

South Carolina Association of Agricultural Educators Board Meeting

April 18, 2024

In attendance: Desiree Still; Lee Mayfield; Jesse McGee; Grant Hall; Mindy Sandifer; Libby Templeton; Derrick Cooper; Cody Floyd; Beth Ann Melton, Lee Petitgout; Clair Hammonds; Hunter Morton; Troy Helms by Zoom

1. Call to order: 4:09pm
2. Invocation: L. Petitgout
3. Minutes: handout
 - a. Motion: C Hammonds
 - b. Second: D Still
 - c. Passes unanimously.
4. Treasurer Report: handout
 - a. Discussion: balance does not reflect STAR grant check which was received this week. Sponsors for conference is listed and more are needed. STAR grant incentives are listed and have not changed
 - b. Motion: D Still
 - c. Second: D Cooper
 - d. Passes unanimously
5. Ag Ed Report: T Helms
 - a. High numbers at events like CDEs, LDEs, and camps; staff looking at ways to handle or alleviate overcrowding at events.
 - b. Friday weekly update emails will continue
 - c. Clemson Ag Ed is doing an external review by committee under the direction of Dr. Dobbins to improve the program and student experience—both teaching and leadership pathways. Alumni teachers, alumni not teaching, state staff, Clemson faculty, and current students are speaking with the committee.
 - d. Lists of perspective students with contact information are being shared for communication purposes.
 - e. Program tours continued with Horry County Schools minus Loris HS
 - f. Working to fill vacancies as teachers are retiring or moving; PACE candidates are an option
6. Legislative Liaison Update—Grant Hall
 - a. National Policy Seminar was eye-opening. Ag Ed is the only division that sends a teacher. Increase to Perkins funding, but not as high as we'd hoped. Still planning for next year. Discussions continue about the Farm Bill, which has allotments for FFA and Ag programs.
 - b. Pretty close on finishing the lease for FFA Camp. Still planning for the future and what the camp will look like. Hoping for signatures by June and will be set for 40 years.
7. NAAE Region V—C. Hammonds

- a. June 23-26, 2024 in Warner Robins, GA
 - b. Board sends 3 people but there are conflicts with FFA camp week 3
 - c. Attendees: Beth Ann Melton, Desiree Still, Hunter Morton (all pending confirmation)
- 8. Summer Conference
 - a. Lexington County
 - b. Workshops will be held at Lexington Technology Center with more hands-on/extensive workshops for Thursday morning
 - i. List discussed
 - c. Hotel blocks will fill up fast
 - d. Clark Woods Distinguished Teacher Award
 - i. This year's winner
 - ii. C. Hammonds: Motion that, for only this year, a second award be presented to Ashley Granata posthumously. D. Still seconded. Passes unanimously.
 - iii. Troy Helms will present
- 9. FFA Announcements
 - a. Plant Presentation ceremony will begin at 11am, plants need to be there at 10:30am.
 - b. State convention theme is Evolve; shirt designs due by May 17th
 - c. Announcement of Nom Com and others will be in May 11th
 - d. Dues must be paid for applications to be judged
- 10. FFA Camp
 - a. Forestry camp went really well
 - b. Sixteen trees planted to replace those damaged/removed due to storms
 - c. Donations needed of bird houses, trees, life jackets, etc.
 - d. Working on ideas to accommodate changing school calendars
- 11. SCFAA Announcements
 - a. Make sure rosters have been sent by region chapters.
 - b. Summer Tour in Chesterfield County July 12-13; flyer is in Friday email with registration link—due May 24th and is also on website; Springhill Suites hotel
 - c. Jan 24-25, 2025 at the Hyatt Regency in Greenville, SC
- 12. Other Business
 - a. B. Melton--Conference date change/Amendment to change the reading of the bylaws to state that the conference will be held in July and the dates will be at the discretion of the SCAAE Board
- 13. Adjourn
 - a. Motion by D. Still
 - b. Second by C. Floyd