

Wisconsin FFA Center Board Meeting  
Friday, January 4th 10:00 a.m.  
Board Room – Ramada Stevens Point  
(Formerly The Country Springs Hotel, Steven’s Point)

Meeting Called to Order – Kristin Hanson, Vice-Chair at 10:12 a.m.

Members Present: Cheryl Zimmerman, Kristin Hanson, David Laatsch, Mike Olson, Randy Ehrenberg, Kevin Whalen, Bridgett Neu, Ralph Johnson, Dick Aide, Jeff Hicken

Members Absent: Tari Costello, Jerry Wendt

Approval of the November 2007 Board Minutes - Moved to approve by Olson/Second Ehrenberg. Motion passed.

Financial Report – Cheryl

242 chapters have paid their 2007-08 chapter affiliation fee out of a possible 250 as of January 4, 2008

Motion to approve the Financial Report moved by Whalen second by Johnson. Motion passed.

It was noted in the financial report that the line item for the “summer hired help” that the November 2006 line item should read \$2,600 instead of \$2,500.

Cheryl asked the group if they felt it would be appropriate to request a formal audit of the books now that we have a new accountant that has taken over our account with Data Flow. Cheryl is not concerned per se about things, but with a new accountant it might be a good idea to make sure all is in place if the Board feels this is necessary. It is just been about 10 years since a formal audit has been done. We will discuss this further in July and see if we want to consider this idea. It was suggested to research the cost of an audit. Cheryl will check to see what the costs would be of having a formal audit performed.

FFA Center Operations and Activities – Cheryl

With the holidays, NAAE Convention, two task force meetings and State Officer meetings Cheryl has only been in the office about 2.5 weeks since our last meeting at MFE. Cheryl attended a Task Force meeting about a potential National FFA Affiliation Fee. The other meeting she attended was in regards to MFE/ALD/EDGE. Speaking contests are coming up. Degrees and proficiencies are approaching. State convention planning has begun. Cheryl is developing the program for a school administrator’s luncheon at the State FFA Convention this year. We need to find new contest managers and helpers for different areas at the convention. The state officer goal for the year is 19,000 members.

Office Assistant Position – Cheryl

Terry has been out of the office due to surgery however they were able to cover without having to hire any extra help during her absence. Terry is still not 100% but is back in the office part-time and is going well. It was decided to delay action regarding the office assistant’s salary until the July meeting.

Summer Assistant and Contracted Services – Cheryl

The position for summer assistant has been posted. Andrea, the assistant from last year, has also

been contacted to see if she would be interested in returning. The contracted services are paid by funds that are distributed through DPI. No objections to the current plans for contracted services.

**FFA Center Equipment** - Projector – Cheryl

Cheryl would like to consider the purchase of a LCD projector as it has become a necessity as she is using it more with state officer training and other presentations that she has to make. She is going to borrow WAAE's and try it. We will discuss at the next meeting

**FFA Chapter Affiliation Fee** for FY 2008-09

Current affiliation fee is \$300. Moved by Ehrenberg and seconded by Laatsch to leave the affiliation fee at \$300 for FY 08-09. Motion passed.

**Review FFA Center Board Terms and Positions for Election**

Mike Olson's term is up in June

Tari Costello's term is up in June

Elections are held at the PDC for a three year term and the first meeting with new officers is held at the Fall MFE/ALD.

**Checking & Financial**

Motion to change the check signing process from two signature lines to one signature line was move by Laatsch. Seconded by Olson. Discussed the transition between Dick to Bridgett for purposes of financial arrangements for the transition. Currently checks are double-signed by Dick Aide and Cheryl. Motion Passed.

Next Meeting - WAAE Professional Development Conference

Agenda Items Generated from this meeting for our next meeting:

- Discuss the possibility of having a formal audit performed
- Review salary for office assistant
- Review purchase of LCD Projector
- Review Center Policies and ByLaws
- New Officers

Moved to adjourn at 11:59 a.m. Moved by Johnson, seconded by Whalen. The next meeting is Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at the PDC

Respectfully Submitted,



Bridgett Neu, WAAE Executive Director

# Wisconsin FFA Center Report

## January 2008

### FUNDING

#### 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

#### 2005-06 Chapter Affiliation Fee Summary

Total Chapters Paid: 240 (As of Jan. 5, 2006)

Breakdown: Option 1 (\$300.00) – 240

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

No Response – 10

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

### WISCONSIN FFA CENTER UPDATE

1. FFA Operations continue to proceed well. Terry Bernick was out most of the month of December for health reasons. She is back and doing well. Continue to work with new accountant at Data Flow Corporation.
2. Funding provided to the Wisconsin FFA Center through DPI again this year to assist with degrees, proficiencies and convention assistance. Invoice is being submitted to DPI for payment - \$15,557.00.
3. Plans underway for the summer assistant position – position has been announced and posted. Resumes due February 15.
4. Cheryl attended two National FFA Task Force meetings in November – Affiliation Task Force and MFE/ALD/EDGE Task Force.
5. Cheryl received the NAAE Outstanding Cooperation Award at the NAAE National Convention in Las Vegas Dec. 11-15. Thank you WAAE for this nomination.

#### Major projects at this time:

1. Preparing District and Sectional Speaking Contest Materials
2. 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.
3. State FFA Convention planning has started. Committee working. Hotel negotiations underway.
  - a. New School Administrators Lunch and Program
  - b. Additional Contest Managers will be needed
4. Preparing for upcoming FFA Alumni Convention, 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 presented – presenting workshop at Half-Time to help teachers as they add additional students for the 2007-08 school year. Membership goal 19,000
4. Other items the Board discussed included – Potential district change for two school advised by one advisor, reviewed activities above the chapter level for state degrees, service trip, convention t-shirts 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 9-12, 2008.

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 Addition: School Administrators Lunch and Program – More details will be sent to advisors

LifeWork Expo: Exhibitors-Contact Mary Gagnon at the Wisconsin FFA Foundation.

## **Upcoming Activities:**

Contract negotiations for State FFA Convention including the Exhibition Hall and hotels. Additional contract negotiations will also occur for upcoming FFA events.

State FFA Officer team is traveling to Alabama January 13-19, 2008 accompanied by George Polzin. They will be working with the Southern Federation of Cooperatives Organization.

District FFA Speaking Contests to begin January 23. Sectional contests in March at the state officer's home schools.

Cheryl Zimmerman will be attending the National Agricultural Education Inservice in Indianapolis, IN January 30 – February 2

CTSO Legislative Day – February 7 in Madison – State Officers to attend.

Wisconsin FFA Alumni Convention - Feb. 8-9, 2008 in Janesville. State Officers will be assisting and presenting a reflections program. The shovels from State FFA Convention will be auctioned off at the Alumni Convention.

The Matt Anderson Tractor will be auctioned off at the 2008 Wisconsin FFA Alumni Convention. After the first tractor is auction the remaining tractors will be available for those waiting to provide a contribution toward the Matt Anderson Memorial Fund.

FFA Board of Directors will meet on February 21-22 in Wisconsin Rapids to conduct the review process for State FFA Degrees. The Board will meet again March 12-13 in Madison for convention planning.

FFA Officers will be assisting with the FFA/Farm Bureau Farm Forum Feb. 22-23 in Wisconsin Rapids.

Wisconsin FFA Proficiency Awards will be judged March 7-8 in Wisconsin Dells at the Chula Vista Hotel. Cheryl Zimmerman is heading up 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; \$10.00 for each additional person.

Made for Excellence will be held March 28-29, 2008 at the Plaza Hotel and Suites in Eau Claire. The EDGE Conference will also be presented for Middle School Students.

Three individuals have indicated interest in running for Wisconsin's National Officer Candidate. Selection process will occur over the March 28-29, 2008 weekend.

Next fall's MFE/ALD conference will be November 14-15, 2008 at the Olympia Resort in Oconomowoc.

2009 Half-Time Conference set for January 9-10 in Stevens Point at the Ramada of Stevens Point.