

MACAA Minutes
August 30, 2011

The meeting of the Mississippi Association of County Agricultural Agents was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on August 30, 2011 by Bill Burdine. Roll call was conducted by Ruby Rankin , the following members were present; Donna Beliech , Jimbo Burkhalter, David Carter, Elmo Collum, Darin Dodds, Lelia Kelly, Albert Myles, Patrick Poindexter, Tracy Robinson, Ty Jones, and Eddie Smith.

The reading of the last minutes was dispensed with, and the minutes were accepted as submitted following a motion by Jimbo Burkhalter and second by Patrick Poindexter.

Elmo gave a financial update. Elmo stated that investments are down by about \$6500 dollars. The financial advisor is saying "follow the course". Morgan Keegan is a part of Regions Bank and the lawsuit against M.K. was in the mortgage area not investments. As of 8/29/2011 there were no problems with MACAA account.

Old Business

Organization of past motions: Jimbo is reading through that information and hope to have a report ready by Annual conference.

State PIC Review: Bill gave a synopsis of the State PIC conference. Donna asked if an evaluation of the State PIC had been sent out, Bill stated that no evaluation had been sent out as of the meeting date but that he would prepare and send out a short evaluation of the conference. Donna reported that the website domain has not been worked on.

District Training Activities: David Carter gave an update of what he had coordinated in the South West District.

Lelia Kelly has accepted the \$200 dollar incentive and is planning a 1 day agri-tourism tour on October 4 for the N.E. District. Participants will meet at the R & E center and travel to Houston to a farm with a petting zoo, will visit Stanley Wise's farm and will then travel to Pontotoc to a farm that has a "guided hunt" enterprise.

Wayne Porter announced that the South East district hold a "Precision Equipment" training at the Beaumont Station on Oct. 18.

Elmo encouraged organizers to make sure that everyone understands that District training activities are sponsored in part by MACAA and cannot be limited to one district but those in the district in which the trainings are held will have first choice if space is limited.

New Business

503 Tax Exempt by Al Myles—Ken Hood will serve as the external auditor. Al Myles will have the audit conducted and get the necessary paperwork in to maintain the 503 status.

Al reported that a check had been received from the MS Rural Health Coalition and wondered where the donation came from and who the intended recipient was. Bill suggested that Al check with Michael Newman about the donation before proceeding to deposit.

Dues Invoices—Bill suggested that invoices be sent out ASAP. Al stated that he and the Ag. Econ secretary's list would be reconciled to make sure what went in to NACAA matches current membership and invoices should be received by members shortly after Labor Day.

Financial Manager/Treasurer –MACAA is considering calling the position a “financial manager”. Bill talked to Ed Williams (retiree) as recommended and Ed declined the offer to serve as MACAA Financial Manager.

Bill stated that MACAA needs someone to take on the roll of financial manager for several years. Donna asked if Al could forward the membership list to the board. Elmo recommended John Giesseman for financial manager, Al Myles recommended Steve Murray (retiree). Bill will talk to John G. (active member) if not John G. then Steve Murray will be contacted.

Elmo stated that perhaps a job description should be included in the bylaws so that a person would know what he/she would be taking on. Elmo asked Patrick Poindexter if he would consider serving as financial officer, Patrick stated that he would give it some thought.

Bill read the resignation letter of Michael Newman, which was in accordance with the bylaws, which state that an administrator cannot serve as MACAA president. Discussion was held regarding who or what group should be in line for the 2nd vice president and secretary position.

The outgoing President's district elects the incoming secretary. Whoever is elected as secretary will be president in the 5th year.

Jimbo motioned that the 2nd vice president position come from the State Group and incoming Secretary represent the North East district. Donna Beliech seconded the motion.

Discussed the Southern Region vice Director Position that will be open in 2014. Elmo gave a synopsis of what the vice-director responsibilities include. This is a 4 yr commitment, the person needs to attend National meetings and be “groomed” for the position.

Bylaws and Constitution:

After looking at the Bylaws Bill stated that there are some changes that need to be made in order to make changes, proposed changes must be submitted 30 days prior to Annual meeting. The last bylaws that Bill could locate were dated 1980. Elmo stated that from 1994-2011 he knows that there have not been any changes to the bylaws. Bill will work on any changes and present to the Board. Elmo suggested that the Board download the bylaws from the site, make suggested changes and forward to Bill. Bill will then make changes and send back to the board. Elmo also suggested that it be included in the bylaws that they (the bylaws) be reviewed annually.

Discussed responsibilities for incoming officers, Bill asked committee chairs to send reports to him and Donna as soon as possible. Donna suggested that MACAA purchase a tape recorder to be used by the secretary for recording minutes.

Elmo asked if Al needed money for awards and etc. Bill and Al will work together on coming up with a tentative budget for awards. Elmo requested that a motion be made to withdraw \$7,000 dollars from the Morgan Keegan cash account and send it to Al for checking account. A motion to transfer the money was made by Jimbo and seconded by Lelia. Motion to adjourn was made at 11:56 a.m. the motion was received.