

Wisconsin Association of FFA March Board of Directors Meeting-Clarion Suites at the Alliant Energy Center, Madison, Wisconsin—Formal Session with officers and advisors - Thursday, March 16, 2017

Attendance:

Cheryl Zimmerman.....	State Executive Director
Jeff Hicken.....	State Advisor
Brenna Bays.....	State President
Becky Grabarski.....	Adams-Friendship Advisor
Travis Cadman.....	State Sentinel
Ryan Holle.....	East Troy Advisor
Sarah Van Asten.....	State Vice President
Brian Pinchart.....	Wrightstown Advisor
Dani Angotti.....	State Vice President
Paul Larson.....	Freedom Advisor
Kevin Champeau.....	Freedom Advisor
Ashley Zimmerman.....	State Vice President
Mark Zimmerman.....	Spencer Advisor
Hannah Taylor.....	State Reporter
Kessa LaBlanc.....	Poynette Advisor
Ciera Ballmer.....	State Vice President
Marlina Jackson.....	Clinton Advisor
Kari Fischer.....	State Parliamentarian
JoAnn Peterson.....	Argyle Advisor
Laura Munger (video call).....	State Secretary
Roger King.....	Holmen Advisor
Caleb Green.....	State Vice President
Jordan Donnerbauer.....	Stanley-Boyd Advisor
Rylee Black.....	State Treasurer
Derrick Meyer.....	Amery Advisor

Brenna Bays, State FFA President called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Mrs. Zimmerman gave a welcome and reviewed the meeting agenda for Thursday night and Friday morning.

Secretary's February Minutes - One correction was made to the February Board Meeting secretary minutes—Change Union Mills to Union Grove. Sarah Van Asten moved to approve the Secretary's minutes, Caleb Green seconded. Motion Approved.

State Officer Reports

Caleb Green reported on Farm Forum

Brenna Bays reported on National FFA Week

Ashley Zimmerman reported on Co-ops YES!

Caleb Green and Ashley Zimmerman reported on the Eau Claire Farm Show and The Country Today Auction.

Travis Cadman, Dani Angotti, and Rylee Black reported on the Easter Seals Clothing Drive

Brenna Bays gave an update on other state officer activities that included committee work, sessions, and banquets.

All events have gone well.

State FFA Executive Director and State Advisor Reports- Mrs. Zimmerman and Mr. Hicken
Mrs. Zimmerman reviewed Sectional Leadership Development Events. Discussion on how to handle the job description for the Employment Skills Event. Discussion was also held about a discrepancy in the quiz bowl rules. Advisors asked if the packets could be mailed out earlier because of school district mail sorting issues.

Band and Chorus rosters are being finalized. Same total number of application received with a few less band and a few more chorus.

State Degree processing is currently in progress. Sections 1, 2, 3, 6, and 8 have all been notified.

Star Applications were judged at proficiency judging. 14 Star Farmer, 24 Star in Ag Placement, 6 Star in Agribusiness, and 3 Star in Agriscience applicants.

Proficiencies are in the process of final results. Final decisions are being made by members and advisors. 652 proficiency award applications were judged on March 3-4, 2017.

129 American Degree applications were received, up 6 from last year. Review process to take place at the 212 and EDGE Conference.

5 American Star Farmer, 0 Agriscience, 0 Agribusiness, and 5 Placement applicants. These applications will be judged at the 212 and EDGE Conference.

Mrs. Zimmerman is currently working on State Convention housing.

Review of upcoming events were also given about CDEs, National Ag Day, 212 and EDGE Conference, WPS Farm Show, Envirothon, SOC Events, World Food Prize-Mr. Hicken reported that the student deadline for the World Food Prize has been extended due to lack of applicants. 2017 Regional Safe Tractor Operator Contests-Advisors and state officers do not have to worry about running contests. The following four locations will host the contests in 2017 – Arcadia, Clear Lake, FVTC-Appleton and Sauk Prairie.

Mrs. Zimmerman reviewed the information sent by Dr. Steve Brown about the constitutional amendments and delegate information for the 90th National FFA Convention. National FFA has proposed to eliminate the collegiate level of FFA membership along with propose to adjust the membership year and include more language about setting the affiliation fees for the National FFA Organization.

National FFA will be changing the process for convention housing for National FFA Convention. More information will be coming from National FFA very soon.

Mr. Hicken reported on the Ag teacher openings for this next school year—DeSoto, Gilman, Pittsville, Marathon, and Mauston are open at this time with four of these being retirements. Union Grove (new program) is working on hiring a teacher. There will be restructuring of the teacher licensing department at DPI. Currently looking at cutting 10 positions. Special legislation has been proposed for Technical Education programs.

Wisconsin FFA Foundation Update—Brenna

Report from Mrs. Keller was read by Brenna Bays. Progress has been made since Ms. Ellis joined. Offer for the Executive Director position will be offered tonight or tomorrow morning. Mr. Hicken gave a report on the interviews that took place.

Wisconsin FFA Alumni Update—Written report from Mrs. Cheryl Steinbach

Report was read by Mrs. Zimmerman. Cari Sabel from the Chilton FFA Alumni was elected to the position of Vice President. 2018 Alumni Convention will be at the Radisson Paper Valley Hotel in Appleton. WLC scholarships were awarded. 20 scholarships at \$450.

WAAE Update—Mr. Kevin Hoffman

Webinar series has been well received. Approximately 30 WAAE members attended the National Convention in Las Vegas, Nevada. Four went to the National Policy Seminar, visited many legislators. Attended breakfast luncheon with Senator Tammy Baldwin. Currently selecting location for WAAE PDC. Received last offer for La Crosse, Chula Vista, Green Bay, Appleton, and Middleton.

280 people registered for the 2017 PDC. Same registration as last year. 20 year advisors will be recognized on Wednesday. Recognition of the Smith Hughes Act signing. WAAE will be recognized by the state of Wisconsin. Invited Senator Tammy Baldwin to PDC. Jerry App will be the main speaker at PDC. A historical room will be taking place in June. Retired Ag teacher adding to the historic book originally written by Floyd Doering.

Penn State Ag Teachers will be coming to Wisconsin. Being used as a teacher recruitment, May 8th-15th. Recommendation to offer it to UW-Platteville and UW-River Falls Ag Education majors for teacher recruitment.

State FFA Committees

- **Policy and Constitutional By-Laws Committee**

Kari Fischer gave an overview of the Policy and Constitutional By-Laws committee.

A motion was presented to amend the Wisconsin Association of FFA State Constitution, Article II-Organization, Section C by striking the section and inserting, "In the event a local department of agricultural education is discontinued, its chartered FFA chapter may officially operate for a period not to exceed three years (36 months) from the date of discontinuance, provided proper supervision is given by a person having the approval of the local school administrator and the state FFA advisor. The chapter's charter must be surrendered to the state advisor at the end of the three-year period if a local department of agricultural education is not in operation in the school at that time." Kari Fischer moved to accept the amendment, Sarah Van Asten seconded. Motion passed. Action sustained by advisors.

A second motion was presented to amend the Wisconsin Association of FFA State Constitution, Article VI-Procedure for Choosing Candidates for the American FFA Degree, Section A by striking the words, "whether they are in Agriculture Production or Agribusiness" and inserting "their Supervised Agricultural Experience." Kari Fischer moved to accept the amendment, Sarah Van Asten seconded. Motion passed. Action sustained by advisors.

Mrs. Zimmerman presented the proposed changes to the Wisconsin Association of FFA Policy Handbook. Discussion occurred regarding middle school membership.

Kari Fischer moved to have a three-minute recess. Sarah Van Asten second. Motion passed. Meeting was called back to order at 8:19.

Caleb Green moved to approve the amendments to the Wisconsin Association of FFA Policy Handbook, Sarah Van Asten second. Motion passed. Action sustained by advisors.

Kari Fischer moved to approve the Policies/Constitution/Bylaws Committee, Travis Cadman second. Motion passed. Action sustained by advisors.

- **Finance Committee**

Rylee Black gave an overview of the Finance Committee report. Budget was discussed without concerns during a conference call on March 7th, 2017. Changes will occur for the 2018-2019 state officer team because of the changes to the State Officer Experience.

Rylee Black moved to approve the annual budget, Dani Angotti seconded. Motion passed. Action sustained by advisors.

Rylee Black moved to accept the Finance Committee Report, Kari Fischer second. Motion passed. Action sustained by advisors.

- **State Marketing and Membership Committee**

Sarah Van Asten gave an overview of the State Marketing and Membership Committee report. Budget was changed from \$3000 to \$1500 that was presented to the Wisconsin FFA Foundation for a Star Mission Grant for the advisor handbooks. Advisors suggested to make the handbooks in binders. Sarah Van Asten moved to approve the State Marketing and Membership Committee report. Travis Cadman second. Motion passed. Action sustained by advisors.

Membership update by Mr. Hicken—9,450 members in affiliation, waiting for trimester membership, 20,823 is the state membership as of March 16.

- **Awards and Programs Committee**

Dani Angotti and Ashley Zimmerman gave an overview of the Awards and Programs Committee report. The updated Wisconsin Association of FFA Program of Activities was presented. Other projects included the addition of the Conduct of Meetings LDE, eliminated the website competition and working to update the Parliamentary Procedure LDE. Dani Angotti moved to accept the Awards and Programs Committee report, Ashley Zimmerman second. Motion passed. Action sustained by advisors.

- **Media and Public Relations Committee**

Hannah Taylor gave an overview on the Media and Public Relations Committee. Hannah has had troubles with FFA Twitter account, however, nearly 2,000 views reached on Facebook posts. Travel blog has worked well this year and recommend continuing this format. Officers conducted media events during FFA week. Hannah Taylor moved to accept the Media and Public Relations Committee, Dani Angotti second. Motion passed. Action sustained by advisors.

- **Service Committee**

Ciera Ballmer gave an overview of the Service Committee report. April is National Volunteer month and Ciera will be sending out information for the team to distribute to their advisors. Projects this year included working with Easter Seals, Rally to Fight Hunger, and Day of Service. Travis Cadman moved to approve the Service Committee report, Dani second. Motion passed. Auction sustained by advisors.

- **Partners Committee**

Caleb Green gave an overview of the Partners Committee report. Attended 2 of the 3 Foundation meetings with Brenna Bays. Both Brenna and Caleb recommend expanding more opportunities to work with our partners. Caleb Green moved to accept the Partners Committee report. Travis Cadman second. Motion passed. Action sustained by advisors.

Unfinished Business

Star Mission Grant Update

All of the Star Mission Grants submitted by the Wisconsin Association of FFA Board of Directors were accepted by the Wisconsin FFA Foundation. The FFA Association purchased the case for the FFA chorus keyboard instead of submitting for a Star Mission Grant.

Chapter Charters

Communication still happening with Algoma and Frederic. A motion was presented to revoke the charters for Alma, Benton, Fall River, and Green Bay West chapters. Caleb Green moved to revoke the charters for the chapters. Travis Cadman second. Motion passed. Action sustained by advisors.

Parliamentary Procedure LDE Revisions

Mr. Meyer gave an overview of the report from UW-River Falls of the proposed changes to the Parliamentary Procedure LDE. Our LDE will be structured like the National Competition. Discussion about the event timing-additional time at the district and sectional levels – making that very clear in the instructions and number and type of abilities at each level of competition. Mr. Meyer will be working with Dr. Graham at UW-River Falls to communicate our suggestions. Ashley Zimmerman moved to approve the proposed changes to the Parliamentary Procedure LDE with the revisions of our suggestions. Rylee Black second. Motion passed. Action sustained by advisors.

New Business

State FFA Officer Election Process and Recommendations

Recommendations have been made for financial support for state officers and internship opportunities with the Foundation after convention. This has been placed on hold until the new FFA Foundation Executive Directors is hired.

Recommendation for regional state officers and 5 at-large positions. Recommendations to keep the same officer positions for that one-on-one connection with students.

Discussion about how the election process will be scored, how the delegate process is run, and how state officers will be selected. At this time, no changes will occur with the election process.

Wisconsin FFA Hall of Fame

Ballot will be looked at overnight and decisions will be made on Friday morning. We reviewed the criteria for nomination for the Wisconsin FFA Hall of Fame.

ENPICA

Mr. Hicken reviewed that we do need a crisis plan for each of our FFA events. Sarah Van Asten moved to accept the ENPICA crisis plan proposal. Caleb Green second. Motion passed. Action sustained by advisors. Mr. Hicken will be working with the CTSOs to continue to develop crisis plans.

Delegate Issues Recommended to National FFA

Ashley Zimmerman discussed adding a new Star Category to include different SAEs such as Ag Education, Ag Communications, etc. Currently she addressed the fact that the other Star areas don't really include these areas. The category could be focused around agricultural advocacy.

Farm Bill Petition

Mr. Hicken received information from Riley Pagett at National FFA about Wisconsin being a cosigner on the Farm Bill Letter Next Generation of Agriculturists. Ciera Ballmer moved to add the Wisconsin Association of FFA as a supporter of the Farm Bill Letter Next Generation of Agriculturists. Sarah Van Asten seconded. Motion passed. Action sustained by advisor.

Sarah Van Asten moved to adjourn the formal Board Session of the March Board of Directors Meeting, Caleb Green second. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 10:28 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ashley Zimmerman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ashley Zimmerman

2016-2017 Wisconsin FFA Vice President

**Laura Munger was unable to attend the meeting at the Clarion Suites in Madison, Ashley Zimmerman served as Secretary for this meeting.