

Mississippi Association of County Agricultural Agents  
Board Meeting  
February 21, 2011  
10:00 a.m.

The Board of the Mississippi Association of County Agricultural Agents (MACAA) met on February 21, 2011 at 10:00 o'clock a.m. via Interactive Video Conferencing (IVC). The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Association President Bill Burdine. Roll call was made by Ruby Rankin (MACAA Secretary). The following members were present: Bill Burdine, Donna Beliech, Jimbo Burkhalter, Andy Braswell, David Carter, Elmo Collum, Glen Hughes, Ty Jones, Lelia Kelly, Al Myles, Michael Newman, Patrick Poindexter, Ruby Rankin, Tracy Robertson, Wayne Porter, Eddie Smith, and Lester Stephens.

Following roll call the reading of the minutes was called for. Andy Braswell made a motion that "the minutes be approved as presented and to dispense with the reading thereof", Jimbo Burkhalter seconded the motion, the motion carried. The following business was discussed:

**Membership Update:** Al Myles reported that there were 91 paid members, 8 associate or new members and 3 complimentary members. Complimentary members are: Drs Bohach and Keenum and Greg Knight. The current membership makes that association eligible for 3 DSA recipients and 1 AA as well as 3 voting delegates; this information was given by Bill Burdine.

**Financial Update:** Elmo Collum reported that as of January 1, 2010 there was a balance of \$210,620, as of January 2011 there was a balance of \$224,223.25, had a \$5,000 transaction. Have a Freddie Mac account with \$18,000 dollars in it, no money is being made off the account. The account has been constant since being opened. Donna asked if there would be a penalty to dissolve the Account. Elmo stated that he would investigate further before making a recommendation and will inform the board via e-mail.

The following **Old Business** was discussed:

**Website Update:** Donna Beliech stated that she e-mailed John Giesemann for him to let her know if anything changed. The name that received the most votes for the website name was "MS- County Agent. Donna had not received any other correspondence. The minutes of the November meeting have been placed on the site. Other discussion on domain name and etc was held. Website discussion will be moved to the next meeting where perhaps John will have an update.

**DSA/AA Rotation Schedule:**

DSA: SE, SW, NW, NE, Spec (Southeast was 1 year behind the other districts for past 10 years)

AA: NE, NW, SW, SE, Spec

Discussion on DSA/AA was held. The 2011 DSA will come from NE and Specialist group, AA will come from Specialist group. Once a district or Area has won DSA/AA they will be moved to the back of the line. For DSA you must have 75 members for 2 nominees, for AA you must have 100 members or above for 2 nominees.

The three highest ranking officers attending National are usually the voting delegates. Ruby Rankin made a motion to accept the rotational schedule, Donna Beliech seconded the motion, and motion was approved by acclamation.

Wayne Porter asked if DSA/AA nominees would be required to submit a 1 page award justification to be submitted for judging by the nominee's peers in their district. Other discussion was held, senior directors will be sent a list of who is eligible for DSA/AA based on the years of membership in the Association.

When the senior director receives a notification of who is eligible the senior director will notify eligible members and request a short paragraph be submitted. Membership will then have an option of reading or learning more about eligible members. More discussion was held on the length of the submission. Motion was made that "the new responsibility of Senior Directors be to notify eligible applicants of the requirement". The motion was made by Jimbo and seconded by David Carter to submit a No more than a 1 page justification to be further considered for the award. Senior Director will also inform eligible candidates that attendance at the National meeting is required thereby, forfeiting the award if unable to attend. The motion passed. Bill Burdine will work with the Senior Directors on outlining a few questions.

### **Co-hosting NACAA AM-PIC with LA in 2016**

David Carter stated that he had corresponded with Louisiana, not much had changed other than a 50/50 split is proposed. Bill Burdine had met with the LA Association President and suggested that the idea be put on the back burner until Louisiana makes more plans. Elmo indicated that Vicksburg is not an option due to hotel space.

### **JCEP Report:**

Bill Burdine and Michael Newman attended JCEP in San Antonio. Michael reminded the group about the National meeting in Mobile in a few years. Bill mentioned openings on the National Board for vice chair positions.

### **New Business:**

**Handling of External Funds Policy--** Discussed the new policy and submitting Elmo and Al's name along with the President for filling out the necessary paperwork for handling funds. Elmo also stated that he does not need or want to be able to sign checks on behalf of MACAA.

## **MACAA Membership Needs & Options**

1<sup>st</sup> year dues paid by MACAA- As long as a person has never been a member of MACAA. Michael motioned that MACAA pay first year membership dues for any agent that has never been a member. Tracy Robertson seconded the motion which passed.

**Discussed continuing the Early Bird drawings for membership dues.** Elmo stated that there is a way to get members counted even after the firm deadline has passed and that is “to have it presented for a vote during the Spring Board meeting of the National Board.”

**Professional Improvement:** Discussed funds and giving incentives to Senior Directors to help conduct some type of AM/PIC on District levels. David Carter made a motion to set aside \$200.00 per District training as approved by the President. Amanda Walker seconded the motion.

Update on 2011 MACAA-PIC—North East District want basic to advanced trainings.

PILD – Arlington, VA—the following leaders were scheduled to participate in PILD: Alma Harris (ESP), Judith Breland (FCS), Beth Randall (4-H), and Donna Beliech (MACAA) Glen Hughes suggested that Dr. Gary Jackson be met with by the leadership so that the “message can be coordinated.”

### **Issues to discuss with Drs. Bohach, Jackson and Street:**

Lester mentioned that the only discussion identified was the “cluster issue”. Bill identified that “membership should be expected and not optional”. Elmo suggested that R&E Center Heads be members as well. What’s the worst case scenario if Federal Funds for Research are cut? How will Extension be affected?

It was suggested that Dr. Gary Jackson be added as a complimentary member.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m. by President Bill Burdine.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ruby D. Rankin  
MACAA Secretary