**2025 SCC33 National Variety Testing Meeting**

***February 2-4, 2025 @ Crowne Plaza Melbourne Oceanfront - Melbourne, Florida.***

**2025 SCC33 Business Meeting**

02.04.2025

Ryan Budnik

1. SCC33 Project Renewal –
   1. Dr. Bruening gave a recorded video presentation on the renewal process for the SCC33 NIMSS project. This NIMSS project managed through the Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors allows for SCC33 members to apply for travel funding for the annual meeting, as well as establishes organizational structure for the group. The current project ends 09/30/2025. Dr. Bruening has begun the process of working with the new program administrative advisor, Loren Fisher of North Carolina State University, to renew the project for the 2025-2030 period. All members are requested to respond to the multi-state project renewal email inquiry later this year to maintain their membership in the group.
2. **Officer Transitions –**
   1. The group agreed to nominate successors to learn from the current officers to help with the eventual transition.
      1. Current Treasurer: Richard Bond (University of Arkansas)
      2. Proposed Treasurer Successor: Ryan Budnik (Iowa State University)
      3. Current Secretary: Dr. Bill Bruening (University of Kentucky)
      4. Proposed Secretary Successor: To be determined at the next SCC33 meeting.
3. **Banking and Taxes –**
   1. Budnik shared his findings after attempting to establish a new SCC33 bank account for SCC33 in Iowa in 2024. Historically the account has been held in Arkansas and does not currently have any active members as authorized signatories. The goal of the new checking account was to get a debit card to streamline event venue payments and support new authorized signatures. Many items were discovered during this investigation, as follows:
      1. To open a new business account you need a valid tax ID number and, in our case, a certificate of good standing.
      2. The federal tax ID number (EIN) on the Arkansas/SCC33 bank account is not valid.
      3. The Arkansas bank would not allow new signatories to be added and would not allow a new account to be opened without the certificate of good standing.
      4. No evidence of taxes being paid by SCC33 organization.
   2. Budnik consulted his Association’s attorney to clarify what would need to be done to satisfy these banking requirements. Budnik was provided a $2,000 attorney fee estimate to acquire both required documents below:
      1. File for new EIN
      2. File for non-profit tax exempt status [501(c)3]
   3. The SCC33 group agreed that acquiring these documents and establishing a new bank account in Iowa would be a logical next step for the group to become more financially responsible.
      1. A survey will be sent to all members to validate these initial findings, determine a name for the new non-profit organization as it does not have to be SCC33, and agree upon attorney fees.
      2. Upon completion of the survey Bond and Budnik will work on establishing the new bank account.
   4. A major concern that will need to be discussed with an attorney or tax expert would be the probability of owing back taxes.
4. **Update directory –**
   1. Budnik requested that all members of the group inform the officers of any changes with their personnel in effort to help maintain an accurate and up-to-date directory.
5. **2025 Service Award –**
   1. Budnik presented the 2025 SCC33 Service Award to Ryan Heiniger of University of North Carolina. Heiniger filled a vital role as co-chair for SCC33 during the uncertainty of Covid, and his leadership was instrumental in keeping the group together and relevant during those challenging times.
6. **Nomination of 2025-26 Co-Chairs –**
   1. Ryan Heiniger (University of North Carolina) and Brad Halladay (Medius Ag)
7. **Nomination of 2026-27 Co-Chairs –**
   1. Virginia Sykes (University of Tennessee) and Doug Warters (Juniper Systems/HarvestMaster)

**2025 Meeting Participants:**

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| **Name** | **Company/University** | **Attendance** |
| Jim Rouse | AcreShield | In Person |
| Gary Nijak | aerialPLOT | In Person |
| Todd Vincent | Almaco | In Person |
| Joseph Burch | Auburn University | In Person |
| Steve Hague | Auburn University | In Person |
| Henry Jordan | Auburn University | In Person |
| Jeff McCall | Clemson University | In Person |
| Kyle Stephens | Clemson University | In Person |
| Ed Asfeld | Colorado State University | Virtual |
| Sally Jones-Diamond | Colorado State University | In Person |
| Jason Webb | Colorado State University | In Person |
| Russell Nuti | Corteva | In Person |
| Robert Foley | Eagle Genetics | In Person |
| Ed Dahle | First Trials (MN) | In Person |
| Jame Thompson | Haldrup | In Person |
| Keely Avery | Iowa State University | In Person |
| Shawn Bryant | Iowa State University | In Person |
| Ryan Budnik | Iowa State University | In Person |
| Nathan Burks | Iowa State University | In Person |
| Logan Shonka | Iowa State University | In Person |
| Doug Warters | Juniper Systems | In Person |
| Bradley Halladay | Medius.RE | In Person |
| Christian Kapp | Michigan State University | Virtual |
| Randy Laurenz | Michigan State University | In Person |
| Paige Pickett | Michigan State University | In Person |
| Blake Shepard | Mixon Seed | In Person |
| Jeremy Davis | North Carolina State Extension | In Person |
| Taylor Brinkley | North Carolina State University | In Person |
| Eliza Hardy | North Carolina State University | In Person |
| Ryan Heiniger | North Carolina State University | In Person |
| Chad Deplazes | North Dakota State University | In Person |
| Darin Eisinger | North Dakota State University | In Person |
| Clair Keene | North Dakota State University | In Person |
| Steven Sick | Republic Seed Company | In Person |
| Jonathan Rupert | Smith Seed Services | In Person |
| Brandon Gerrish | Texas A&M University | In Person |
| Richard Bond | University of Arkansas | In Person |
| Jennifer Bearden | University of Florida | Registered |
| Sudeep Sidhu | University of Florida | In Person |
| Julia Piaskowski | University of Idaho | Virtual |
| Clay Harper | University of Illinois | Registered |
| Cam Kenimer | University of Kentucky | In Person |
| Dalton Mertz | University of Kentucky | In Person |
| Andre Froes de Borja Reis | University of Missouri | In Person |
| Mark Wieberg | University of Missouri | In Person |
| Ryan H Blair | University of Tennessee | Registered |
| Andrew Lawson | University of Tennessee | In Person |
| David Mcintosh | University of Tennessee | In Person |
| Isaac Mirahki | University of Tennessee | In Person |
| Virginia Sykes | University of Tennessee | In Person |
| Adam Roth | University of Wisconsin-Madison | Virtual |
| Brandon Jorgensen | Wintersteiger | In Person |
| Brian Ward | Zurn Harvesting | In Person |