



Georgia ANREP
Fall Board Meeting Minutes
October 6, 2020

The meeting was conducted via Zoom

Call to Order—Jessica Warren called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Members present: Jessica Warren, Kim Toal, James Morgan, Heather Kolich, Kasey Bozeman, Doug Collins, Richard Evans, Yanni Chen, Bryan Fluech, Kelli Cody Brookins, Jessica Brown, Michael Abney

Introductions (of and for new board members)

Congratulations to those who will be serving on our 2021 Georgia ANREP Board. We are looking forward to another great year under the new leadership. Terms run January to December.

President – Bryan Fluech, MAREX, Associate Dir.

President-elect – Heather Kolich, Forsyth County

Past-president -- Jessica Warren, Camden County

Treasurer – Kim Toal, Fayette County

Secretary – Kelli Cody Brookins, Columbia County

Northwest District Director – Yanni Chen, Dekalb County

Northeast District Director – Michael Abney, Jones County

Southwest District Director – Doug Collins, Lee County

Southeast District Director – Richard Evans, Bryan County

State Staff Director – Kasey Bozeman, 4-H State Staff

State Staff Director – Jessica T.R. Brown, MAREX, Stormwater Specialist

Approval of Minutes—Heather Kolich emailed minutes of the June 2020 meeting to board members on 10/05/2020 for review. Bryan Fluech made motion to approve; James Morgan seconded. Motion approved by membership.

Reports of Officers

Kim Toal: October financial report emailed to members on 10/05/2020 for review.

- Financial Report and Membership Update
- Secretary of State Registration Fees/Dues – completed; \$100 filing fee, \$30 annual fee; online payment by Kim’s credit card; will need reimbursement.
- Adding 4-H Agent for Signing Assistance?
- Bank Card Associated with Checking Account for Online Payments? Discussion of getting credit card for the ANREP account to provide means of payment for ANREP business expenses. Further research/information needed. Kim will contact James White, UGA fiscal compliance. Members with concerns about attaching a credit card to the ANREP account, please email Jessica.

Georgia ANREP 2021 Conference Discussion

- Virtual? Currently planned for Athens; many conferences through the end of 2021 are already planned as virtual.
- Budget cuts/travel restrictions; anticipate continuing or escalating in 2021.
- Safety – would it be safe to hold a face to face conference in April; would UGA allow it?

General discussion touching on county budget reductions, UGA restrictions, Zoom-fatigue; conference fee or free; potential costs to support a virtual conference; virtual hosting platforms; opportunity to introduce new agents to ANREP and recruit agent and specialists as new members through virtual conference; shifting dates of conference.

Conclusion: Jessica Warren and Bryan Fluech will create survey to send to ANREP members to determine willingness to attend face-to-face conference, attitude about moving conference to summer or fall.

After conference decision is made (virtual or in-person), Master Naturalists may be surveyed to determine topics of interest to them for conference presentations.

Bryan shared that John Salazar is interested in talking about how their program can support agents. Ecotourism to ag tourism. Runs an events management course.

New Logo – the new ANREP logo is attached to the agenda and minutes.

Georgia ANREP Strategic Planning Session Action Items Review, Update, and Plans Moving Forward

Actions items review – Jessica Warren.

Videos to promote ANREP; Stephanie is willing to work on that soon, when her staff returns. Yanni and Bryan will help Stephanie. Yanni suggested doing Zoom interviews. She will coordinate, but doesn’t want to talk.

Newsletters – two so far

By-laws – staff members can join.

Extension leadership is on board with supporting ANREP same as GACAA and other professional associations.

Listserv updated; need to get Kelli credentials for 2021 so she can manage

Promoting ANREP – Bryan – education team members are showing interest

Agents Only section of website of sharable material – website stall-out has put on hold

Website update – James Morgan

James reported no response from Richie Bramen on updates/ publishing website. Having outdated website hurts our new agent recruitment.

Jessica led discussion on seeking advice/assistance from Ashley Williams with OIT, who efficiently helped with another large project.

Bryan shared that UGA students need live projects and will develop websites for free. ANREP would need to pay hosting fees for site.

Kasey has migrated another site over to Wordpress, a blog site with useful features, such as password protection, limiting access to certain pages. Mikey Greenwold with OIT was super helpful. Jessica asked for objections to going in this direction. None were offered. She will work with Kasey to migrate current elements – leadership, agent resources, etc., to Wordpress platform. We will need to gather some information for the move. Kasey will set up One-Drive so that agents can drop in presentations for the agent resources section of the new platform. The website is important to promote ANREP and highlight the benefits of being in this association.

Michael Abney: Monthly Natural Resources Webinar?

Michael proposed starting regular, agent-focused webinars from ANREP members.

Purpose:

- To provide professional development to agents
- To build recognition of ANREP and recruit new members
- To provide ANREP members with opportunity to do statewide programs
- Potential avenue to gain momentum with other universities; Clemson just started ANREP chapter and wants to collaborate.

After discussion, board agreed to start with quarterly webinars, first Thursday of March, June, September, and December, from 10-11:30 a.m.

Michael will do first program: March 4, 2021, Wildlife Management on Small Acreage.

Board members will send Jessica topics of presentations they already have and are willing to present.

Topics will also be solicited from membership through survey. Board will determine schedule.

Promotional materials will strive to develop “brand recognition” for ANREP; program announcements will be emailed to ExtAll by same person each time to create recognition. Programs will be promoted through website and newsletter, as well.

Topics could include process or how-to programs for newer agents as well as content-oriented presentations.

Participation in presentation must be wide; responsibility cannot fall on one or two people.

Heather Kolich: Virtual Advanced Master Naturalist Trainings

Heather relayed that the Cobb, Fulton, and Douglas agents, Hallie Harriman, Melissa Mattee, and Kevin Livingston, are meeting via Zoom on October 6 @ 3 PM to discuss Master Naturalist continuing education monthly webinars for 2021. Currently, the planning group consists of Hallie Harriman & Dainel Price (Cobb), Melissa Mattee and Carol Stringer (Fulton), Kevin Livingston (Douglas) and Heather Kolich (Forsyth).

Heather proposed that those of us with MN groups get involved and/or convince this group to join ANREP. She sent invitation to board members to join Zoom meeting after the ANREP meeting adjourned.

NOTE: Heather attended meeting at 3 p.m. Notes and webinar schedule was forwarded to board along with meeting minutes on October 8, 2020.

Newsletter Material

Please send any newsletter material to Jessica. She will also send out email call for materials.

2022 State Conference Location

Jessica needs to report to Mike Martin on locations of next ANREP conferences. Previous meeting included discussion of hosting 2022 conference – Ashley Hoppers in Blue Ridge or Bryan Fluech on the

coast. By-laws state president-elect hosts meeting, but that doesn't always work. 2021 conference may be virtual. Blue Ridge host site should be complete by 2022.

Jessica made motion that we host 2022 conference in Blue Ridge if facilities are ready. Bryan seconded with amendment that if facility not ready, he will host on coast. Members voted in favor of motion with amendment.

Dates to Remember

ANREP National Membership Meeting – **October 21, 2020, 1-4pm EDT Virtual**

GA ANREP State Conference – **April 27-29, 2021 Athens?**

ANREP National Conference—**May 23-26, 2021 Virtual**

Other business? None

Adjourn

Michael moved to adjourn, Jessica seconded, all in favor clicked "Leave" button.

Meeting adjourned at 12:27 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Heather Kolich, October 7, 2020.