

GACAA Board Meeting Minutes

Rock Eagle 4-H Center, JCEP Meeting

March 08, 2024

Board Present – Brenda Jackson (Past President), Lucy Ray (President), Andrew Sawyer (President Elect), Madison Luke (Secretary), Guy Hancock (Treasurer), Robyn Stewart (NE), Justin Hand (SW), Michasia Dowdy (SW), Colby Royal (SE), Jason Mallard (SE)

Zoom: Gibson Priest (NW)

Absent: Whitney Ottinger (NW), Wes Smith (GOTCCA), Bob Kemerait (VP), Justin Hand (SW), Sarah Cranston (NE), Simer Virk (SS), Luan Oliveira (SS)

Guests: Dr. Johnson, Dr. Martin, Justin Shealy

Proceedings:

Meeting called to order at 10:01 AM by Lucy Ray

Invocation given by Andrew Sawyer

Updates:

CAES/ Extension Update from Dr. Johnson: There is money in the amended budget to supplement the one-time \$1,000.00 raises that we received in December. We also received money for a couple of building projects. There is money for a 4% cost of living raise for all employees up to 75k. In the Governor's budget, there was an error for cooperative extension- however, it is supposed to be getting fixed. Essentially, there is no new money in the budget. PR created a legislative social media campaign which will embed as ads for extension that are targeting around the capital and in Savannah when the commissioner's meeting is going on. We will be able to get metrics from this at the end of March.

NACAA Bid Committee Update by Justin Shealy: Monday and Tuesday night- there is a hospitality room that has to be ran by the bidding state. We have the room already for the hospitality suite. Margarita machine for specialty drink. Wednesday night is the reception for President in Keith Mickler's room. Cokes, beers, waters left over will be carried over to Keith Mickler's room.

Macon did not respond. We are down to Savannah and Atlanta. We are waiting to hear back from one other hotel in Atlanta. Atlanta- 2 of 3 are over a \$200,00 minimum for food and beverage. The other hotel has a \$175,000 minimum for food and beverage. Issues with Savannah are multiple flights/ assisting NACAA in getting people from airport to hotel. Hotel would be The Westin (350 rooms)- another 150 rooms we don't know about. The construction work has to be done on the convention center, and they are breaking ground on the other side

of the convention center- this should be open in 2027 but not guaranteed. However, there are other hotels, but they won't let us out of a contract 6 months out without pentality.

Note- Garvie reached out that Barrien county young farmers were having a meeting and they want to use GACAA's cooker. This would be good because the cooker would be ran 2x a year versus 1x, and we can charge them to use the cooker. This money could help us may for ACCG invitations. They will also fill up the propane tanks for us. Board decided that this would be okay for this year (2024).

Officer Updates:

Secretary Report by Madison Luke – The previous board meeting minutes from November and January were Emailed out for review prior to today's meeting.

Motion to accept November minutes as given and dispense the reading of the minutes made by Robyn Stewart. Motion seconded by Brenda Jackson. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to accept January minutes as given and dispense the reading of the minutes made by Robyn Stewart. Motion seconded by Colby Royal. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer Report by Guy Hancock –

Financial documents were emailed to the board prior to the meeting for review. Total income since our last meeting is \$7,059.20. Our total expenses were \$8,950, which mainly come from our dues to NACAA. with our net income being -\$2,398.99 since our last meeting. The checking/savings account balance as of the last reconciliation in March was \$248,306.69. The total liability and equity are \$258,057.29. Moving into our most recent reconciliation, the beginning balance is \$18,981.12. The total cleared and uncleared transactions is \$1,042.39. The total uncleared transactions are \$12,050.54.

New Business: Guy suggested purchasing a drill for ACCG that is coming up.

Motion to accept treasures report as given made by Jason Mallard. Seconded by Robyn Stewart. Motion passed unanimously.

President Report by Lucy Ray – Suggested having OLOD make up a formal invitation to ACCG that ANR agents can sign and hand deliver to county commissioners as a thank you from GACAA.

Motion made that Robyn, Lucy, and Shanna will work on getting invitations to commissioners ordered by Robyn Stewart. Seconded by Brenda Jackson. Motion passed unanimously.

Planning to go to Washington in April. I have quotes coming in from the Meddlesome Moth, which is a restaurant Keith Mickler recommended in Dallas for state's night out.

President Elect Report by Andrew Sawyer–

Monday nights social, we will be on Jekyll Island and Corteva is sponsoring with a low country boil for the meal. Signs for sponsors- want to have some made to where you can add and remove sponsors from them.

Vice President Report by Bob Kemerait – Not Present- He has dates and location Nov. 10th-12th in Columbus.

Past President Report by Brenda Jackson- bylaws haven't been looked at yet. Webmaster report: Rich Brayman and I figured out how to send everyone out the registration form. Guy has to generate credit card receipts manually.

District Reports:

Northwest District Report by Gibson Priest- New Hires are Sheena Gay in Troupe county, Jonathan Strickland in Merriweather. Caston Noorullah in Dekalb, Shane Kornberg in Whitefield, Brannon Bert in Dade. New district admin assistant is Sarah Mets. Retires- Greg Bowman- May 31st.

Northeast District Report by Robyn Stewart – Josh grant is new in Barrow. Cliff Collins left Monroe. New hire is Heidi Cashwell in Butts. Hunter Dove left Wilks county. Open is Wilks, Monroe, Gilmer, and Fannin.

Southwest District Report by Michasia Dowdy – open is Ben Hill, Randolph, Clay, Clinch, Lanier, Lowndes, Crisp, Stewart, and Colquitt ANR educator.

Southeast District Report by Colby Royal – Cliff Collins is a new hire in Burke. Raymond Joyce is retiring in April/June 1. Openings in Jenkins, Screvin, and Blakely counties.

State Staff Report by Luan Oliveira for Simer Virk – Not present.

GOTCAA Report by Wes Smith – Not Present.

New Business:

Questions to Lucy about the Associate dean for extension position- how can GACAA or Agents give their input on candidates.

Suggestion from Justin: Unified letter from GACAA on our input for the candidates and what we want to see in the candidate that takes over LPJ's job.

District Meeting Dates for 2024 Calendar Year by Lucy Ray-

ACCG April 24-27, 2024 in Savannah

June 12th – virtual board meeting at 10:00 AM (NACAA)

August 9th – Virtual Board Meeting at 10:00 AM

November 11th – board meeting at AM/PIC in Jekyll

Closing-

Motion to adjourn made by Brenda Jackson. Motion seconded by Robyn Stewart. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Madison Luke, GACAA Secretary