

Wisconsin FFA Center Board Minutes
January 9, 2009 10:00 a.m. ~ Ramada Stevens Point

Meeting called to Order by Vice President Kristin Hanson at 10:18 a.m.

Members Present: Randy Ehrenberg, Brad Gefvert, Kristin Hanson, David Laatsch, Bridgett Neu. Also present were Cheryl Zimmerman and Jeff Hicken. Members Absent: Renee Lehman, Jeff Zobeck, Ralph Johnson.

Approval of Agenda by Gefvert/Ehrenberg. Motion passed.

Approval of November Minutes Gefvert/Ehrenberg. Motion passed.

FFA Center Office Operations—(See attached report) IRS mileage is now at \$.55 cents effective January 1, 2009. Information was provided by Data Flow accounting to Cheryl Zimmerman to confirm rate.

Activities since the November Meeting – handout provided update of recent activities and upcoming events. Summer Assistant for 2009 - Job Description has been posted - Resumes Due Feb. 17, 2009. Description is available on the Wisconsin FFA website.

The 403 (b) Plan Document for retirement funds that was provided to the Board via e-mail before the meeting was discussed and it was moved by Laatsch/Gefvert to accept and file with the Wisconsin FFA Center. A copy of this plan will also be filed with the Data Flow Accountant. Questions concerning this document were to be directed to Kim Havens, financial planner, before the meeting since Kim works with Cheryl on retirement funds and provided the document for the FFA Center.

At the time of the meeting, 240 chapters have paid the 2008-09 Wisconsin FFA Center Chapter Affiliation Fee. Collection of affiliation fees is on target in addition with some past due bills also being collected. 2007-08 checks written and deposits as well as current fiscal year checks written and deposits were reviewed by the Board members present. The First Quarter Financial Report was presented and reviewed. Copies may be obtained from the Wisconsin FFA Center and provided upon request. The Board decided that these reports will not be posted on the FFA website.

FFA Chapter Affiliation Fee - 2009-2010. The affiliation fee has been at \$300 for over 10 years. It was moved by Ehrenberg/Gefvert to raise the affiliation fee to \$325. Moved by Ehrenberg to withdraw the motion. Due to low attendance it was decided to hold a conference call regarding this issue at a later time.

Equipment Update - Cell phone – Cheryl purchased an updated cell phone and renewed her contract with the cell phone company. It was Moved by Laatsch, and seconded by Gefvert to purchase computers and software from MacMan using quote 8436 without the trade-in but that includes the backup system. There was a previous discussion about a new LCD Projector – This will be decided on later when more information is available.

FFA Center Board Terms were reviewed and the Section 1&2 position will be up for election this year. The person currently serving in that capacity is Kristin Hanson.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, June 30, 2009 - WAAE Professional Development Conference

Moved to adjourn by Ehrenberg and seconded by Gefvert. Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

FFA Center Board Representatives Term

Sections 1&2 Kristin Hanson 2006-2009

Sections 5&10 Randy Ehrenberg 2007-2010

Sections 8&9 Renee Lehman 2008-2011

WAAE Ralph Johnson 2006-2009

WAAE Jeff Zobeck 2008-2011

Sections 3&4 Kevin Whalen 2009-2010

Sections 6&7 Brad Gefvert 2008-2011

WAAE David Laatsch 2007-2010

Wisconsin FFA Center Report

January 2009

FUNDING

2008-09 Chapter Affiliation Fee Summary

Total Chapters Paid: 240 (As of Jan. 7, 2009)

Breakdown: Option 1 (\$300.00) – 240

Option 2 – (No one has indicated specifically they will use this payment option)

No Response – 8

Two inactive chapters this year – Madison and Horicon

2007-08 Chapter Affiliation Fee Summary

Total Chapter Paid: 242 (As of Jan. 3, 2008)

Breakdown: Option 1 (\$300.00) – 242

Option 2 - (No one has indicated specifically they will use this payment option)

No Response – 8 (Horicon will not be paying this year – program inactive for 2007-08 school year)

2006-07 Chapter Affiliation Fee Summary

Total Chapters Paid: 239 (As. of Jan. 4, 2007)

Breakdown: Option 1 (\$300.00) – 238

Option 2 – 1

No Response – 11

First quarter financial statements were presented to the FFA Center Board at Half-Time meeting.

WISCONSIN FFA CENTER UPDATE

1. Funding provided to the Wisconsin FFA Center through DPI again this year to assist with degrees, proficiencies and convention assistance. Money has already been received and deposited - \$19,333.00.
2. Working on updating State FFA Degree Handbook with more information and resources.
3. Committee meeting to review Parliamentary Procedure Contest.
4. Plans underway for the summer assistant position – position has been announced and posted. Resumes due February 17.
5. Working with Jeff Hicken on membership roster pdf invoices and processing membership.
6. Preparing District and Sectional Speaking Contest Materials – Contests begin January 19.
7. Preparing for the handling, processing and evaluation of the State and American Degrees and Proficiency Award Applications with the Wisconsin FFA Center Staff. These applications will all be coming to the Wisconsin FFA Center again this year.
8. State FFA Convention planning has started.
 - a. Hotel contracts received and ready to review.
 - b. Continuation of School Officials Lunch and Program.
 - c. Continuation of Change Lives Teach Ag Workshop.
 - d. State Officer Committees are underway and plans were developed at December Officer Meeting.
9. Preparing for upcoming FFA Alumni Convention, State Officers conducting workshops and reflections.
10. Preparing for FFA Board meetings and Farm Forum.

WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION of FFA UPDATE

***FFA Membership:**

1. Late membership rosters and payment were discussed at the State FFA Board of Directors meeting Friday – action was taken by the FFA Board of Directors.
2. Membership processed by National FFA as of January 1 to yet be determined.
3. Use of the online membership system – some challenges again. Membership goal 18,250
4. Other items the Board discussed included – State CDEs, Background Checks, Food Service State Proficiency Award, State Degree Handbook and other FFA items of business.

STATE FFA CONVENTION

Date & Locations: The State FFA Convention will be held at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison, June 8-11, 2009.

Housing: Official Housing will be posted online in early March - Hotel negotiations in progress
Housing will be conducted online as last year through the GMCVB

New: Plans to begin a pilot of a High School Quiz Bowl Contest
DPI is requesting background checks on all judges and volunteers

LifeWork Expo: Exhibitors-Contact Nicole Schmidt or Lois Flee at the Wisconsin FFA Foundation.

Upcoming Activities/Calendar of Events:

State FFA Officer team is traveling to New York - January 14-17, 2009.

Four State Officers are scheduled to attend the Wisconsin School Board Convention - January 21-22.

District FFA Speaking Contests to begin January 19. Sectional contests in March at the state officer's home schools.

Cheryl Zimmerman will be attending the National Agricultural Ed Summit in Indianapolis, IN February 5-7, 2009

CTSO Legislative Day – February 12 in Madison – State Officers to attend with Cheryl Zimmerman and Jeff Hicken.

Wisconsin FFA Alumni Convention - Feb. 13-15, 2009 in Baraboo. State Officers will be assisting and presenting a reflections program and workshops. The milk cans from State FFA Convention will be auctioned off at the Alumni Convention.

FFA Board of Directors will meet on February 19-20 in Wisconsin Rapids to conduct the review process for State FFA Degrees. The Board will meet again in March in Madison for convention planning.

FFA Officers will be assisting with the FFA/Farm Bureau Farm Forum Feb. 20-21 in Wisconsin Rapids.

Wisconsin FFA Proficiency Awards will be judged March 6-7 in Wisconsin Dells at the Chula Vista Hotel. Cheryl Zimmerman is coordinating the arrangements and details for the judging. Anyone interested in judging is invited to attend. Reservations should be made by February 20, 2008. Call the Chula Vista Hotel at 608-254-8366. Rooms are reserved under FFA. Rates are available for \$62.00 for single; \$92.00 for double.

Cheryl Zimmerman will be attending the National Council Meeting in Alexandria, VA March 5-8 as President-elect of NASAE.

Made for Excellence will be held March 27-28, 2009 at the Holiday Inn in Manitowoc. The EDGE Conference will also be presented for Middle School Students.

Four individuals have indicated interest in running for Wisconsin's National Officer Candidate. Selection process will occur over the March 27-28, 2009 weekend.

Next fall's MFE/ALD conference will be November 13-14, 2009 at the Plaza Hotel and Suites in Eau Claire.

2010 Half-Time Conference set for January 8-9 in Stevens Point at the Ramada of Stevens Point.