

## Southern Association of Forensic Scientists – Executive Board Meeting

### Meeting Minutes

September 16, 2025 – Greenville, SC

*Present:* President Tanja Kopp; President-Elect Rachael Looney; Treasurer Laura Lawrence; Past-President Amanda Venable; Members-at-Large April Brown, Collin Shuford, and Allison Galassie

*Next Meeting:* October 15 - 11:30am

Meeting called to order at 8:41am, meeting adjourned at 12:00pm

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- Meeting minutes from May 6, 2025 approved
- Treasurer's updates:
  - Tanja, Kristen, Laura currently on bank accounts
    - Removing Kristen
    - Adding Emily Boswell (GBI Biologist, workshop chair of last meeting) to have another person have access
    - Meeting minutes needed to add someone to the account due to being business account - all in agreement with changes
  - Account balances:
    - Meeting account ~\$2,000
      - This account will be closed and balance moved to main SAFS account
    - CD \$13,942.99
      - Truist recommends moving to money market - Laura and Tanja will do this on their next trip to the bank
    - Checking main \$17,699.92
    - Meeting account \$56,481.65
  - Tanja formally recommended making the meeting account have a \$10K minimum, rather than \$2K – motion passed
- Social media updates:
  - Recommendations to post on social media for scholarships
  - Cross-reference Facebook to Instagram; try to increase Instagram followers
  - Extra drink ticket if they follow SAFS on social media
- Discussed providing lapel pins to new members... But also for current members, and those who come to meetings? (currently 233 members)
  - Replacement pin would be \$5
- Member applications:
  - Rachael gave update on current applicants
    - Approximately 10, some still waiting on documentation
    - Working to confirm anniversary dates to include as many people as possible
  - Need virtual meeting after Oct 1 to be able to vote on new folks
    - Set for October 15, at 11:30am – 11:45am

- Website updates:
  - Discussed adding resources to online training page (NIJ, CSFRE, GapScience, ASCLD lightning talks, etc.) – motion passed
  - Job postings currently seem up to date but we will monitor to ensure they are added and removed in timely manner (have been delayed in the past)
  - We pay webmaster \$867/year, which includes domain name (\$15), SSL cert (\$12), web posting/maintenance (listed per hour – spent 24 hours on it) - \$120, plus maintenance per hour (rate is \$30/hour)
  - Committee page updates: date at top, Allison need to be Ethics committee chair, Membership chair is now Rachael, Amanda is now nominations, remove Tammy under ABC rep, Add Emily Boswell to TER
  - Recommendation to add short bios to Officer and BOD pages, as well as pictures for BOD members; spotlight the BOD/chair/officers on Instagram in the months leading up to the meeting, as a “get to know your BOD.” Collin is typing up a list of “get to know you” questions.
- We heard from Cathy Savage (MAAFS) that joint meeting in Roanoke is a no-go. Maybe 2029 or 2030, but we’re on our own for 2028. After much discussion and review of historical locations, Tanja is reaching out to HB to get hotel pricing for Charlotte, NC and Memphis, TN. Possibly review joint MAAFS in 2030.
- Reviewed feedback from the 2025 meeting
  - Discussed potential ways to combat the “clique” vibes
  - Discussed ANAB – possible options for doing a Quality Manager workshop (NC lab QM has volunteered)
  - Discussed workshops and registration fees, or just doing one big fee for the week.
  - Feedback from students/professors: was near finals
    - Will not be an issue for 2026 since conference is earlier in the year
- 2026 Annual Meeting
  - Conference is April 13-17
  - Registration to open Jan 1, price increase in early March
  - Final #'s due to hotel April 1