

2016 OCIA AGMM Annual General Membership Meeting

**February 10th-11th, 2016
Holiday Inn Bloomington
Airport South
Bloomington, Minnesota**



**Organic Crop Improvement
Association International, Inc.**

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- Copies of The 2015 AGMM Minutes will be provided upon request. Copies will also be made available at the 2016 AGMM.
- Please complete the Registration Form on page 2, and return it to the OCIA International office with your registration fee.
- If you are not attending the AGMM and are eligible to vote, please complete the appropriate Voting Proxy Form and return it to your designated proxy holder with instructions on how you want to vote

AGMM General Information

February 10th-11th, 2016

Holiday Inn Bloomington Airport South

1201 W 94th Street

Bloomington, MN 55431-2369

Tel: 952-884-8211 **Our Group Name is: Organic Crop Improvement Association**

\$89 (USD) per night for Standard Room

OCIA's block rate for these rooms is good until January 15, 2016. After that date, rates and availability will change.

Airport & Shuttle Information

Minneapolis – St Paul International Airport (Airport Code: MSP)

There is a complimentary hotel airport shuttle. Complimentary parking is also available at the hotel.

Registration

Postmarked prior to Jan. 15

Delegate (Voting Participant)... \$ 350 USD

Non-Voting Participant \$ 250 USD

Postmarked on or after Jan. 15

Delegate (Voting Participant)... \$ 400 USD

Non-Voting Participant \$ 300 USD

Additional Welcome Reception Tickets.....\$20 USD/person

Additional Closing Banquet Tickets \$25 USD/person

Daily Rate

Non-Voting Daily Admittance..... \$ 150 (USD)

Rate includes meeting, workshops, breaks, b-fast, lunch and dinner for the day.

Please Return this form to the International office with payment

AGMM Registration – Bloomington, MN

Feb. 10th-11th, 2016

Main Contact Name _____
Contact's Mailing Address _____
Town/City _____ State/Province _____ Postal Code _____
Telephone # _____ Fax # _____
Email Address: _____

A delegate is a participant with voting privileges as determined by the OCIA Bylaws.

Name _____ Delegate _____ Non-Voting _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____
Name _____ Delegate _____ Non-Voting _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____
Name _____ Delegate _____ Non-Voting _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____
Name _____ Delegate _____ Non-Voting _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____

Registration Fees:

- Delegates (Voting Participants) # _____ \$ _____ USD (\$350 USD before Jan. 15; \$400 USD after)
 Non-Voting Participants # _____ \$ _____ USD (\$250 USD before Jan. 15; \$300 USD after)

Dietary Restrictions: 100% of the food served will be organic. To help us plan accordingly, please let us know if you have any dietary restrictions: gluten-free _____ vegan _____ other _____

The rates above include all meals, breaks, Welcome Reception & Closing Banquet. If you are a non-voting member and will not be attending the entire AGMM, daily rates and the Welcome Reception/Closing Banquet are separated out below.

- Non-Voting, Daily Admittance (\$150 USD/day) Check Day(s): Feb 10th ___ Feb 11th ___
 Additional Closing Banquet Tickets (\$25 USD/person) \$ _____
 February 9th Welcome Reception (\$20 USD/person for people purchasing daily rate) \$ _____

Make Check Payable to OCIA International and Send To:

**OCIA International
Attn: Mark Gooden
1340 N. Cotner Blvd.
Lincoln, Nebraska 68505
USA**

Total \$ _____ (USD)



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>

2016 Annual General Membership Meeting Notification

In accordance with Article 6.1 of the OCIA International Bylaws, OCIA International will convene the 2016 Annual General Membership Meeting at the Holiday Inn Bloomington Airport South in Bloomington, Minnesota, February 10th-11th, 2016.

The packet of general information, a preliminary meeting agenda, proposed bylaw changes, official voting proxy form and Board of Directors nomination form will be mailed with the AGMM packets in mid-December, 2015.

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 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,

Demetria Stephens
Secretary
OCIA International, Inc

Proposed 2016 AGMM Agenda - Bloomington, MN

(Breaks at the discretion of the chair)

Monday, Feb. 8th

8:00-5:30 PM International Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, Feb. 9th

8:00-5:30 PM Research & Education (R&E) Board Meeting
International Board of Directors Meeting

6:00-9:00 PM Registration

6:30 - 10:00 PM Welcome Reception

Wednesday, Feb. 10th

7:30 AM Registration Continues

7:45 AM Breakfast

8:00 AM Welcome by Meg Moynihan, Minnesota Department of Agriculture

Call AGMM to Order

Election Committee Report and Establishment of Quorum

Explanation of Minute Keeping Process & Duties of Referees

Approval of Minute Keeping Process

Selection of Referees (2) for Minutes

Approval of Recording the Meeting

Approval of Proposed Agenda

Approval of 2015 AGMM Minutes

Election of 2016 Election Committee (3 members)

Reports: President, ED, Secretary, Controller, IRC

MCDC, Promotions, Seed, & Accreditation

Treasurer/Finance Committee and Presentation of 2016 Budget

9:50-10:00 AM

Break

10:00-10:45 AM

Meg Moynihan, OFRF Survey Results

11:00-12:00 PM

Keynote Speaker, Bart Hall 'Our Most Important Crop -- Cultivating New Generations of Producers

12:00-1:00 PM

Lunch Buffet

1:00-3:00 PM

R&E AGMM

1:00-5:00 PM

Trade Show

1:30-2:15 PM

'Certification 101' followed by Q&A with Minnesota organic farmers and an organic inspector

2:15-3:00 PM

Ib Hagsten, 'Organic Matter Matters'

3:00-3:15 PM

Break

3:15-5:00 PM

MCDC Training

3:15-4:00 PM

Bart Hall, 'Thinking Like an Owner'

4:15-5:00 PM

Bart Hall, 'Organic is a Marketing Decision'

5:15-6:00 PM

Daryl Hinderman, 'Weed Control on Organic Farms'

Recess for the Day

6:00-7:00 PM

Dinner Buffet

7:30 PM

Bylaws Workshop

Budget Workshop

Thursday, Feb 11th

7:45 AM	Breakfast
8:00 AM	AGMM Resumes Selection of Two Referees for Minutes Standards Committee Report and Standard Amendments Closure of Nominations Presentation of Candidates for Intl & R&E Board
9:50-10:00 AM	Break Explanation of Voting Process Election of New Board Members 2016 Budget Discussion & Workshop
12:00 PM	Lunch Buffet
1:00 PM	Bylaws Committee Report and Introduction to the Bylaws Approval of 2016 Budgets
2:30-3:15 PM	Bart Hall, 'Chemistry and Behavior of Soil Nutrients'
3:00-3:15 PM	Break
3:15-4:00 PM	Bart Hall, 'Optimizing the Nutritional Value of Food and Feeds' 2016 Goal Setting Session AGMM Policy Amendments & Unfinished Business Election Committee Results Presentation of 2017 AGMM
5:15 PM	Adjournment of 2016 AGMM
5:30-7:00 PM	R&E Board Meeting / Election of Officers International Board Meeting / Election of Officers
6:30 PM	Cash Bar Opens
7:00-11:00 PM	AGMM Closing Banquet



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>

2016 OCIA ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING (AGMM)
VOTING PROXY FORM

This proxy form is only valid for the 2016 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 **February 1st, 2016**. Bring the signed proxy form with you to the AGMM. 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 2016 AGMM, dues must be paid by **January 1st, 2016**.

PLEASE PRINT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION COMPLETELY AND LEGIBLY

I, _____ of _____, _____
Name of Member Assigning Proxy Rights Name of Entity Assigning Proxy Rights Country of Entity

hereby designate _____, representing _____, _____
Name of Delegate Receiving Proxy Rights Name of Entity Receiving Proxy Rights Country of Entity

a member of OCIA International, to hold my proxy vote for the 2016 AGMM.

Signature of Person Assigning Proxy Rights: _____

Date: _____

Signature of Designated Delegate Receiving Proxy Rights: _____

Date: _____

Send to: OCIA International
 1340 N. Cotner Blvd.; Lincoln, NE 68505 USA
 Phone: (402) 477-2323 Fax: (402) 477-4325

***** (BELOW) FOR SECRETARY, ELECTION COMMITTEE & OFFICE USE ONLY *****

Received: _____ Proxy Assignor's Category of Affiliation _____

Number of Proxy Votes Entitled _____ Validated by Election Committee Member _____

Membership Dues Paid _____



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>

2016 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 applicable to Nominee)

Chapter Community Grower Group Processor/Handler Producer-at-Large General Member

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 your qualifications and previous/current involvement with OCIA International and state the reason why you chose/agreed to become a candidate. This information will be provided to the voting membership prior to the election.

Biography attached? Yes No

Nominator: Any one of the categories as listed in 8.3.2. a-c of the Bylaws.

Nominator's Name: _____

Affiliation: _____
(Chapter, Community Grower Group, Processor/Handler, Producer-at-Large, General Member)

I agree to be a candidate for the OCIA International Board of Directors election and will notify OCIA International in writing if I withdraw my candidacy.

Nominee's Signature: _____

Date: _____
(Month Day Year)

SIGNATURES OF SEVEN OCIA MEMBERS (Petitioners) AND THEIR RESPECTIVE ENTITY

Name (please print)	Signature	Respective Entity
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____

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: atunink@ocia.org ♦ Web Site: <http://www.ocia.org>

2016 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 2016 Annual General Membership Meeting at the Holiday Inn Bloomington Airport South, February 10th-11th, 2016.

The packet of general information, a preliminary meeting agenda, proposed bylaw changes, official voting proxy form and Board of Directors nomination form will be mailed with the AGMM packets in mid-December, 2015.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doug Brandt".

Doug Brandt, Secretary
OCIA Research & Education

OCIA Research and Education Proposed 2016 AGMM Agenda

February 9th, 2016

8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

6:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

OCIA Research and Education Board Meeting

Registration

Welcome Reception

February 10th, 2016

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

R&E AGMM

Approve Agenda

Appoint Minutes Referee

Approval of 2015 AGMM Minutes

Project Reports

Budget Presentation (*R&E Budget will wait to be approved until after the International Budget is approved*).

February 11th, 2016

9:30 a.m.

Presentation of Candidates for Board of Directors

Election of New Board Members

5:00 p.m.

Election Results of the Board of Directors for R&E and OCIA International.

5:30-7 p.m.

Board Meeting for New Officers and R&E Board Meeting

7 p.m. - 11p.m.

AGMM Closing Banquet

2016 OCIA Outstanding Farmer of the Year Award

**2016 OCIA RESEARCH AND EDUCATION, Inc.
ANNUAL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING (AGMM)
VOTING PROXY FORM**

This proxy form is only valid for the 2016 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. Bring the original with you to the AGMM. 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 of R &E Member Assigning Proxy Rights Name of Entity Assigning Proxy Rights Country of Entity

hereby designate _____, representing _____, _____
Name 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 proxy vote for the 2016 AGMM.

Signature of Person Assigning Proxy Rights: _____

Date: _____

Signature of Designated Delegate Receiving Proxy Rights: _____

Date: _____

Send to: OCIA Research and Education, Inc
 Attn: Angie Tunink
 1340 N. Cotner Blvd.; Lincoln, NE 68505 USA
 Phone: (402) 477-2323 Fax: (402) 477-4325 E-mail: atunink@ocia.org

***** (BELOW) FOR SECRETARY, ELECTION COMMITTEE & OFFICE USE ONLY *****

Received: _____ Proxy Assignor's Category of Affiliation _____

Number of Proxy Votes Entitled _____ Validated by Election 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: info@ocia.org ♦ Web Site: <http://www.ocia.org>

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 your qualifications and previous/current involvement with OCIA International and state the reason why you chose/agreed to become a candidate. This information will be provided to the voting membership prior to the election.

Biography attached? Yes No, reason why not _____

Nominator: Any one of three parties as listed in 7.3.2. of the OCIA Research And Education, Inc Bylaws.

Nominator's Name: _____

I agree to be 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.

Nominee's Signature: _____

Date: _____
(Month Day Year)

SIGNATURES OF SEVEN MEMBERS (Petitioners) AND THEIR RESPECTIVE ENTITY

Name (please print)	Signature	Respective Entity
1. _____	_____	_____
2. _____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____
5. _____	_____	_____
6. _____	_____	_____
7. _____	_____	_____

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



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>

Letter from the OCIA International Standards Committee:

Welcome to the 2016 AGMM,

There were no standards proposals submitted for this AGMM. The committee was asked by the International Board to work on a social standard that staff began developing, but we have not moved forward with this.

In order to take on such projects, the International Standards Committee invites you to sign up for the ISC. A full committee can work on behalf of the membership to ensure the OCIA Standards are maintained, as well as develop new standards.

Best Regards,
OCIA International Standards Committee

INDEX TABLE FOR AGMM BYLAWS PROPOSALS

2016 AGMM

No.	OCIA Bylaw	Submission Type	Author	Description
B-1	7.5	Proposal	Jeff Kienast	The proposal is to clarify that an individual of a chapter could not be selected as a delegate to carry a proxy if that individual is a member of a chapter that is already carrying 2 proxies.
B-2	9.1	Proposal	OCIA Board of Directors	The proposal is to To lower the number of Board of Directors from 9 to 7

Section 1.

Name of Proposer: Jeff Kienast
Address: 2482 Quest Ave, Jamaica, IA 50128

Phone/fax number: 515-370-2024
Email address: kienastorganic@windstream.net

Section 2. Statement of Proposal

The following is a proposed amendment to Section 7.5 of the (current year) 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 7: GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

...

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, Producer At Large or General Member) or his/her delegate *that is not a member of a specific group that is already carrying 2 proxies*. 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, Producer At Large, or General Member) 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.

Section 3. Purpose of Proposal

To clarify that an individual of a chapter could not be selected as a delegate to carry a proxy if that individual is a member of a chapter that is already carrying 2 proxies.

Section 4. History

After a discussion at the 2015 AGMM in Council Bluffs, a member was allowed to carry a proxy for a chapter that was not attending the AGMM. However, that delegate was a member of a chapter that was already carrying 2 proxies. The argument was made that the individual was the delegate and not the chapter.

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

N/A

Section 6. Miscellaneous

N/A

Section 7. Summary Argument – N/A

Section 1.

Name of Proposer: OCIA International Board of Directors
Address: 1340 North Cotner Blvd, Lincoln, NE 68505
Phone/fax number: (402) 477-2323/(402) 477-4325
Email address: celder@ocia.org

Section 2. Statement of Proposal

The following is a proposed amendment to Section 9 of the (current year) 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

...

9.1 NUMBER OF MEMBERS: The Board shall consist of ~~nine~~ **seven** OCIA members (of Chapters, Community Grower Groups, Processors/Handlers, Producers at Large and General Members) who are to be elected by the general membership during the Annual General Membership Meeting. The Nominating Committee shall endeavor to assure diversity of representation by soliciting nominations from areas not sufficiently represented.

Section 3. Purpose of Proposal

To lower the number of Board of Directors from 9 to 7

Section 4. History

Due to the decline in membership over the last several years it is time to lower the number of Board of Directors members from 9 to 7. By reducing the number of Board Members there will be a significant cost savings due to travel and stipend reduction while still maintaining a Board to member ratio comparable to past years.

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

N/A

Section 6. Miscellaneous

N/A

Section 7. Summary Argument – N/A

Voting and Election FAQ's

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. In a nutshell voting members are; Certified Producers-At- Large, Certified Processor/Handlers, Community Grower Groups, Cooperatives & Chapters who have paid their membership dues

Are all OCIA members eligible to vote?

No. Supporting Associates, Contract Processors, Contract Growers, and Contract Grower Groups can all be members of OCIA, however they do not have voting rights

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. Members can send as many Delegates as they wish. Chapter voting rights/paddles may be held by one or more delegate. Please note; a member must have their delegates register as voting delegates have paid the delegate registration fee to receive voting paddles at the AGMM.

*Source- OCIA bylaw interpretation approved by IRC prior to the 1997 AGMM

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

Yes. At the time of registration, voting paddles can be divided between two delegates of the same member as long as they both register as voting delegates.

What if a delegate looses their voting paddle at the AGMM?

The voting paddles are a representation of the members vote. Each paddle will have the members name, the delegate's name and an Election Committee Members signature on it. If a voting paddle is lost, another delegate will not be able to use it for their votes, however, it will not be replaced.

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

Yes. Every member holding voting rights are entitled to vote at the AGMM by proxy. The member must find a delegate of a member 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 presented at AGMM Registration.

Organic Crop Improvement Association International, Inc.

AGMM Policies

As of March 25, 2015



OCIA INTERNATIONAL

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**"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-01 The Year 2000 AGMM meeting in Antigua, Guatemala urges each membership category within OCIA to work within their Local, State/Provincial, and/or National government, for immediate passage of legislation and/or administrative rule-making that establishes a Registry of Genetically Modified Organism (GMO) Seed Planting. A Registry of GMO Seed Planting should contain the following three critical elements:

- 1) Government registration of all crops planted with GMO seed including farmer's name, address, and location of planting(s); and notification process for any farmer within a one (1) mile radius.
- 2) Any farmer within a one (1) mile radius of a GMO see crop is entitled to have his crop of similar type tested for genetic contamination at the expense of the seed manufacturer.
- 3) Indemnification to a farmer whose crop is genetically contaminated and suffers consequent economic loss holding the seed manufacturer as the liable party.

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 Section 9.2.3 of 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.

03AGMM-03 The Board of Directors shall work collaboratively with the International Standards committee (ISC) in reviewing and revising the mandates for the ISC so as to ensure that the value of OCIA members experience and knowledge is used in the traditional role of interpreting OCIA Certification Standards. Rulings of Standards interpretations shall come from the ISC while certification decision of specific applicant files will be made by the CDT.

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.

04AGMM-02 The Standards Committee, International Board of Directors and Executive Director are directed to take appropriate actions in an expedient manner to address with the NOP and IFOAM the needs and concerns of the organic seed industry.

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 3 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-02 Direct the International Board to ensure that Spanish translations of our Standards, Bylaws and AGMM packets are completed and distributed within the time line that is designated by our Standards and Bylaws for the original English Documents.

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-06 Be it resolved that the Board adopt a strict interpretation of Section 10.2.7 of the Bylaws and appoint ex officio members to only those committees which the Board is directed to by the Bylaws, until such time as there are changes to 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-03 That the Board be directed to share the expenses with the Chapters (half to Intl, half to Chapters) of Chapter Administrators who are required to attend Administrative training.

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.

2011 AGMM Nebraska City, Nebraska – February 9-11

11AGMM-02 To direct the BoD to attain clear financial separation of the various entities of OCIA and report them separately.

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.

2015 AGMM Council Bluffs, Iowa – February 11-12

15AGMM-01 A chapter delegate must be a member of that chapter. This will be brought forward at next year's AGMM as a Bylaws change.

