

Center Board Minutes
June 29, 2010
Respectfully submitted by: Marty Nowak

Members Present: Jeff Zobeck, Dave Laatsch, Kristin Hanson, Renee Lehman, Randy Ehrenberg, Brad Gefvert, Bridgett Neu. Others: Cheryl Zimmerman, Jeff Hicken
Members Missing: Kevin Whalen

Dave Laatsch called meeting to order at 1:26 PM

Cheryl Zimmerman reported on Affiliation Fee- Hudson has not paid, but never does. Questions were raised on Horicon's affiliation fee with the program being reinstated.

Brad Gefvert moved to waive affiliation fee for Horicon for one year. Kristin Hanson 2nd. Action passed.

Cheryl Zimmerman went over Financial Reports. See attached reports.

- Bridgett trained Cheryl and Terry on Quickbooks. Center will keep services of accountants.
- Kristin Hansen asked about budget. Cheryl's concern is in regards to office supplies especially toner. Bridgett recommended discount ink or Sam's Club for print cartridges
- According to Cheryl, budget is getting tight and there is concern. Interest and dividends are low.
- Affiliation fee increase was discussed. Suggestion was made to take away from convention fee and see if it helps. New sponsors were brought on board to help defray some convention costs.

Cheryl discussed budget

- Membership increased by 58 members
- Discussed National and State affiliation instead of dues.

Cheryl discussed a center report. See Attached- "Wisconsin FFA Center Operations"

- Conference updates
 - MFE will become 212 Conference
 - ALD will become 360 Conference
 - EDGE does not have National Curriculum, but Cheryl is looking into alternatives
- Cheryl discussed her goals.

Dave Laatsch questioned Proficiency award update delays. Cheryl asked Jeff Hicken to address the question. Jeff replied that there are many changes being made to the system including People Soft.

Dave Laatsch talked about how CDE Committee would like to complete some training on contests at FIRE Conference

Lawsuit for Cochrane Fountain City Horse incident was discussed. Cheryl said that nothing else had been pursued.

Cheryl explained that she needs to update computer software and update color printer.

Discussion took place on Center Assistant wages. Currently at \$13.75/hr. Center assistant is off for summer. Brad Gefvert moved to increase Center office assistant wage by \$0.25. Bridgett Neu- 2nd. Discussion was made about limit on amount of hours. Motion carried.

Discussion took place on the summer assistant and their importance.

Executive Directors contract was discussed. It was moved by Ehrenberg, second by Lehman to grant a 1% increase in salary and a \$600 increase in rent. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Wisconsin FFA Center Operations

The Wisconsin Association of FFA had another successful year. Thank you FFA advisors for making things happen at the local level. Your hard work and dedication to build and develop your local program is what helps make the entire state of Wisconsin be successful.

State FFA Convention: The 81st State FFA Convention was a great success. We had 3,136 in attendance. Down from last year. We had anticipated an increase with not having the conflict with the last week of school, but we had a decrease in numbers attending. Thank you to the entire team of people – state officers, advisors and all volunteers who helped to bring this convention together and make it the event it is.

This year we had a few changes: New State Convention Kickoff, adding the Emblem to the wall of the Exhibition Hall, changes in the main hall set up and stage, moving several events to new locations. The “Day of Service” with about 100 members participating in five different service locations was very successful this year. We continued the “Change Lives, Teach Agricultural Education” Program as well as the School Officials Program.

Please make sure to share any ideas or suggestions you have for future conventions. We will again be returning to the Alliant Energy Center in 2011 - June 13-16.

New State Officer Team: We have completed the annual BLAST OFF training. The officers arrived here on Sunday evening to begin their training and work sessions. Please introduce yourself to the officers so they have an opportunity to get to know which advisors are from their sections. They are a great group of students and looking forward to another super year for Wisconsin FFA. This year we will travel to Springfield, Illinois next week.

State Convention Materials: We have items left from the State FFA Convention for teachers to pick up. Please check your materials so you have received all the correct plaques and applications.

Wisconsin FFA Membership –

Wisconsin FFA membership was up slightly this past year, with 17,700 members. Increase of 58 members, however, the State of Illinois has now surpassed us in membership. We need to consider the National FFA Affiliation fee or we will not keep up with membership compared to other states. Remember National FFA dues will be \$7.00 next year...so total packages will be \$12.50

Rechartered FFA Chapter – Horicon - Hopefully new program in 2010-2011 – Almond-Bancroft.

National Update – Busy year with NASAE responsibilities and National Council Meetings and Conference Calls. Now will be focusing on planning the annual NASAE Conference in Indianapolis during the National FFA Convention.

Wisconsin FFA Website: We are continuing to update our site. Make sure to let your members know about the state officer blogs to follow their activities and keep up to date on activities and programs.

Wisconsin FFA Center Affiliation Fee: For 2009-2010 247 total chapters paid affiliation fee or fees to participate. 247 paid \$300 and 0 chapter selected Option 2. The Affiliation Fee will again be \$300.00 for the 2010-2011 school year. Invoices are being handed out here. Invoices not picked up this week will be sent directly to the schools.

Conference Calls –

We are now have set up weekly conference calls with state staff – Jeff, Cheryl, Nicole, Regina and Bridget.

Sate Officers have also started a weekly conference call system to help with verbal communications.

FFA Center Summer Assistant Revisions –

This year we did not hire one person to serve as a summer assistant. Instead we have contracted out projects to Jamie Hagenow and Melissa Ploeckelman, past state FFA officers.

State FFA Safe Tractor Operators Contest: The State Contest will be held Tuesday, July 20 at Farm Technology Days in Pierce County. Packets will be sent to all advisors of Sectional Winners. Make sure to check your school mail boxes for this information.

State Fair: We are looking for more female chaperone for the State Fair August 12-15. Contact me immediately if you are interested. Paper work needs to be completed. In addition, the State FFA Officers will again partner with the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection and assist in the Discovery Barn.

State FFA Degree Processing – Final number submitted – 426. Final number accepted – 400

State FFA Proficiency Judging – 780 proficiency applications were received, processed and judged.

American Degree Applications - We had 193 applications submitted to National FFA.

State FFA Band and Chorus - 77 State FFA Honors Band Applications were received and processed. 109 State FFA Honors Chorus Applications were received and processed.

State FFA Leadership Conferences: The State FFA Executive Director continues to work with and coach State FFA Officers to provide creative and quality workshops for Wisconsin FFA members to attend. This year again conference attends continues to see increases.

Thanks for your input. Your ideas and suggestions make our State FFA Association strong. Thank you very much for allowing me the opportunity to serve as your FFA Executive Director. I appreciate the support that you give me and our FFA Center to provide opportunities for FFA members.

Wisconsin Association of FFA**Leadership Conference Attendance Summary****Summary of Sectional Leadership Workshops 1995-2009**

Year	Attendance
1995	1674
1996	1715
1997	1934
1998	1937
1999	1921
2000	1806
2001	1886
2002	1964
2003	2211
2004	1919
2005	2103
2006	2173
2007	2086
2008	2028
2009	2075

Summary of MFE, ALD and EDGE Participation 1992-2010

Year	Fall	Spring	Total
1992-93	172	52	224
1993-94	195	119	314
1994-95	210	135	345
1995-96	226	152	378
1996-97	267	141	408
1997-98	271	219	490
1998-99	271	200 (MFE 143 + EDGE 57)	471
1999-2000	319 (MFE 184 + ALD 135)	331 (MFE 235 + EDGE 96)	650
2000-2001	387 (MFE 203 + ALD 184)	297 (MFE 194 + EDGE 103)	684
2001-2002	339 (MFE 203 + ALD 136)	373 (MFE 231 + EDGE 142)	712
2002-2003	376 (MFE 208 + ALD 168)	433 (MFE 228 + EDGE 199)	803
2003-2004	448 (MFE 267 + ALD 181)	347 (MFE 165 + EDGE 179)	792
2004-2005	376 (MFE 224 + ALD 152)	424 (MFE 175 + EDGE 248)	800
		223 MFE 84 + EDGE 139)	599
2005-06	361 (MFE 210 + ALD 151)	388 (MFE 220 + EDGE 168)	749
2006-07	339 (MFE 187 + ALD 152)	450 (MFE 219 + EDGE 231)	789
2007-08	484 (MFE 253 + ALD 231)	415 (MFE 169 + EDGE 246)	899
2008-09	487 (MFE 256 + ALD 251)	372 (MFE 164 + EDGE 208)	859
2009-10	490 (MFE 272 + ALD 218)	460 (MFE 206 + EDGE 254)	950

Summary of FIRE (Greenhand) Workshop Participation 1993-2008

Year	Fall I	Fall II	Fall III	Total
2009	171 Appleton	183 River Falls	262 Madison	616
2008	261 Madison	175 Appleton	267 River Falls	703
2007	225 River Falls	163 Appleton	275 Madison	663
2006 (FIRE)	190 Madison	216 River Falls	271 Appleton	677
2005	178 River Falls	250 Appleton	327 Madison	755
2004	185 Appleton	217 Madison	233 River Falls	635
2003	198 Appleton	245 Madison	325 River Falls	768
2002	213 Appleton	173 River Falls	222 Madison	608
2001	169 Appleton	162 River Falls	220 Madison	551
2000	102 Appleton	157 River Falls	185 Madison	444
1999	187 RF	309 Mad		496
1998	204 RF	312 Mad		516
1997	159	150		307
1996-97	216	158	374	
1995-96	219	186	405	
1994-95	107	195	302	
1993-94	175	171	346	

Summary of Half-Time Conference Participation 1994-2008

Year	Members	Advisors	Others	Total
1994	230	87	13	330
1995	197	82	17	296
1996	239	104	14	357
1997	221	79	13	313
1998	232	82	16	330
1999	264	106	20	390
2000	244	105	24	373
2001	266	112	12	390
2002	302	113	11	420
2003	277	121	23	421
2004	276	138	24	438
2005	291	128	24	443
2006	276	137	26	439
2007	298	133	22	453
2008	319	139	19	477
2009	297	139	26	462
2010	330	148	32	510

Goals for 2010-2011

1. Continue to understand the DPI process for contracts, background checks and all the extra paper work that is being required.
2. Continue to assist in improving the Wisconsin FFA Job Interview Contest and Opening and Closing Ceremony Contest.
3. Work toward the implementation of online registration for State FFA Convention
4. Work with advisors to better understand the do's and don'ts of filling out degree applications. We have made progress but we need to do a better job in making sure applications are correct when submitted.
5. Continue third Day of Service and expand to include more students next year at state convention.
6. Begin the new Health and Wellness Grant program...which will replace the State FFA Chapter Safety Award Program.
7. Utilize Morrison Safety Award funds to serve as scholarships for top state tractor operators contest participants.
8. Continue to improve programs and applications to make them more efficient for teachers and members. Make sure all applications online are up-to-date and ready to use for the upcoming school year.
9. Continue to increase FFA membership and enforce membership as a requirement for participation. Work to develop a system with a state affiliation fee that will work for the Wisconsin Association of FFA.
10. Continue to develop public relations efforts and develop more partnership with ag journalism students to assist with the State Convention news room.
11. Continue to assist advisors in building their FFA chapters and helping the state officers to be even more effective liaisons between the chapter members and the state office.
12. Keep life balanced!!