

Wisconsin Association of FFA

**84<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin State Delegate Business Session**

June 11, 2013

Kayla Hack, State FFA President, officially opened the 2013 Wisconsin State FFA Convention Business Session at 10:00 am. in Halls C/D of the Alliant Energy Center Exhibition Hall on June 11, 2013.

Jeff Hicken, Kayla Hack, Nate Overby, Gabes Rabb, Zach Markhardt, Nick Huffman, Logan Wells, Nate Zimdars, Aaron Zimmerman, Bethany Rieth, Joanna Wavrunek, Emily Watson & voting delegates were present.

**Official Delegate Count was as follows:**

Section 1: 20 seated

Section 6: 33 seated

Section 2: 28 seated

Section 7: 30 seated

Section 3: 37 seated

Section 8: 38 seated

Section 4: 28 seated

Section 9: 39 seated

Section 5: 41 seated

Section 10: 36 seated

Total of 330 voting delegates were present.

Sally Albers, Sauk Prairie FFA, moved to accept the minutes from the 2012-2013 State FFA Convention. A second was implied and passed by a majority vote.

Rylee Fabry, Stratford FFA, moved to accept the budget. A second was implied and passed by a majority vote.

Haley Turany, New Richmond FFA, moved to approve the 327 Wisconsin State FFA Degree recipients. A second was implied and passed by a majority vote.

**Delegate Committee Reports:**

***Sixth Grade Membership Committee***

Chair: Leeah Luepke, Spencer FFA from Section 7

*During the 2013 Sixth Grade Membership Committee meeting, pros and cons of sixth grade membership were discussed. The pros of membership were that membership would come early, allowing for more FFA experience, and more participation of fundraising and events. Cons were mainly for bigger schools, since sixth grade is still in elementary levels and can lead to conflict for meeting times.*

Recommendation #1: Allow sixth grade membership at state level.

### **Middle School Opportunities Committee**

Chair: Rylee Nelson, Spooner FFA from Section 1

*During the 2013 Middle School Opportunities committee meeting, discussion was held regarding how we can get more middle school members, what we do now to encourage middle schoolers to join, and what the Wisconsin Association of FFA could do to make middle schoolers want to be in the FFA.*

Recommendation #1: Provide more middle school conferences.

Recommendation #2: Host a leadership day at middle schools with a past national or state officer to create a better understanding of what FFA is all about.

Recommendation #3: Expose them to more contests and give them something to get involved in.

### **National FFA Week Committee**

Chair: Hunter Conant, Tomah FFA from Section 3

*During the 2013 National FFA Week committee meeting, we discussed FFA week promotion through various videos and news releases promoting FFA week.*

Recommendation #1: Continue to recruit more members through various assemblies.

Recommendation #2: Create a state theme to show unity, chapter goals, and state officer involvement.

Recommendation #3: Share FFA week ideas to assist other chapters via a blog.

Recommendation #4: Continue to provide workshops at Sectional Leadership Workshops and Halftime Conference for planning.

Recommendation #5: Create news releases and thank you notes to agriculturalists.

Recommendation #6: Have a state officer video to show at schools for during FFA week.

### **Agricultural Education Advocacy Committee**

Chair: Lindsey Anderson, Western Region Vice President, National FFA Officer

*During the 2013 Agricultural Education Advocacy committee meeting, we talked about how and where FFA can promote being an AG ED teacher and what type of advocacy is necessary.*

Recommendation #1: Continue having workshops at State Convention (such as "Change Lives, Teach Agriculture") and rally behind them.

Recommendation #2: Inform teachers to talk about the opportunities in agricultural education with their students and school districts.

Recommendation #3: Creation of a Youtube or video showing the aspects of the job, time spent in it, and the personal bonds formed through FFA.

Recommendation #4: Have a state officer present at teacher conventions to talk about how important agricultural education is.

Recommendation #5: Promote college schools that teach agricultural education.

Recommendation #6: Encourage students and teachers to engage others in talking about agricultural education and make them listen.

Recommendation #7: Stress the diversification of teaching agricultural education to encompass beyond farming.

Recommendation #8: Inform guidance counselors about the career potential of agricultural education and what it is.

### ***Leadership Development Conference & Opportunities Committee***

Chair: Sadie Kolodziej, Stevens Point FFA from Section 7

*During the 2013 Leadership Development Conference and Opportunities committee meeting, we talked about lowering cost and encouraging students into becoming more involved.*

Recommendation #1: Provide more hands on and group activity leadership development. Specific workshop types include interview practice, chapter officers, production agriculture, agricultural jobs, and community outreach.

Recommendation #2: Cut costs of leadership conferences and opportunities by keeping them more local, providing scholarships, fundraise, and work with other chapters.

Recommendation #3: Create requirements to have a selective process on who can attend these conferences.

Recommendation #4: Market and promote these opportunities more and talk about what happens in them.

### ***Awards Programs & Competitions Committee***

Chair: Kati Kindschuh, Lomira FFA from Section 6

*During the 2013 Awards Programs and Competitions committee meeting, we talked about what could be offered, how they can be improved, and what competitions we like.*

Recommendation #1: Do not race awards on stage and be more causal.

Recommendation #2: Provide more comfortable chairs all around.

Recommendation #3: Promote awareness of Ag Science and have more communication regarding it.

Recommendation #4: Provide a post session for pictures.

Recommendation #5: Form a category of a digital version of the scrapbook competition.

Recommendation #6: Call for more professional judges at district and sectional contests.

Recommendation #7: Provide more information regarding the Hall of Stars.

Recommendation #8: Offer an art competition.

### ***Ideas for State Convention Committee***

Chair: Tara Belz, Poynette FFA from Section 6

Recommendation #1: Provide a bigger space for the career show and showcase more company displays.

Recommendation #2: Ice down logistics with tours.

Recommendation #3: Encourage more active members to attend.

Recommendation #4: Create a powerpoint from each event to give to each chapter.

Recommendation #5: Create a grill contest exhibit.

Recommendation #6: Have more to an FFA Attire shop.

Recommendation #7: Bring in live concerts and rodeos.

### ***Suggestions for Defining SAEs Membership Committee***

Chair: Hannah Greene-Gretzinger, Marion FFA from Section 8

*During the 2013 Suggestions for Defining SAEs Membership committee meeting, it was discussed that there should be times at school for SAE work time. Anything related to agriculture should be considered for SAEs. All SAEs should be considered for awards because everyone has to work hard. All chapters if they can afford it, should use the Agricultural Experience Tracker (AET) online record keeping system.*

Recommendation #1: Provide an SAE workshop to promote, advise, and guide students in a one-on-one atmosphere.

Recommendation #2: All SAEs should somehow be related to the ag industry.

Recommendation #3: All SAEs should be considered for awards, being that everyone works hard and should be recognized for their effort and achievements.

Recommendation #4: Chapters should, if they have enough money, use the AET program, due to its ease of use for students and advisors.

### **Marketing FFA Committee**

Chair: Whitney Brown, Belleville FFA from Section 5

*During the 2013 Marketing FFA committee meeting, we talked about the different ways we can market FFA to our schools and communication.*

Recommendation #1: Mandate agricultural learning to educate students where their food comes from.

Recommendation #2: Every chapter to have a Food For America program or similar program.

Recommendation #3: Team up with "Fuel Up" and "Play 60" to promote healthy learning in agriculture.

### **Ideas for Chapter Officer Training Committee**

Chair: Morgan Stovall, Green Bay Preble FFA from Section 9

*During the 2013 Ideas for Chapter Officer Training committee meeting, we discussed that it would be beneficial to our officer teams to encourage more annual officer retreats. Things such as leadership activities and lunch meetings will strengthen our officer team as a whole. These will improve our overall performance as officers. All students agreed that the COLT conference should be continued to promote leadership, form friendships, and spread ideas.*

Recommendation #1: All chapters should have at least one officer retreat whether be one week or one day.

Recommendation #2: Continuation of the COLT conference.

### **Proposed Constitutional Amendments**

Gillian Hacker, Sauk Prairie FFA, moved to approve the proposed amendment to Article V in the Wisconsin Association of FFA Constitution. Seconded by Kristen Broege, Janesville Craig FFA. Following no debate, vote counted 329 in favor and no opposition. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Zach Markhardt  
2012-2013 Wisconsin State FFA Secretary