

## **Southern Association of Forensic Scientists – Executive Board Meeting**

### Meeting Minutes

*May 5, 2025 – Jacksonville, FL*

*Present:* President Amanda Venable; President-Elect Tanja Kopp; Secretary Karlie McManaman (via Teams); Treasurer Laura Lawrence; Past-President Allison Galassie; Members-at-Large April Brown, Collin Shuford, and Erin Tracy (via Teams)

*Next Meeting:* TBD

Meeting called to order at 4:39pm, meeting adjourned at 5:45pm

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- Jacksonville 2025 Annual Meeting Update
    - Should establish a quorum
    - 84 registered attendees, 13 vendors
    - Budget looks good
    - Several requests for late registrations
      - Accepted a few, but had to turn down two vendors and an attendee last Thursday and Friday – too late to coordinate with the hotel
      - Consider adding a late fee for late registrations (after final deadline) next year
    - Challenge coins for swag this year
  - Audit chair update - found two outstanding items:
    - Photobooth from Chattanooga was missing a receipt in the packet – Tanja has the paid invoice and will forward it to the committee
    - ANAB receipt was marked paid but not shown out of the bank account – following up to see if they either didn't receive or haven't cashed the check yet, but can see the check was sent by the bank
  - Social media – need to share password to update during meeting, Collin volunteered to share pictures and status updates
  - Greenville, SC 2026 Update – Allison
    - Planners = Allison, Amanda, Rachael, April
    - Theme = golf (hotel on a golf course), logo already designed specific to 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary
    - Considering selling t-shirts at registration
    - Hotel (Embassy Suites) is not very walkable, discussing renting vans for an organized pub crawl/downtown exploration one night
    - Breakfast and two evening drink tickets included in daily hotel rate
    - Will have table in Jacksonville flipping through photos of Greenville to promote, and plan to raffle off a free workshop registration for Greenville at this year's meeting
    - Plenary sessions ideas: reached out to people involved in local high-profile cases
  - Future meetings
    - Hilton Head 2027 – The Beach House

- Trying to coordinate joint meeting with MAAFS for 2028 in Virginia – Spotsylvania (north of Richmond, building new hotel) or Roanoke (bigger airport)
  - Need to give them a contact person: Erin Tracy, with assistance as needed
  - Their annual meeting is this week, expect them to make an official decision
- More Tox – offered two workshops this year, one fell through but could offer it again next year now that we’ve shown some potential interest
- Open Floor
  - Vote in any Associate members who qualify for full membership now – Karlie:
    - Three members now have 3 years’ experience – all moved to full membership
      - Mackenna Gentry
      - Hailey Short (no longer at GBI but still in forensics)
      - Lauren Stenger
    - Six members missing meeting attendance, none registered for this year’s meeting
    - Will send congratulations email to those whose status changed, and an update to the webmaster
  - Will summarize changes to Bylaws to vote on at meeting (full draft of changes was emailed to all members in late March)