

Southern Association of Forensic Scientists – Executive Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

November 15, 2024 – virtual (Teams)

Present: President Amanda Venable; Secretary Karlie McManaman; Past-President Allison Galassie; Members-at-Large Erin Tracy, Collin Shuford, Sara Roper, April Brown

Next Meeting: December 12 @ 12:00pm

Meeting called to order at 12:02pm, meeting adjourned at 12:41pm

- 2028 Joint Meeting w/ MAAFS – Erin
 - Erin has been talking with Catherine Savage from Maryland. MAAFS interested in a joint meeting in Roanoke, VA (to include Virginia members who don't get approved to travel out-of-state very often).
 - MAAFS has drafted an MOU to share with us if we decide to move forward
 - Board discussed and decided to make 2028 a joint meeting
 - Erin will forward MOU to the Board
- Jacksonville 2025 Annual Meeting update – Tanja not present to give full update
 - Erin co-chairing workshops w/ Emily Boswell. Emily will join TER meeting next week to discuss workshops.
 - Not sure of A/V situation at this hotel. Should we sell our small screens and projectors and buy new projectors on Black Friday deals? May revisit before Greenville (not locked into A/V there).
 - April offered to help with getting vendors.
 - Will reach out for email update RE registration, fees, etc.
- Greenville 2026 Annual Meeting update – Allison
 - Embassy Suites, free good breakfast, two evening drink tickets – overall F&B budget should be less
 - Hotel is not walkable to restaurants/bars. Will have vans to drive people downtown and drop off for a few hours, then pick everyone back up at a set time.
 - Allison has started recording a preliminary timeline, wants to make a packet of helpful info for future meeting planners
 - Will email membership requesting volunteers to help plan
- Membership Committee – Tanja not present to give full update
- TER Committee - Erin
 - Meeting routinely
 - Discussing options for additional trainings, including paid options for non-members
 - Brainstorming ideas for Jacksonville workshops, waiting to discuss with Kristen and Tanja
- Communication and Awards Committee
 - Will include reminder to apply for awards in next email to membership

- Nominations Committee
 - Need to post announcement requesting Board nominations (president-elect and two member-at-large positions) by Jan 6th
 - Allison has drafted an email, including a request for a short paragraph about why you want to join the Board
- Historical Committee
 - An email was received suggesting that we keep pictures of past-presidents on the website. The Board discussed and decided this is not feasible beyond the few most recent years. Will not pursue.
- Open Floor
 - Will try to meet monthly
 - Considering themes for each meeting, signature beverages, etc. Need to brainstorm for 2025!