

Minutes
Wisconsin Association of FFA Board of Directors Meeting
February 22, 2008
The Mead Hotel
Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin

President Andrew Christenson called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m. Opening ceremonies was performed. Those present included: Mr. Swartz, Alex Patten, Mr. Danielson, Nick Palkowski, Ms. Jumbeck, Mr. Stoppelmoor, Preston Green, Mrs. Gehrke, Marie Mahaney, Mrs. Beaty, Brad Krueger, Mrs. Jones, Whitney Peissig, Mr. Wirkus, Mrs. Raatz, Kaleb Santy, Mr. Pinchart, Mr. Friend, Sean VanderWaal, Derrick Papcke, Mr. Kruse, Mr. Meyer, Mr. Hicken and Mrs. Zimmerman. Not present: Aaron Dietsche (excused due to flu). This meeting was held in conjunction with the Farm Bureau's FFA Farm Forum.

Andrew Christenson welcomed everyone and said thank you to all the advisors for working hard Thursday evening on reviewing the 2008 State Degrees for minimum qualifications. The state officer advisors reviewed 491 State Degrees. Mrs. Zimmerman asked for comments and suggestions for reviewing State Degrees next year.

The minutes from the January Board of Directors meeting were presented. Andrew Christenson asked for any corrections or additions to the minutes. There were none. There was a motion by Derrick Papcke to approve the January Board of Directors Meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Preston Green. Motion was passed by the State Officers and sustained by the Advisors.

Kaleb Santy reported on the State Officer Service Trip to Alabama. The state officers that participated visited Epes, Alabama and worked with the Federation of Southern Cooperatives (FSC). They were the first group in 33 years to assist FSC. Part of the service work included building fences – one to keep in baby goats, and the other for a plasticulture. On the trip the state officers were also able to do some site seeing. The state FFA officers would like to thank George Polzin for assisting them on this service trip.

Sean VanderWaal reported on the CTSO Legislative Day. This event was held at the Capitol Building in Madison. There were other Career and Technical Student Organizations present including: FBLA, FCCLA, HOSA, DECA and Skills USA. The state officers were able to take a tour of the Capitol, hear speakers from the legislature and interact with other CTSOs. They also traveled in groups to visit their respective legislators and talked to them about the importance of Career and Technical Student Organizations.

Nick Palkowski reported on the State FFA Alumni Convention. There was a press conference held in which the state officers were involved along with representatives from Toyota and the Alumni to promote the "Can Hunger" food drive – over 140,000 food items were collected. Both auctions (Live and Basket Auctions) went extremely well. The 2006-2007 State Officer Shovels raised almost \$2,000 during the Live Auction. The State Officers sold two workshop baskets at the Basket Auction to help "Construct Your Chapter Officers." The state officer baskets raised over \$1,700. The Milton and Clinton FFA Chapters bought the State Officer Workshops. The state officers also assisted with the auctions and performed a reflections program.

Mr. Hicken updated the Board of Directors on the Matthew D. Anderson tractor sale fundraiser – currently there are about 50 tractors remaining. They are moving quickly and soon will not be available. The number one tractor sold for \$750 at the Alumni's Live Auction.

Andrew Christenson reported on the National FFA Week activities. Radio and newspaper interviews were done and various visits at chapters around the state were made. Each State Officer then reported on the activities they did around their sections for FFA Week.

Mrs. Zimmerman gave an update on the District Speaking Contests. She is gathering the final results and processing them for Sectionals. She explained to the advisors what to do about cancellations for Sectionals and advised them to communicate with their competitors early, making sure that all advisors with participants receive the details about the contests. A word of caution was shared in using the List Serve for communication as not all teachers have subscribed to use this. So far, those advancing to Sectionals are all eligible for participation and there have been no rule violations.

Mrs. Zimmerman talked about district alignment for Sections 1, 6 and 9. She handed out a proposal for district realignment with a few different options available. District realignment would only affect schools in those Sections and would only affect District Speaking events. There were proposals for Sections 1, 6 and 9 presented. The Board of Directors discussed how to handle the potential realignment. Questions and ideas were shared. ***To see the proposed district alignments see attachment.*** A motion was made by Whitney Peissig to give each chapter one vote in those sections with proposed realignments to decide which proposal to accept, with ratification by the Board of Directors at the March 2008 meeting. Kaleb Santy seconded the motion. The motion was passed by the State Officers and sustained by the Advisors. We will await a final report from those Sections at the March Board meeting for final approval from the Board of Directors.

Mrs. Zimmerman reviewed Sectional Speaking Contests. All the results from the District Contests will be ready for the Sectional Contests by the end of next week. Questions and concerns about contests were answered. If there is an issue with a school in a Section canceling that day of school due to weather conditions – the general consensus of the Board was to reschedule the Sectional date. Things to be sure of when turning in results: Make sure names are clearly printed and spelled correctly for ALL participants and make sure all ties are broken and ALL participants are placed for the Sectional Contests.

Mrs. Zimmerman reported on the National Ag Education Inservice in Indianapolis, IN. Some of the things that they covered dealt with a proposal from the National FFA Board of Directors to increase National dues from \$5 to \$7. A Task Force is also considering an affiliation fee (state and national) instead of dues. Mrs. Zimmerman is serving on this Task Force.

Mr. Hicken also reported on the Inservice. He said that by the Fall, National Ag Education standards will be in. The National Quality Indicators will also be available soon.

Mr. Hicken then reported on the Jag Lake Improvement Committee. It has been suggested to redo both shower houses. As of now the cost is unsure and funding has to be determined. Jag Lake is booked for the next summer – there are only two weeks still available.

Mrs. Zimmerman spoke about the Proficiency and Star Judging on March 7-8 in Wisconsin Dells at the Chula Vista Resort. All advisors are invited to attend and help. The Star Judging will be held on Friday night and in addition to some of the smaller proficiency award areas. On Saturday, Proficiency judging will start at 8:30 am.

Mrs. Zimmerman gave to all the members of the Board of Directors a handout of other FFA events and upcoming activities.

There was a membership update from Mr. Hicken. There are still some chapters that have not made payments for their initial rosters. He then listed those chapters that have not yet paid in each Section. Mr. Hicken will follow through with the action the Board of Directors decided upon at the January meeting – sending a letter of probation to both the advisor and principal of the chapter not meeting the set deadline. Currently there are 15,484 approved and paid for members and 1,322 non-approved and non-paid members. Advisors can still submit supplemental rosters through April 1.

Mrs. Zimmerman reported on Operation Stand Solid. The postage for the OSS shoe boxes that have been sent to Iraq is now covered from donations and Slinger FFA has been paid for that amount. There are still about 300 boxes of shoes to send yet, with costs at about \$15.90 a box. She gathered the Board of Director's thoughts and feelings if we should continue this project. More information will be available at the March meeting as far as how many shoes are left and the estimated cost. Rob Selzler, Slinger FFA advisor has been asked to prepare a report as a final wrap up to this project.

Mrs. Zimmerman discussed the issue of requirements for the Wisconsin State FFA Degree, and asked if county livestock workshops and MAQA workshops should be considered as an activity above the chapter level. The Board of Directors debated and stated that you must attend as an FFA member, and that you can only count MAQA workshops as one activity, not multiple. There was a motion by Derrick Papcke to refer this item of question to the SAE Committee and to have their recommendation submitted to the Board of Directors for further action. Sean VanderWaal seconded the motion. The motion was passed by the State Officers and sustained by the Advisors.

Mrs. Zimmerman shared that National FFA will again be presenting their proposed changes for the degrees that was not voted on last year at the National Convention because of a technical error. The SAE Committee has recommended that the proposal that was presented at the 2008 State Convention to the voting delegates be presented again. The Board of Directors will do a final review of this proposal at the March Board meeting.

Mrs. Zimmerman was asked if the Wisconsin Association of FFA would like to contribute to the C. Coleman Harris Endowment Fund. There will be further discussion at the March Board meeting when we have more information about the Wisconsin Association of FFA budget.

Mr. Hicken has been approached by McCone Foods to put a picture on a popcorn canister which is used as a fundraiser for FFA chapters. Mr. McCone has indicated that it was Wisconsin's year to be featured on the popcorn canister. Mr. Hicken asked for any suggestions as to what photo or photos we should have printed on the popcorn canister. The Board of Directors is to compile a list and submit it to Mr. Hicken. Mr. Hicken will check with Mr. McCone if a final decision can be made at the March Board meeting.

Mr. Hicken also reported that the Milwaukee Mile would like to do an "FFA Night at NASCAR." It would be part of the Craftsman Truck Series and discount tickets would be available to FFA members. He will be looking into it and provide the Board of Directors further details.

Mr. Hicken discussed that AB83 (SB500 (senate version)) hits floor next week for approval. It was suggested that the Board of Directors talk to the agricultural teachers in our sections about these bills, and inform our representatives of its importance.

Brad Krueger reported from the State FFA Convention Speakers Committee. He submitted his top four recommendations to the Board of Directors. Whitney Peissig made a motion to approve the recommendation of Rhett Laubach and Ed Gerety as the two hired speakers for the 2008 State FFA Convention. The motion was seconded by Kaleb Santy. The motion was passed by the State Officers and sustained by the Advisors.

Preston Green reported on the Service Committee and said that there currently is no definite service project established and that we will try to finish up Operation Stand Solid. The Service Committee is open to any suggestions as to a service project that can coincide with State Convention. Suggestions should be submitted to Preston or Brad. The committees is also working on promotional items that should be available at State Convention to distribute to each chapter.

Mrs. Zimmerman is concluding the process of reviewing the housing contracts for the 2008 State Convention. There will be 18 hotels available for chapters to reserve. Chapters will be able to use an online reservation system available in March through the Greater Madison Convention and Visitors Bureau. She also gathered the room requests from the Board of Directors. Final reservations for the Board of Directors need to be submitted at the March Board meeting.

Mrs. Zimmerman also discussed some of the 2008 State Convention special projects. There will be a School Administrators' Lunch program and a "Change Lives – Teach Agricultural Education" program. Suggestions were taken on these two projects and the programs are being finalized.

The Board of Directors reviewed the details for the March 12-13 meeting in Madison at the Clarion Suites Hotel. The State Officers will meet on March 12 at 2:00 p.m. and the advisors will join us for dinner at 5:00 p.m. From there we will proceed into our night meeting starting at 8:00 p.m. and continue on March 13 at 9:00 a.m.

Other announcements were made.

There was a motion by Sean VanderWaal to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Kaleb Santy. The motion was passed by the State Officers and sustained by the advisors.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 a.m. by President Andrew Christenson.

Respectfully Submitted,
Whitney Peissig
State FFA Secretary
Wisconsin Association of FFA

PROPOSED DISTRICT REALIGNMENT

SECTION 1:

OPTION 1 _____

District 1 - 8

Redcliff Bayfield
Ashland
Maple Northwestern
Frederic
Luck
Cumberland
Spooner
Shell Lake

District 2 - 8

Turtle Lake
Clayton
St Croix Falls
Osceola
Clear Lake
Prairie Farm
Amery
Unity

District 3 - 9

Barron
Cameron
Bruce
Flambeau
Lake Holcombe
Cornell
Bloomer
New Auburn
Rice Lake

OPTION 2 _____

District 1 - 7

Redcliff Bayfield
Ashland
Maple Northwestern
Frederic
Luck
Spooner
Shell Lake

District 2 - 9

Turtle Lake
Clayton
St Croix Falls
Osceola
Clear Lake
Prairie Farm
Amery
Unity
Cumberland

District 3 - 9

Barron
Cameron
Bruce
Flambeau
Lake Holcombe
Cornell
Bloomer
New Auburn
Rice Lake

OPTION 3 _____

District 1 - 7

Redcliff Bayfield
Ashland
Maple Northwestern
Frederic
Luck
Spooner
Shell Lake

District 2 - 9

Turtle Lake
Clayton
St Croix Falls
Osceola
Clear Lake
Prairie Farm
Amery
Unity
Barron

District 3 - 9

Cumberland
Cameron
Bruce
Flambeau
Lake Holcombe
Cornell
Bloomer
New Auburn
Rice Lake

OPTION 4 _____

No Change

Leave Districts as they currently are aligned.

SECTION 9:

OPTION 1 _____

District 25 - 8

Algoma
Bay Port
Denmark
Kewaunee
Luxemburg-Casco
Mishicot
Sevastopol
Southern Door

District 26 - 9

Brillion
DePere
Green Bay East
Green Bay Preble
Green Bay Southwest
Green Bay West
Reedsville
West DePere
Wrightstown

District 27 - 9

Chilton
Elkhart Lake
Howards Grove
Kiel
New Holstein
Plymouth
Random Lake
Sheboygan Falls

OPTION 2 _____

District 25 - 9

Algoma
Bay Port
Green Bay East
Green Bay Preble
Green Bay Southwest
Green Bay West
Luxemburg-Casco
Sevastopol
Southern Door

District 26 - 9

Brillion
DePere
Denmark
Kewaunee
Mishicot
Reedsville
Wrighttown
Valders
West DePere

District 27 - 8

Chilton
Elkhart Lake
Howards Grove
Kiel
New Holstein
Plymouth
Random Lake
Sheboygan Falls

OPTION 3 _____

No Change
Leave Districts as
aligned.

SECTION 6:

OPTION 1 _____

Switch Adams-Friendship and New Lisbon

District 17

Adams-Friendship

Montello

Pardeeville

Portage

Poynette

Rio

Tri-County

Westfield

District 18

Baraboo

Lodi

Mauston

New Lisbon

Reedsburg

Sauk Prairie

Weston

Wisconsin Dells

OPTION 2 _____

No Change

Leave Districts as
aligned.