2023 OCIA AGMM Annual General Membership Meeting

January 19th, 2023 Ames, Iowa

Please note the January 6th deadline for the enclosed Registration Form and Voting Proxy Form



Organic Crop Improvement Association International, Inc.

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Paper copies of this AGMM packet and past AGMM minutes are available upon request.

Proposed 2023 AGMM Agenda – Ames, IA

Wednesday, January 18th, 2023: OCIA Board Meeting & Welcome Reception

International Board of Directors Meeting, Radisson Boardroom 8AM-5PM Registration/Welcome Reception, *Inland Room*

Thursday, January 19th, 2023: OCIA AGMM General Session, Heartland Room

7:30 AM **Registration Continues**

8AM-9AM Welcome & Call AGMM to Order

Establishment of Quorum/Election Committee

Explanation of Minute Keeping Process & Referee Duties

Approval of Minute Keeping Process Selection of Referees for Minutes (2) Approval of Recording the Meeting Approval of Proposed Agenda Approval of 2022 AGMM Minutes Election of 2023 Election Committee

Reports: President, ED, Secretary, Treasurer, IRC, External & Internal Committees

Presentation of 2023 Budget

9AM-10AM **Budget Discussion Workshop**

Presentation of Board Candidates, Ballot Explanation/Election

10-10:20 AM Break

5PM-7PM

10:20-11:30 R&E Presentation: Micro Grant & Scholarship Recipients, Farmer of the Year, R&E Budget

11:30 AM Visit R&E Auction and Break

Noon Lunch, Inland Room

1:00 PM Presentation of any Bylaw/Standard Changes

2:00 PM **Budget Discussion & Approval**

AGMM Policy Amendments & Unfinished Business

Announcements of New Board Members

Presentation of 2024 AGMM Adjournment of 2023 AGMM

International Board Meeting/Election of Officers 4:00 PM

5:30 PM Cash Bar Opens

6:00 PM AGMM Closing Banquet / R&E Auction, *Inland Room*

Fri/Sat, January 20-21, 2023:

Practical Farmers of Iowa Conference

OCIA International, Inc.

Organic Crop Improvement Association

1340 N. Cotner Blvd., Lincoln NE 68505 USA
Phone: (402) 477-2323 Fax: (402) 477-4325
E-mail: info@ocia.org Web Site: http://www.ocia.org

2023 Annual General Membership Meeting Notification

In accordance with Article 6.1 of the OCIA International Bylaws, OCIA International will convene the 2023 Annual General Membership Meeting at the Radisson Ames Conference Center at ISU in Ames, IA on January 19th, 2023.

General information, a preliminary meeting agenda, proposed bylaw changes, official voting proxy forms and a Board of Director nomination form will be a part of the AGMM packet and distributed to members early December, 2022.

If you are unable to attend this important event, please contact a delegate who will be attending and assign your proxy voting rights with clear instructions on your voting intentions as stated in the OCIA International Bylaws, Article 7.5.

- 7.5 PROXIES: Every member holding voting rights shall be entitled to vote at any meeting of OCIA International by proxy. This proxy must be assigned to a specific member (Chapter, Community Grower Group, Processor/Handler, or Producer At Large) or his/her delegate. No one is allowed to hold the proxied voting rights of more than two other members. A voting member (Chapter, Community Grower Group, Processor/Handler, or Producer At Large) may hold a maximum of two (2) proxies, plus their own vote. All proxies shall be in writing and signed and dated. Proxies are validated by the Election Committee for one meeting only.
- 7.5.1 Proxy Assignment: To establish quorum, proxy forms shall be mailed 45 days prior to AGMM. Members are encouraged to delegate proxies with specific voting instructions. All proxied voting rights not specifically registered with the Secretary or assigned prior to the call of the AGMM shall revert to the Election Committee solely for establishment of quorum.

The proxy form is to be completed and sent to the OCIA International office.

Sincerely,

Leslie Dul, Secretary OCIA International, Inc

AGMM Registration – Ames, Iowa Radisson Hotel Ames Conference Center at ISU January 19th, 2023

Main Contact Name		
Membership Type 🔲 I	Direct Associate	☐ Supporting
Contact's Mailing Addres	S	
Town/City	State/Provi	nce Postal Code
Phone:	Email:	
	f attendees. If membership fee h right to use voting paddles asso	has been paid, then any/all of the attendees ciated with this registration.
Name		
Phone:	Email:	
Name	Email:	
Phone:	EIIIaII:	
Name		
Phone:	Email:	
Name Phone:	Email:	-
Thone.		
Attendees # \$ Dietary Restrictions: To	USD (\$100 USD)	reception, all meals and breaks) e let us know if you have any dietary
	, please register by January 6 th sent to:	, 2023. Checks may be made payable to
OCIA International		
Attn: Deana McKinstry		
1340 N. Cotner Blvd.		
Lincoln, Nebraska 68505 USA		Total \$(USD)
USA		1 υιαι φ (USD)



OCIA International, Inc.

Organic Crop Improvement Association

1340 North Cotner ♦ Lincoln NE 68505 ♦ USA Phone: (402) 477-2323 ♦ Fax: (402) 477-4325 E-mail: info@ocia.org ◆ Web Site: http://www.ocia.org

2023 OCIA ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING (AGMM) **VOTING PROXY FORM**

This proxy form is only valid for the 2023 Annual General Membership Meeting (AGMM). Only a designated delegate of a member (Chapter, Processor/Handler, Producer-at-Large, Community Grower Group, General Member) may hold a proxy. A voting member (Chapter, Processor/Handler, Producer-at-Large, Community Grower Group, General Member) may hold a maximum of two (2) proxies, plus their own vote. (See OCIA Bylaw 7.5.) All proxy forms must be signed and dated by 1) the person assigning proxy rights and 2) the delegate receiving proxy rights.

You are encouraged to provide designated proxy holders with instructions on how you want to vote. Proxied voting rights must be registered prior to the Call to Order of the AGMM. (See Bylaw 7.5.1.) You may register your proxy by faxing a copy of the signed and dated proxy to the International office. To assist the Election Committee in assuring the establishment of a quorum so that transaction of AGMM business may begin on schedule, please register your proxy by January 6th, 2023. If submitting proxy form by fax or scanned e-mail, the transmitted document must bear a header line indicating the date of transmission. The proxy assignor and the delegate receiving proxy should retain copies of the signed proxy form. However, if, for some reason, you do not wish your proxy voted, you may designate the Election Committee as your designated proxy holder and your vote will then be used solely for establishment of quorum.

Please note the record date for determining members entitled to vote shall be thirty days before the start of the Annual General Membership Meeting (See OCIA Bylaw 7.1). To participate as a member in the 2023 AGMM, dues must be paid by January 1st, 2023.

PLEASE PRINT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION COMPLETELY AND LEGIBLY

I,	of	,	
I, of of		Name of Entity Assigning Proxy Rights	Country of Entity
hereby designate	, represen	nting	_,
Name of Delegate F	Receiving Proxy Rights	Name of Entity Receiving Proxy Rights	Country of Entity
a member of OCIA Internatio	nal, to hold my proxy	vote for the 2023 AGMM.	
Signature of Person Assigning	g Proxy Rights:		
	Date:		
Signature of Designated Dele	gate Receiving Proxy I	Rights:	
		Date:	
Send to:	OCIA International		
		d.; Lincoln, NE 68505 USA	
	Phone: (402) 477-23	323 Fax: (402) 477-4325	
******(BELOV	V) FOR SECRETARY, E	ELECTION COMMITTEE & OFFICE USE ONL	Y*****
Received:	Proxy Assignor	's Category of Affiliation	
Number of Proxy Votes Entitled	Validated b	by Election Committee Member	
Membership Dues Paid			
EN-OS-F-072 Revision G	Elec	ctions Voting Proxy Form	Page 1 o



OCIA International, Inc.

Organic Crop Improvement Association

1340 North Cotner ◆ Lincoln NE 68505 ◆ USA Phone: (402) 477-2323 ◆ Fax: (402) 477-4325 E-mail: info@ocia.org ◆ Web Site: http://www.ocia.org

OCIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATION FORM

All board nominations must be in compliance with the following OCIA International Bylaws:

- **8.3 NOMINATIONS OF ELECTED POSITIONS:** The Board of Directors shall be elected by the Association at the Annual General Membership Meeting.
 - **8.3.1 Qualifications:** Only OCIA Members (of Chapters, Community Grower Groups, Processors/Handlers, and Producers At Large) may be nominated. Nominees must forward to the Chair of the Nominating Committee a written petition signed by at least 7 OCIA Members (of Chapters, Community Grower Groups, Processor/Handlers, Producers At Large and General Members) prior to the closing of the nominating period. Each entity (Chapters, Community Grower Groups, Processor/Handlers, Producers At Large and General Members) may have one nominee for the Board of Directors. If two or more people wish to be nominees and are Members of different entities but are also Members of the same entity, only one of them may be nominated.
 - **8.3.2** Any Member (of Chapters, Community Grower Groups, Processor/Handlers, Producers At Large and General Members) may be nominated for an elected position. Member may be nominated by:
 - a. The Nominating Committee;
 - b. Any directly certified Member (of Chapters, Community Grower Groups, Processor/Handlers, Producers At Large and General Members) of the Association may nominate any other qualified (of Chapters, Community Grower Groups, Processor/Handlers, Producers At Large and General Members);
 - c. Any directly certified Member (of Chapters, Community Grower Groups, Processor/Handlers, Producers At Large and General Members) may nominate by petition himself/herself

Please Print Legibly!	
Nominee's Name:	
Nominee's Member Type: (check the box applica ☐ Chapter ☐ Community Grower Group ☐ Pr	able to Nominee) cocessor/Handler
Mailing Address: Rural Route #: Box:	Post Office Box Number:
Street:	
	State/Province:
Country:	Postal Code:
Telephone (include country, city, & area codes wl	hen applicable):
Fax (include country, city, & area codes when app	plicable):
E-mail Address:	

This information will be pr	ovided to the voting membership p	rior to the election.
Biography attached? ☐ Ye	s 🗆 No	
Nominator: Any one of the	categories as listed in 8.3.2. a-c of the	Bylaws.
Nominator's Name:		
Affiliation:(Chapter, C	Community Grower Group, Processor/Handler,	Producer-at-Large, General Member)
in writing if I withdraw my c	andidacy.	ectors election and will notify OCIA International
Nominee's Signature:		
Date:	(Month Day Y	
	(Month Day Y	ear)
SIGNATURES OF SEVEN	OCIA MEMBERS (Petitioners) AND	THEIR RESPECTIVE ENTITY
Name (please print)	Signature	Respective Entity
1.		
2.		
3		
7.		

Submit a brief biography (maximum of one page) including your qualifications and previous/current involvement with OCIA International and state the reason why you chose/agreed to become a candidate.

Send the completed form to: OCIA International, Inc. 1340 North Cotner Lincoln, NE 68505 USA

OCIA Research & Education, Inc.



Organic Crop Improvement Association

1340 N. Cotner Blvd. ◆ Lincoln NE 68505 ◆ USA Phone: (402) 477-2323 ◆ Fax: (402) 477-4325

E-mail: <u>atunink@ocia.org</u> ◆ Web Site: <u>http://www.ocia.org</u>

2023 R&E Annual General Membership Meeting Notification

In accordance with Article 6.1 of the OCIA Research and Education Bylaws, OCIA Research and Education will convene the 2023 Annual General Membership Meeting on January 19th, 2023.

General meeting information, a preliminary meeting agenda, proposed bylaw changes, official voting proxy form and Board of Directors nomination is included in this packet.

If you are unable to attend this very important event, please contact a delegate who will be attending and assign your proxy voting rights with clear instructions on your voting intentions as stated in the OCIA Research and Education Bylaws, Article 6.5.

6.5 PROXIES: Every member holding voting rights shall be entitled to vote at any meeting of OCIA Research and Education by proxy. This proxy must be assigned to a specific member (Chapter, Community Grower Group, Processor/Handler, or Producer At Large) or his/her delegate. No one is allowed to hold the proxied voting rights of more than two other members. A voting member (Chapter, Community Grower Group, Processor/Handler, or Producer At Large) may hold a maximum of two (2) proxies, plus their own vote. All proxies shall be in writing and signed and dated. Proxies are validated by the Election Committee for one meeting only.

6.5.1 Proxy Assignment: To establish quorum, proxy forms shall be mailed 45 days prior to AGMM. Members are encouraged to delegate proxies with specific voting instructions. All proxied voting rights not specifically registered with the Secretary or assigned prior to the call of the AGMM shall revert to the Election Committee solely for establishment of quorum.

The proxy form is to be completed and sent to the OCIA International office.

Sincerely,

Jackie Keller, Secretary
OCIA Research & Education

OCIA RESEARCH AND EDUCATION, Inc. ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING (AGMM) VOTING PROXY FORM

This proxy form is only valid for the 2023 Research and Education, Inc Annual General Membership Meeting (AGMM). Every entity holding voting rights shall be entitled to vote at any meeting of OCIA Research and Education, Inc. by proxy. This proxy must be assigned to a specific member or his/her delegate. No member is allowed to hold a total of more than two (2) proxies. All proxies shall be in writing and signed and dated. Proxies are validated by the Election Committee for one meeting only.

You are encouraged to provide designated proxy holders with instructions on how you want to vote. To establish quorum, proxy forms shall be mailed to the membership 45 days prior to the AGMM. Members are encouraged to delegate proxies with specific voting instructions. Proxies may be:

- a. assigned directly to another members to be voted on the floor, or;
- b. assigned to the Secretary to be held by the elections committee solely for the purpose of establishing quorum

You may register your proxy by faxing a copy of the signed and dated proxy to the International office. If submitting proxy form by fax or scanned e-mail, the transmitted document must bear a header line indicating the date of transmission. The proxy assignor and the delegate receiving proxy should retain copies of the signed proxy form.

PLEASE PRINT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION COMPLETELY AND LEGIBLY

I,	of	,	
Name o	of R &E Member Assigning Proxy Rights	Name of Entity Assigning Proxy Rights	Country of Entity
hereby desig	nate, representing	g	
Nai	nate, representing ne of R &E Delegate Receiving Proxy Rights	Name of Entity Receiving Proxy Rights	Country of Entity
a member of	OCIA Research & Education Inc, to hold my prox	y vote for the 2023 AGMM.	
Signature of	Person Assigning Proxy Rights:		
	Date:		
Signature of	Designated Delegate Receiving Proxy Rights:		
	Ι	Date:	
Send to:	,		
	Attn: Angie Tunink	A	
	1340 N. Cotner Blvd.; Lincoln, NE 68505 US Phone: (402) 477-2323 Fax: (402) 477-432		
	Filolie. (402) 477-2323 Fax. (402) 477-432	25 E-man. atumnik@ocia.org	
:	*******(BELOW) FOR SECRETARY, ELECT	ION COMMITTEE & OFFICE USE ONLY	*****
Received: _	Proxy Assignor's Categ	gory of Affiliation	
Number of F	Proxy Votes Entitled Validated by Ele	ection Committee Member	
Membership	Dues Paid		



OCIA Research & Education, Inc.

Organic Crop Improvement Association

1340 N. Cotner Blvd. ♦ Lincoln NE 68505 ♦ USA Phone: (402) 477-2323 ♦ Fax: (402) 477-4325

E-mail: <u>info@ocia.org</u> ◆ Web Site: <u>http://www.ocia.org</u>

OCIA Research and Education, Inc BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATION FORM

All board nominations must be in compliance with the following OCIA Research and Education, Inc Bylaws:

- 7.2 NOMINATING PROCESS: The Nominating Committee may receive names from any member.
- 7.3 NOMINATIONS OF ELECTED POSITIONS: The Board of Directors shall be elected by the Association at the Annual General Membership Meeting.
 - 7.3.1 Qualifications: Only members of OCIA Research and Education, Inc. may be nominated. Nominees must forward to the Chair of the Nominating Committee a written petition signed by at least 7 members prior to the closing of the nominating period.
 - 7.3.2 Any member may be nominated for an elected position. A member may be nominated by:
 - a. The Nominating Committee
 - b. Any member;
 - c. Any member may nominate by petition himself/herself

Please Print Legibly!			
OCIA Research and Education Inc, Nominee's Name:			
Mailing Address: Rural Route #: Box:	Post Office Box Number:		
Street:			
Town/City: State/Province:			
Country: Postal Code: _			
Telephone (include country, city, & area codes when applicable):		
Fax (include country, city, & area codes when applicable):			
E-mail Address:			
Submit a brief biography (maximum of one page) including y involvement with OCIA International and state the reason w candidate. This information will be provided to the voting n Biography attached? Yes \Boxed No, reason why not	your qualifications and previous/current why you chose/agreed to become a nembership prior to the election.		

parties as listed in 7.3.2. of the	e OCIA Research And Education, Inc Bylaws.	
ntor's Name:		
e a candidate for the OCIA Research and Education, Inc, Board of Directors election and will notify OCIA Research and Education, Inc in writing if I withdraw my candidacy.		
:		
(Month Day	Year)	
N MEMBERS (Petitioners)	AND THEIR RESPECTIVE ENTITY	
Signature	Respective Entity	
	or the OCIA Research and Educatesearch and Education, Inc in with Month Day N MEMBERS (Petitioners)	

Send the completed form to:
OCIA Research and Education, Inc
Attn: Angie Tunink
1340 N. Cotner Blvd.
Lincoln, NE 68505
USA

INDEX TABLE FOR 2023 AGMM BYLAWS PROPOSALS 2023 AGMM BYLAWS PROPOSALS

No.	OCIA	Submission	Author	Description
	Bylaw	Type		
B-1	9.4	Proposal	Board of Directors	Proposed change to limitation of service to allow a Board member to serve up to three consecutive terms, and no more than nine years consecutively.

BYLAWS AMENDMENT PROPOSAL

Section 1.

Name of Proposer: OCIA International Board of Directors

Date: November 8, 2022

Section 2. Statement of Proposal

The following is a proposed amendment to Section 9.4 of the 2022 OCIA International Bylaws. *Italicized and bold text* reflects changes or additions to the existing Bylaws, and deletion of words is represented by strikeout or underline of existing Bylaws text.

Article: 9 Board of Directors

Section: 9.4

9.4 LIMITATION OF SERVICE: In no event shall a Director serve more than six *nine* years consecutively. Election by the membership shall be limited to two three consecutive terms.

Section 3. Purpose of Proposal

The purpose of this proposal is:

- To extend the term limits for Board of Directors members to nine years, enabling greater consistency in the Board and maintaining the organizational history of OCIA Intl.
- To preserve the contribution of long-term service and knowledge of OCIA Intl, adding valuable stability to the organization and providing essential training to new Board members.

Section 4. History

OCIA transitioned from a large Board of Directors to a smaller one to increase organizational nimbleness. However, it becomes problematic when multiple Board members "term-out" or decline to run for reelection. Finding candidates to run for election has been difficult and it takes time to learn the intricacies of OCIA Intl. and the Board responsibilities. A maximum of two terms (six years) may contribute to a lack of stability and deep understanding in the Board when there is frequent Board member turnover. This is especially true when a new Board member joins mid-term, shortening their maximum service length even further.

Section 5. Related Effect of proposed bylaw amendment to other OCIA Bylaw Sections

No other Bylaw sections will be affected by the proposed change to Section 9.4.

Section 6. Miscellaneous

None

Section 7. Summary Argument

Extending the term limits for Board of Directors members to nine years will enable greater consistency in the Board and maintain the organizational history of OCIA Intl. A longer service term will preserve the contribution of long-term service and knowledge, add valuable stability to the organization and ensure that new Board members will be adequately trained by more seasoned members.

Election Q&A and Zoom Etiquette

Who are Voting Members

Voting members are associates who have paid their dues according to their membership category as defined in article 4 of the OCIA Bylaws and have voting privileges as defined in articles 7.4.1-5. Voting members include: Certified Producers at Large, Certified Processor/Handlers, Community Grower Groups, Cooperatives & Chapters who have paid their membership dues

How many votes do the different members get?

If membership dues are paid, Processors/ Handlers, Producers at Large & Cooperatives have one vote per member. Community Grower Groups are entitled 5 votes. Community Grower Groups or Cooperatives who are members of a chapter count only as a single member towards the chapters voting rights. **Chapters:** Ten votes for the first 10 Members, 2 votes for each additional 10 certified Members, and Chapter CGGs will be counted as 1 vote for each 3 Chapter CGGs.

Who can be a Voting Delegate

Delegates are individuals who are from within the member organization: for chapters and CGG's this implies that a delegate will be a member of the chapter or of the collective. For Processor/Handlers or Producers at Large; a delegate is an individual who has a structural link with the member such as an employee, share holder, marketing agent, or a consultant under contract or retainer.

If a Member has more than one vote, can the votes be split up between delegates?

At an in-person meeting, voting paddles can be divided between chapter delegates at the registration table. During a virtual meeting, only one person will be able to hold the votes and voting will be done by verbal roll-call and not paddles.

What if a member can't attend the AGMM, can they still vote?

Ýes. Every member holding voting rights is entitled to vote at the AGMM by proxy. The member must find a delegate that would be willing to carry their proxy and vote according to their wishes. Remember, Voting members can only carry two proxies in addition to their own votes. This means that a chapter can only carry two proxies and not each delegate of the chapter. Proxies must be fully completed and emailed to OCIA by January 6^{th} .

How can I learn more about Zoom before the annual meeting?

Zoom.com has several tutorials on their website. Just contact OCIA staff if you would like a one-on-one run through, to make sure everything is working on your computer before the meeting.

What is meant by Zoom etiquette?

Not all attendees will have audio and video capabilities during the AGMM webinar — only the panelists (board, voting delegates, staff and election committee). If you do have audio capabilities, please stay on 'mute' until you speak, in order to eliminate background noise and know that everyone will be able to see your surroundings when your camera is on. For attendees who do not have audio/video, questions can still be asked by typing in the chat box area (visible to all) or the Q&A area (visible only to the moderator).

Organic Crop Improvement Association International, Inc.

AGMM Policies

As of February 22, 2022



OCIA INTERNATIONAL

1340 N. Cotner Blvd. Lincoln, NE 68505 U.S.A. Ph: (402) 477-2323 • Fax: (402) 477-4325 www.ocia.org

"We, producers, handlers & consumers of organic food and fiber, build Environmental stewardship through ethical partnership with nature

1989 AGMM Manzanillo, Colima, Mexico – February 16 - 20

89AGM006 While OCIA supports farmers in transition, especially at the chapter level, OCIA will not be involved in any labeling or oral representation of transitional products.

1997 AGMM Cedar Rapids, Iowa – March 11 -15

- **97AGMM-01** That reciprocity should be expanded to recognize other certifying organizations. And to expand mutual recognition to other certifying organizations that are determined as equivalent through accreditation, with final approval by the Board.
- **97AGMM38** That the OCIA International Board of Directors as one body shall be required to attach their recommendation to all Bylaw amendment proposals when presented at the AGMM's.

2000 AGMM Antigua, Guatemala – February 29 – March 4

00AGMM-04 It shall be the goal of OCIA to render a decision of Certification by OCIA International, after approval of the applicants certification file by the CDT and no later than thirty days after the applicant's certification file arrived at the office of OCIA International for review. Any certification file that requires more information from the applicant or is incomplete will not be subject to this policy.

2003 AGMM Oaxaca, Mexico - February 21 - March 1

03AGMM-01 It shall be the policy of OCIA that the "policy manual" as referred to in the Bylaws shall have two parts; Board policy and policy passed by the AGMM. AGMM policy can be passed, changed or revoked only by the AGMM.

2004 AGMM – Lincoln, Nebraska – February 10 - 13

04AGMM-01 Each year The Board of Directors shall maintain involvement in the development of the AGMM packet/mail out and shall specially review the Standard amendments proposals to ensure their appropriateness.

2005 AGMM – San Jose, Costa Rica – March 07-11

05AGMM-01 Certification complaints shall not be entertained on the floor of the AGMM.

2006 AGMM - LaCrosse, Wisconsin Feb. 20 - 23

- **06AGMM-03** The BoD annually at their November meeting evaluate the activity of Standing Committees, evaluate the needs of OCIA and the financial ability of the organization to determine which chairs and/or committee members receive financial reimbursement to attend the AGMM.
- **06AGMM-05** All policy amendments have to be written in a hard copy and handed in to the secretary and chair prior to being introduced to the floor.
- **06AGMM-07** It shall be the policy of OCIA that in the future, when the BoD and Finance Committee present the budget proposal for the current year that they also present a 1 year financial plan.

2007 AGMM Lincoln, Nebraska - March 1-3

- **07AGMM-01** All AGMM polices passed at an AGMM shall be published once in the next publication of the "Communicator".
- **07AGMM-02** At the discretion of each year's Board, a committee of the Board shall review the AGMM packet information for correctness prior to its printing.
- **07AGMM-03** Requests for Proposals for the location of the AGMM following the current year shall be solicited immediately following the AGMM with a closing date for consideration of July 1st of each year. Subsequently, the Board of Directors shall make a determination of the location and with the assistance of the AGMM committee office liaison make the appropriate arrangements.
- **07AGMM-04** A certified chapter associate shall pay User Fees at the current set rate for all products sold that were certified through OCIA to any of the certification/verification programs offered by OCIA International. (JAS Certification being exempt due to MAFF regulations). This includes:

Transaction Certificate sales and non Transaction Certificate sales.

A certified chapter associate does not have to pay User Fees to OCIA International when:

1. Any product is sold to the conventional (non organic) market or fed to the producer's own livestock.

2008 AGMM Huatulco, Mexico – February 28-March 1

- **08AGMM-05** Direct the Board to construct the committee mandates in a way that will allow the committee members to understand that OCIA is governed by its Bylaws and that committee actions may not exceed the limitations of the Bylaws."
- **08AGMM-07** Regionally specific approved product lists, if approved by the Certification Specialists and filed annually at the International office, will be allowed. If an input is re-evaluated and approval is removed, chapter administrators, regional offices and approved inspectors will be notified.

2009 AGMM Lincoln, Nebraska – February 7-9

- **09AGMM-04** It shall be the policy of OCIA Intl that Spanish translations of Standards, Bylaws, and AGMM Packets are completed and distributed with the timeline that is designated by our Standards and Bylaws for the original English documents.
- **09AGMM-04** It shall be the policy of OCIA INTL that simultaneous translation for all members be provided for the entirety of OCIA INTL AGMMs.
- **09AGMM-06** All AGMM meals to be organic when possible and to include as many local food sources as possible. OCIA R&E will facilitate in writing guidelines to work with local chefs to source and use local and organic foods.

2012 AGMM LaCrosse, Wisconsin – February 20-22

12AGMM-02 Move to make AGMM Policy, during budget discussion, when an additional expenditure or a decrease to income is proposed, it has to be offset by additional income or a reduction in an expense item. This will ultimately result in no negative effect in the bottom line.

2013 AGMM Lincoln, Nebraska – February 13-15

13AGMM-03 This AGMM requests that it is policy that OCIA's board policy of no net loss of income stemming from a budgetary change be sent out with the AGMM materials to the full membership.

13AGMM-04 Policy that the accounting department invoices producers on the highest value crop in multiple cropping situations. The accounting department will track the funds collected and report this information at the 2014 AGMM.

2014 AGMM San Antonio, Texas – February 5-7

- **14AGMM-01** Directs the OCIA International Board of Directors to look into how to and to start collecting sales figures from chapter processors. Then use the information to develop and present at the 2015 AGMM, a tiered fee schedule to possibly replace the current sales based user fees.
- **14AGMM-03** The OCIA Board of Directors and Staff continue to work with the world organic community to support the rejection and/or control of GMO technology and its adoption.
- **14AGMM-04** The AGMM minutes shall be available by request both electronically or in hardcopy once refereed within 60 days of the close of the AGMM.

2017 AGMM Council Bluffs, Iowa – February 8-9

17AGMM-01 Whereas checkoffs have historically been damaging to small and medium sized farmers; Whereas the organic checkoff proposal was made with very little input from farmers; Whereas organic farmers are innovative and creative and have a history of finding solid solutions to the community's problems, we can do better at organic research and promotion than a mandatory adoption of a failed federal program. Resolution: The members of the Organic Crop Improvement Association oppose the creation of an organic checkoff.

2019 AGMM Dubuque, Iowa – February 6-7

19AGMM-01 As livestock producing members of OCIA, we must revise and/or simplify the organic system plan (OSP) so as to make effective organic livestock policies which in effect will strengthen all of organic agriculture. The current overly complex application process is vulnerable to industrial agricultural dominance.

2021 AGMM Online – February 9

- **21AGMM-01** Have a virtual option for AGMM, for those who cannot be there in person, including participation but not voting.
- **21AGMM-02** Re-evaluate initiating the Rainforest Alliance application based on a cost-benefit analysis.

2022 AGMM Online – February 22

22AGMM-01 At least one board member attend at least one meeting sponsored by an organic regulator a year to gather information, network and represent OCIA members' policy perspectives. The attendee would report back on activities to the following year's AGMM.