GEORGIA VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURAL

**TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

# 2017 BUSINESS SESSION MINUTES – MID-WINTER CONFERENCE

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2017**

1. The annual business session of the Georgia Vocational Agricultural Teachers Association was called to order by President Greg Waits at 12:48 p.m. on Wednesday, January 18, 2017 at Georgia FFA/ FCCLA Center in Covington, Georgia. There were 370 members present.
2. Elrick gave an update on Summer Conference 2017. Will take place July 9-12 at Savannah Riverfront Marriott. Room block will open soon and there will be 200 rooms. Board is currently working on off campus breakout options. There will also be cheaper breakfast options. The hotel is currently under renovations and will be remodeled by summer conference.
3. Kedrione Harris gave a GACTE update. He reported that the 2017 GACTE conference will be in Atlanta July 9-12, 2017. Georgia will also be the host of the ACTE Region II Conference, the conference will be held on Jekyll Island Sept 28th – Oct 1st.
4. Riley presented the membership report and financial report. Taxes have been filed with a CPA and organization is in good financial standing.
5. Tactical Plan Committee reports were made as follows:
6. Professional Membership – Report from Veronica Sanders - approved
7. Research and Development – Report from Meredith Arrington - approved
8. Public Relations and Communication – Report from Ruby McCracken - approved
9. Government Relations – Report from Rene Smith - approved
10. Professional Improvement – Report from Josh Daniel - approved
11. Professional Leadership – Report from Marcus Pollard - approved
12. Joel McKie of Hall Booth Smith came forward to give the PRC Report. McKie announced that FY18 had a 3 1/2 % growth in tax revenue and governor proposed 2% pay raise for teachers. Governors previous 3% from last year did not all go to teachers, about 40% of school systems used it for other purposes. There are 14 proposed new ag programs for coming school year. PRC focus is right now securing funds for $450,000 additional dollars for new programs and salary raise. Also working on End of Pathway Assessments.
13. Old Business. There was no Old Business.
14. New Business –
	1. Mr. Todd Dobson came forward with 2018 & 19 Summer Conference locations. Choices were between Classic Center in Athens, GA and Lake Lanier Islands in Buford, GA. Lake Lanier presented to the members on resort amenities. Dobson reports cost would be very similar between Athens and Lake Lanier. Lanier has more on site housing options, Athens would be different hotels close to Class Center. Danny Bartlett called the question to end discussion. Ballots were passed out and collected by board members. Lake Lanier Island won the 18 & 19 summer conference location.
15. Upon seeing no further business, Waits adjourned the 2017 Business Session of the Georgia Vocational Agricultural Teachers Association at 1:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Melissa Riley

GVATA Executive Secretary