LCAAA Spring Board Meeting Agenda
March 27. 2012
Ville Platte, Louisiana

1.	Welcome/Call to Order	Kurt Guidry
2.	Minutes of Fall 2011 Board Meeting	Kurt Guidry
3.	Treasurer's Report	Louis Lirette
4.	Merging State Office & SE District	Ed Twidwell
5.	Approving VP Election as part of Presidential Rotation	Brian Chandler
6.	Benefits of Lifetime Memberships	Rusty Batty
7.	Results from Poll on State Galaxy Meeting	Kurt Guidry
8.	Update on Annual Meeting	Kurt Guidry
9.	Committee Reports	
	a. Awards	Allen Hogan/Ron Strahan
10.	Other Business	
11.	Adjourn	

Those present at the meeting were:

Kurt Guidry	Rusty Batty
Brian Chandler	Donna Morgan
Don Reed	Barrett Courville
Allen Hogan	Louis Lirette
Stuart Gauthier	Andre Brock
Don Ferrin	Keith Fontenot
Ed Twidwell	Terrence Marshall

Call to Order: Kurt Guidry began the meeting by welcoming everyone and thanking Mr. Keith Fontenot for hosting the meeting. He then mentioned that there were handouts available and that a sign-in sheet was being passed around.

Minutes: Kurt Guidry mentioned that the meeting handouts also included the minutes from the fall board meeting. He asked if anyone had any comments or changes that needed to be made to the minutes. At that time, Rusty Batty moved to accept the minutes and it was seconded by Don Ferrin. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Kurt Guidry called on Louis Lirette to provide the treasurer's report. Louis began by providing the balances for the different accounts held by LCAAA. As of 3/27/12, the individual account balances were as follows:

Account	Balance (3/27/12)
Assets	
Cash and Bank Accounts	
LCAAA Share Acct	$766.93
LCAAA Basic Checking Acct	$4,767.71
LCAAA Special Shares Acct	$1,705.64
LCAAA – 12 Month CD	$73,484.42
Total Cash and Bank Accounts	$80,724.70

The Share Account is the account that is used to place funds to provide for requests made for support and sponsorship of the NACAA national meeting. Louis mentioned that $3,500 had been paid from this account to South Carolina to cover the commitment LCAAA had made in sponsorship of the national meeting being held there in 2012. The Special Shares Account is the account dedicated to pay scholarship winners. Louis mentioned that one of the scholarship winners (Letlow) had provided all the necessary documents to prove eligibility and so was provided the $500 scholarship.

Louis then gave an update on the income received and expenses paid to date with a comparison to the proposed budget approved at last year's annual meeting. Income to date is $9485.03. Of that value, $4,680 has come from dues received (this equates to 78 members). It was mentioned, however, that the official number of members as it relates to AA and DSA awards was 71 with the remaining dues coming in after the deadline. Other income items were $2,000 raised by the scholarship auction and $2,805.03 in profit from the 2011 annual meeting.

Expenditures to date have totaled $9,885.59. Expenditures reported were for national dues, awards for DSA and AA winners, stipends paid to LCAAA officers for attending national meeting, stipends paid for members attending the JCEP workshop, payments made to scholarship winners, and payments made in support of the national meeting. It was mentioned that a expense paid that was not shown in the report was a payment made for $250 for the policy jury convention ($300 was budgeted but only $250 was requested). Louis also mentioned that he had gotten a request for $250 for the school board convention and would be paying that shortly. To this point, $665.59 had been paid for expenses for Stuart Gauthier in attending the JCEP workshop. Louis indicated that an additional $505 was to be paid to him for his airline ticket for also attending the JCEP workshop. Combined, the $665.59 and the $505 would fall below the $1,200 budgeted for this meeting. For the PILD meeting, Louis felt that given the costs associated with the meeting, that it would likely surpass the $700 budgeted. Finally, there was a expense of $92 that was not provided in the report that was paid for expenses associated with the meal for the Fall board meeting.

2011 – 2012 LCAAA Proposed Budget		
Item	**Proposed**	**Actual (as of 3/27/12)**
Income		
Dues	$5400.00	$4,680.00
Interest		
Checking	$10.00	$0.00
Savings	$10.00	$0.00
CD	$0.00	$0.00
Scholarship Auction	$2,000.00	$2,000.00
Annual Meeting	$1,000.00	$2,805.03
Total Income	$8,420.00	$9,485.03
Expenditures		
National Dues	$4,500.00	$3,720.00
Police Jury Convention	$300.00	$0.00
School Board Convention	$250.00	$0.00
NACAA AM/PIC		
DSA and AA Recipients	$500.00	$500.00
Voting Delegates	$500.00	$500.00
President	$250.00	$0.00
President-Elect	$250.00	$250.00
Vice-President	$250.00	$0.00
Treasurer	$250.00	$250.00
Secretary	$250.00	$250.00
Awards	$300.00	$0.00
Office Expenses	$100.00	$0.00
JCEP Workshop	$1,200.00	$665.59
PILD Meeting	$700.00	$0.00
4-H U Luncheon	$800.00	$0.00
LCAAA Professional Improvement Scholarship	$1,000.00	$0.00
4-H Scholarship	$1,000.00	$500.00
New Agent Orientation	$50.00	$0.00
Board Meetings	$300.00	$0.00
2012 NACAA AMPIC (transfer savings)	$3,500.00	$3,500.00
Total Expenditures	$16,250.00	$9,885.59

As part of the discussion, there was a question on the number of DSA and AA award winners we would be able to select given our membership level at the reporting deadline of 71. Louis indicated that new rules allow the LCAAA to give additional DSA and AA awards over the old rules which provided roughly 1 DSA for every 50 members. It was also mentioned that historically, we could always provide 2 AA award winners but we generally gave only 1 per year due to a lack of applicants.

Another question was asked related to the scholarship auction and the funds available for the scholarship program. Louis was mentioned that half of the proceeds from the scholarship auction at the annual meeting goes into the special shares account which is dedicated for the scholarship program. The other half of the proceeds goes to the share account which is typically dedicated to generate funds for requests made by host states of the national meeting.

Louis mentioned that funds in the large CD were not generating much income due to extremely low interest rates. He mentioned that he had looked into the possibility of an alternate investment for this money to generate more income. His view was while there were other options, all of those options would require a significant increase in the amount of accounting and reporting then has traditionally been done. It was mentioned that while the CD was not generating much income, it was safe and gave the association the ability to access this money quickly and with very little to no penalty.

Allen Hogan then made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. It was seconded by Donna Morgan. With no additional discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Merging State Office & SE District: At the Fall board meeting, Ed Twidwell was asked to conduct a survey of the State Office members to determine their view about the possibility of merging it into the SE district. Ed mentioned that he had polled the 16 members from the state office and 12 responded. All 12 were in favor of merging with the SE district. Ed mentioned that while no formal poll was made of members of the SE district, his conversations with a few members were also positive toward the merger.

It was mentioned that the negatives with merging the two was that 1) each region would now have to host an annual meeting every 3 years rather then 4 years, and 2) would potentially have 3 less board members. It was mentioned by Allen Hogan that if we made this change which would require a change in the by-laws that we might do it for one year to see how it works. This is particularly true if, after a year, it was felt that having 3 less board members was problematic.

Since merging the two districts would require a change in the by-laws, the policy committee had met to see what changes would be needed. Brian Chandler (chairmen of the policy committee) provided the board with the necessary changes (See Appendix).

Approving VP Election as part of Presidential Rotation: Brian Chandler also mentioned that, while the policy committee was addressing the changes needed to merge the two districts, they also looked at making changes to formalize the tradition of including the Vice-President in the President rotation. While it had become tradition that the Vice-President would rotate up into the President-Elect and then the President office, this was not formally expressed in the by-laws. As such, the policy committee made a recommendation of making the needed changes in the by-laws to formalize this tradition.

Rusty Batty then made a motion to recommend the changes suggested by the policy committee which included both the necessary changes to merge the two districts and to formalize the Vice-President rotation. Andre Brock seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

It was mentioned that the policy committee recommendations should be included in the registration packet for the annual meeting. This would allow membership to have the information prior to them voting on it at the annual meeting.

Benefits of Lifetime Memberships: Kurt Guidry mentioned that the topic of Lifetime Memberships had been given to him as a topic for the board meeting but that it was not clear as to specifically what the issue was. Allen Hogan did have a question of where lifetime dues had to be sent. Louis Lirette indicated that lifetime membership dues should be sent to him and that they were $50.

Rusty Batty indicated that he believed he had suggested the topic and that he had questions of what lifetime membership provided for the member. In particular, with several current members close to or at retirement, it would be good to have something that could be provided to them to let them know of what lifetime membership offered. Kurt Guidry indicated that he would check the national website and see if there was information there that could be made available to the membership.

It was then mentioned whether or not LCAAA should offer to pay the lifetime membership for retiring members. It was mentioned that several other southern states did this for its members. Kurt Guidry and Stuart Gauthier indicated that they would explore this possibility and contact other states to see how they did this. After they did this, they would come up with a recommendation for the board for the next board meeting.

Results from Poll on State Galaxy Meeting: Kurt Guidry mentioned that he had been approached from leadership of the other professional associations associated with the AgCenter about the possibility of having a combined Galaxy type meeting in the state. At the Fall board meeting, Kurt indicated that he would conduct a poll of the membership to get their views. Kurt went over the results of that poll. A total of 40 members responded with 81.6 percent voting against having a Galaxy type meeting in substitution for the LCAAA annual meeting and 76.3 percent voting against having a Galaxy type meeting in addition to the LCAAA annual meeting. A copy of all of the results of the survey was provided at the meeting.

Update on Annual Meeting: Kurt Guidry then gave a brief update on the annual meeting and provided a draft of the registration packet. The annual meeting will be on May 20 -23, 2012 at the Holiday Inn Express and Suites and the West Baton Rouge Conference Center in Port Allen, LA. He mentioned that the member's tour would include three stops, Tony's Seafood, River Road Coffee, and the Port of Baton Rouge. He mentioned that given the security measures at the port that he had to provide a list of all attendees prior to the tour as well as have everyone sign an Indemnification Release form. He also mentioned that all attendees must have a photo ID to enter the port. The spouses tour would have 4 stops, the WBR Museum, the Plaquemine Locks & Downtown Tour, Madonna Chapel, and Nottaway Plantation. Nottaway plantation will be the last stop and participants would be provided lunch there.

Committee Reports:

Memorial: Kurt Guidry indicated that he had gotten an email from Boyd Padgett asking for identifying people that would memorialize retired members that had passed. In addition to identifying potential people to memorialize members that had passed, the board also identified Mr. Minus Granger as another member that had passed within the last year. The board identified the following:

Members Passing Within Last Year	Suggestions For People to Memorialize Members
Shelton Braud	Lee Hampton / Keith Normand
Reymond D'Armond	Kenny Sharp
Desiree Dorset	Henry Harrison
Albert Doughty	John Lowe / Johnny LeVassieur
Eddie Gassie	Bill Branch
Russell Guarino	Stan Dutile
Minus Granger	Stanley Lamendola / Jimmy Dardeaux

Recognition and Awards: Allen Hogan provided a report on behalf of the chairman Ron Strahan. Allen indicated that Ron had provided him the winners for this year's DSA and AA awards. The winners are:

DSA Winners

Keith Fontenot
Terrence Marshall

AA Winners

Al Orgeron
Rob Ferguson

Allen mentioned that it was very difficult to get people to apply for these awards. The typical response when approached was that they didn't have the funds available to attend the national meeting, which is a requirement of receiving the awards. It was questioned whether or not we were providing enough money for these winners to attend the national meeting and that incoming President might want to increase these funds in his proposed budget at the annual meeting. It was suggested that the funds might be increased from the current budget level of $500 to $200 per winner up to four winners (2 DSA and 2 AA) for a total budget of $800.

It was mentioned that historically, personnel in the parish of the award winner would raise money to help send the winner to the national meeting. In addition, it was mentioned that there could be other sources of funds within the parish that may help with the costs of attending the national meeting. It was mentioned that local and parish governments have provided funds in the past as well as associations like local Farm Bureau and commodity associations.

Other Business: In other business, Louis Lirette mentioned that he would send out a membership list soon and asked that if you saw people missing from the list that have been or should be members to contact them and urge them to join.

Kurt Guidry also mentioned that Bill Branch had brought him the original articles of incorporation for LCAAA and some other original documents. Kurt asked the board of where these documents should be kept. It was suggested he contact Bill Branch and get his thoughts since he was the chair of the history committee.

With no additional business, Andre Brock moved they we adjourn. It was seconded by Donna Morgan. The motion passed unanimously.

APPENDIX I

Recommendations of Policy Committee

Suggested Changes to LCAAA Handbook relating to number of districts and officer rotation March 2011 **(Changes are in bold and italics)**

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Section 4 - The term of office for Board Members shall be three years with ***~~four~~ three*** members being elected each year at the Annual Meeting, one from each of the ***~~four~~ three*** LCAAA districts.

Section 5 - The President, President-elect, and ***Vice President*** shall be from different LCAAA districts and shall be rotated among the ~~four~~ ***three*** districts in the following established order:

PRESIDENT		PRESIDENT-ELECT		***VICE PRESIDENT***	
2010-11	Northern	2010-11	State Office		
2011-12	State Office	2011-12	Central Southwest	***2011-12***	***Southeast***
2012-13	Central Southwest	2012-13	Southeast	***2012-13***	***Northern***
2013-14	Southeast	2013-14	Northern	***2013-14***	***Central Southwest***

The ***~~Vice-president~~***, Secretary and Treasurer may be elected from any district.

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LCAAA Membership Districts*

Northern	Central Southwest	Southeastern	***~~State Office~~***
			~~Baton Rouge Campus~~
Bienville	Acadia	Ascension	
Bossier	Avoyelles	Assumption	
Caldwell	Allen	East Baton Rouge	
Catahoula	Beauregard	East Feliciana	
Caddo	Cameron	Iberville	
Claiborne	Calcasieu	Jefferson	
Concordia	Evangeline	Livingston	
DeSoto	Grant	Lafourche	
East Carroll	Iberia	Orleans	
Franklin	Jefferson Davis	Plaquemines	
Jackson	LaSalle	St. James	
Lincoln	Lafayette	St. John	
Madison	Pointe Coupee	St. Helena	
Morehouse	Rapides	St. Tammany	
Natchitoches	Sabine	St. Bernard	
Ouachita	St. Landry	St. Charles	
Red River	St. Martin	Tangipahoa	
Richland	St. Mary	Terrebonne	
Tensas	Vernon	Washington	
Union	Vermilion	West Feliciana	
Webster	Winn	West Baton Rouge	
West Carroll		***LSU Baton Rouge Campus***	

* Members are considered to be in the district in which they are physically located.