyne noted the motion that did not carry due to a lack of a second in the last month’s meeting concerning the floral arrangement budget. “Gary proposed increasing the memorial floral budget to $500 to account for an increase in costs.”

*Brenda Jackson made a motion to increase the floral arrangement budget to $500. Lucy Ray seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

*Brenda Jackson made a motion to accept the treasurer’s report and file taxes. Savannah Tanner seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

**President Report by Justin Shealey** – ACCG will not do PILD this year.

**President Elect Report by Brenda Jackson** – Hard copies of proposed AM/PIC 2022 agendas were provided to all in attendance. Requested that all looked over the agenda and email any feedback concerning the proposed agenda as soon as possible.

**Vice President Report by Lucy Ray** – Is in charge of the Expo food booth October 18-20, 2022. Arrival will begin on October 17, 2022 to prepare and clean before serving if needed. It was determined that the booth would need a cleaning day.

**Past President Report by Justin Shealey in absence of Gary Hawkins** – Gary is currently working to update the handbook and will a draft soon.

**District Reports:**

**Northwest District Report by Hailey Partain** – Melissa Murphy is leaving. That will leave an empty senior director in Northwest. Wes Smith offered guidance on moving Hailey to Senior director and leaving the Junior position open until AM/PIC 2022. Hailey should not be required to attend ACCG due to just working Jekyll. Clinton McRae, new NW DED, started March 1.

**Northeast District Report by Campbell Vaughn** – New hires: Pickens, Elbert, Oconee, and Athens-Clarke Educator.

**Southwest District Report by James Morgan** – Thanked Kim for delivering the Southwest District report in the January meeting in his absence. Decatur county is new, Jake moved to be citrus only, Randolph county is new.

**Southeast District Report by Savannah Tanner** – Jason Mallard transferred.

**State Staff Report** – None present at the meeting.

**GOTCAA Report by Wes Smith** – Two scholarships to NACAA AM/PIC to agents at $600 per agent.

**Updates:**

**Website Update by Brenda Jackson** – Member listservs will be updated according to Ty’s list. Be sure to send any issues with the website to Brenda. Ty requested district info through membership listservs.

**New Business**:

**Tax Filing Approval –** Item moved above with Treasurer’s update.

**ACCG –** Justin Shealey explained the timeline and requirements for ACCG: Everything is planned. Senior directors will arrive on Friday, April 29th, 2022 at 2:30 pm. Certain board members will setup Farmhouse on April 28th. Everyone else needs to be there by Friday. Everything should be finished Friday by 6:00. The trade show ends Saturday at 1:30 after which time Farmhouse will be broken down.

**4-H Donation –** Justin noted this was a scholarship that GACAA has supported in the past for State Congress.

**Ag Econ Award** – Justin Shealey explained that all board members received a proposed new award for this year’s AM/PIC. It was noted that the award recipient must attend the harvest celebration which is noted in the award description. Brenda requested the info to go on the website as soon as possible.

*Savannah Turner made a motion to accept the new Ag Econ Award as written. Brenda Jackson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

**Farm Bureau Ag Trailer** – This was unfinished business from the January board meeting. Justin was able to follow up and talk with Lily concerning the trailer and sponsorship. This would be a recurring sponsorship.

*Ty Torrance made a motion to sponsor the Ag Trailer for $1,000 this year and revisit the sponsorship in the next budget cycle to determine to continue. Brenda Jackson seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*

*Motion to adjourn made by Ty Torrance and seconded by Brenda Jackson. Motion passed unanimously.*

Meeting adjourned at 11:48 am.

***Respectfully submitted by Brooklyne Wassel, GACAA Secretary***