

Minutes of the Meeting
LCAAA Board of Directors
March 29, 2006
Woodworth, LA
10:00 A.M.

The meeting was called to order by President Kenny Sharpe and in the absence of Brian Chandler, James Devillier was instructed to inscribe the minutes of the meeting.

President Sharpe called for the minutes of the Winter Board meeting. These were reviewed and on a motion by Allen Hogan, seconded by Richard Letlow and carried, the minutes of winter board meeting was approved as presented to the board.

Keith Normand, Treasurer presented a financial report. He reported that the interest on account number 15 is 3.54% as of December 31, 2005. Because the life member list was lost from the NACAA website, President Sharpe raised a question on life members and dues. Keith stated that there is a one time \$50 fee and that Bill Davis and Walter Morrison were the most recent paid members. It was moved by R. L. Frazier, seconded by Keith Normand, to accept the financial report. The motion carried unanimously.

James E. Devillier, Southern Region Vice-Director reported on the progress of the NACAA AM/PIC and stated that the room costs were in the neighborhood of 120 dollars plus tax. He further stated that the Kentucky/Ohio agents have an excellent conference planned and members of LCAAA were encouraged to attend as well as develop poster and/or presentations to share with other agents. The magazine with registration should be in everyone's hands soon but as Keith Normand stated, the program, tours and registration are all online at www.nacaa.com.

Keith Normand stated that he paid dues to NACAA for 119 members of LCAAA which includes 4 or 5 new members. Our membership list is on the NACAA website.

Dale Pollet, Eddie Eskew and Kenny Sharpe are working with Fred Piazza to develop a LCAAA website. The membership will have an opportunity to critique the design. A design used by the Florida association was passed around the room. The goal is to have the website up and running by June, 2006. The question was raised as to who would be the webmaster and it was suggested that this could be a job for the President t-Elect. However, we would need a by-laws change to add this to the President-Elect duties; i.e. maintain manage the LCAAA website. It was moved by Allen Hogan, seconded by R. L. Frazier to have the President t-Elect manage the LCAAA website. Motion carried.

President Kenny Sharpe attended the school board superintendent and meeting. Good presentations regarding the impact of programs to schools were made to superintendents. Dr. Coreil commented on the local funding partnerships to both groups. An AgCenter booth was manned at the police jury convention in Alexandria. Dr. Coreil spoke to the Ag Committee members of the Police Jury association.

Allen Hogan gave the board an update on the Faculty Council. The council met in January after the election. The council elected officers---Clayton Hollier, chairman; Jerry Whatley, vice-chairman; Joan King, recorder and an executive committee. In February, the council was given the exigency instrument. At the March meeting, the Chancellor discussed the budget and appointed an advisory committee to implement exigency. The committee recommendations are non-binding but are due to his office by the end of the legislative session with a plan to be in place by September 1. The exigency ends July 1, 2007. IT is developing a policy statement on AgCenter computer use which is being considered by the council. Outside sources of income by faculty policy is being reviewed by the council. The AgCenter has the most restrictive policy of all LSU campuses. The council discussed the LSU Board of Supervisors and President Jenkins move to retire later this year. There is concern of the activities by board members as well as the politicians. The council drafted a resolution to keep the LSU system whole and not move any campus to the UL system.

In new business, Kenny Sharpe stated that our membership pool is shrinking which lowers our potential membership. We have to do a better job of getting older agents to join our organization and find a better way of marketing LCAAA to newer younger agents. R. L. Frazier commented on the need to start the membership drive earlier and preferably have dues payable at the annual meeting. President Sharpe asked R.L. Frazier and Ed Twidwell to research ideas, thoughts or suggestions to help boost membership and report to the AM/PIC board meeting in June.

Ed Twidwell and Keith Normand represented LCAAA at the Southern Region JCEP meeting held in Nashville, TN February 1-3, 2006. Ed reported on the state of affairs of LCAAA and received updates on NACAA scholarships---list of donors by state (which is to be listed on the NACAA website). Other states have websites and presented their state association reports. Next year's meeting will also be in Nashville in late January. Keith stated that other states are not receiving a high percent of local support and noted the meeting lasted too long.

R. L. Frazier will attend the PILD conference April 23-27, 2006. The conference will be held in Washington, DC. R. L. stated that we need to solve the dilemma of who is to attend the PILD conference. The president and president-elect go to the Southern Region JCEP meeting and the president-elect and vice-president go to PILD. We are currently funded by the Director's office for one person to attend PILD. It was moved by R.L. Frazier, seconded by Matt Martin to send President-Elect to PILD and when we can afford two then also send the Vice-President. Motion carried.

It was agreed that the President and President-Elect would represent LCAAA at the Southern Regroup JCEP meeting.

President Sharpe discussed the 4-H U luncheon. He called the state 4-H office and set the date for Thursday June 22 at Nelson Memorial. Help is needed from LCAAA members who can attend the event. Help is needed beginning at 8 a.m. that day.

President Sharpe, in the absence of Chairman Rusty Batty, reported on the AM/PIC scheduled for June 4-7, 2006 in the Covington Holiday Inn. The board of director's supper will be held at the Hammond Research Station with a tilapia farm tour beginning at 4 p.m. The Holidome room

rates are 87.50 per night plus tax. The committee is attempting to cover as many expenses as possible---meals, breaks, etc. The theme is “The Changing Face of Agriculture”. The Monday tour will include a nursery, polo demonstration and antique farm implement museum. Tuesday’s program will feature Dwight Landreneau, Secretary LDWF and 6-8 other speakers. Wednesday’s program will be strictly business.

The question of our financial condition was brought up and discussed. At this point, the large CD is not drawing much interest and is there a way to lock it up short-term for more interest? Our checking account is in good condition. The board agreed that there is currently no driving need to change anything.

A question of the funds paid to attendees to the NACAA AM/PIC was raised and we are providing some monies to award winners, voting delegates and officers. Award winners R. L. Frazier and Ron Strahan are going to Cincinnati. Boris Castro is moving to the Texas Extension system but is still an AA winner. Carlos Smith is going for one day only. President Sharpe will select voting delegates which receive 125 dollars each; DSA/AA gets 100 dollars each and officers---President, Secretary and Treasurer receive 150 dollars each.

Committee Reports

Richard Letlow sent out the LCAAA 4-H scholarship applications and has an April 14, 2006 deadline. A scholarship auction is again planned at the annual meeting. Sarah Batty and Ben Greene will be recognized at the annual meeting.

Ed Twidwell reminded all committee chairmen to submit reports by the annual meeting and he will send an e-mail reminder for each chair to have their reports ready in Covington.

Myrl Sistrunk reported that one application was received for the Agronomy awards---Glenn Daniels submitted a Search for Excellence for Crop Production application. John Chaney submitted a Communications award application.

In other business, Ed Twidwell questioned the need to appoint a replacement board member for Boris Castro who is transferring to Texas A&M. This will be done at the annual meeting.

Keith Normand was recognized for receiving a NACAA 1000 dollar scholarship to attend the Commodity Classic conference which includes a meeting of the corn and soybean associations. This is a research/extension/industry conference with a large trade show. The Secretary of Agriculture spoke at the general session and the Governor of Minnesota spoke on alternative fuels. Two other LCAAA members, Ed Twidwell and James Devillier received awards from the American Forage and Grassland Council at their March, 2006 annual meeting.

Allen Hogan moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Stan Dutile, carried unanimously and the board meeting was duly adjourned at 1:45 p.m.