

MACAA Minutes
November 3, 2011

The meeting of the Mississippi Association of County Agricultural Agents was held on Thursday, November 3rd at 6:30 a.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn in Starkville. Members present were: Donna Beliech, Jimbo Burkhalter, Al Myles, Lelia Kelly, Ty Jones, Reid Nevins, Elmo Collum, Lester Stephens, Bill Burdine, Ruby Rankin, Belvia Giachelli, Amanda Walker, Mengmeng Gu, Lamar Adams, Anthony Bland, Eddie Smith, Stephanie Pendleton, Wayne Boshart, Amanda Woods, and Charlie Stokes.

Sammy Blossom with MS Cattlemen's Association was in attendance at the meeting and gave an update on some of the activities that have been going on with MCA. MCA also sponsored the breakfast.

Donna Beliech asked the board if anyone had any questions about the minutes of the August 30 MACAA Board Meeting. No one had any questions. Lamar Adams made a motion to accept minutes as read. Ty Jones seconded motion. Motion to accept minutes passed.

Donna Beliech reviewed the responsibilities of Junior Director, Senior Director, and Membership Chair to newly elected members.

Old Business:

The Southern Region Vice-Chair position will be available to an MACAA member in 2014. Elmo Collum discussed the responsibilities of the vice-chair and stated the individual that takes this position must be very committed. Elmo also stated that MACAA needs to start compiling a list of potential candidates very soon for this position.

Donna Beliech stated it would be cheaper to use godaddy.com to be the MACAA website domain for \$134 for 3 years vs. hosting site through MSU which would be \$225 for three years. Lelia Kelly made a motion to use godaddy.com as the domain, Lamar Adams seconded. Motion passed.

New Business:

Discussion was made on finding another bookkeeper for MACAA. Al Myles mentioned the possibility of Steve Murray filling the position. It was also discussed that MACAA create an officer position for treasurer. The group all agreed that it would be hard to find someone to commit to the position unless a stipend, etc. was offered to that individual that does the bookkeeping.

Donna Beliech stated the current people who had complimentary MACAA memberships were Dr. Mark Keenum, Dr. Gregory Bohach, and Dr. Gary Jackson. Elmo Collum asked that the board consider giving Sammy Blossom with MS Cattlemen's Association a complimentary membership since he has been a long-time supporter of MACAA. Jimbo Burkhalter made a motion for MACAA for pay dues for Randy Knight with MS Farm Bureau and Sammy Blossom

with MCA for the support they give MACAA. Lamar Adams seconded the motion. Motion passed.

It was discussed to change the name of the MACAA Outstanding County Director Award since some of the agents that may be eligible to receive the Award are not specifically County Director's. It was decided to table this issue until the next meeting.

Donna Beliech mentioned the name plates in Bost with MACAA past president's names on them needs to be updated. Jimbo Burkhalter made a motion for Donna Beliech to look into updating the name plates, Lelia Kelly seconded motion. Motion passed.

Donna Beliech asked if MACAA paid the \$4500 it committed to South Carolina to assist in holding it's national meeting in 2012. Bill Burdine stated that MACAA would pay it in \$1500 increments for 3 years. Al Myles said he never received a request from South Carolina, but would check to see if it had been paid.

Al Myles and Charlie Stokes gave a membership update. MACAA picked up 13 first time members, and 3 members re-joined that had not been a member the past few years. This should get our membership back up to over 100 so Mississippi can be eligible for two achievement awards instead of just one.

It was discussed that we will have 2 vacant positions coming open on the board, which are the Senior Director position held by Mengmeng Gu with the state office group, and the Membership Chair position held by Charlie Bush in the northwest district.

Donna Beliech and Jimbo Burkhalter will represent MACAA at the JCEP Leadership Conference, February 7-9, 2012 in San Antonio, TX. Also, Ruby Rankin will represent MACAA at the JCEP/PILD Conference, April 15-18, 2012 in Westin Alexandria, VA.

Meeting was adjourned.