

**Wisconsin Association of FFA Board of Directors Meeting
March 15, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. and March 16, 2018 at 8:30a.m.
Clarion Hotel, Madison, Wisconsin**

The meeting was called to order by Ciera Ballmer at 7:00pm. Ciera Ballmer provided a brief welcome. Mrs. Zimmerman presented an overview of the meeting agenda.

Attendance: Mrs. Cheryl Zimmerman, Mr. Jeff Hicken, Mr. John Hromyak, 11 State FFA Officers and 11 FFA Advisors.

The minutes from the February Board of Directors Meeting were reviewed and approved with the correction noted by Amelia Hayden.

Wisconsin FFA Officer Updates

- Kathryn Lampi reported on the Wisconsin Farm Bureau FFA Farm Forum and how the state officer team participated in the conference.
- Ciera Ballmer reported on FFA Week. She noted the officers used media to promote FFA.
- Sam Jesse reported on the Coops YES! Conferences and highlighted workshops on the topics of cooperatives and leadership.
- Brooke Brantner reported on the Eau Claire Farm Show. She shared the success of the auction.

Wisconsin FFA Center Update

Mrs. Zimmerman provided the update from the Wisconsin FFA Center. *See Handout* She shared the status of changes to applications and previewed upcoming events.

DPI/Agricultural Education Update

Mr. Hicken provided the update from DPI. He noted that there are three retirements this year and openings in the following school districts: Green Bay – East, Luck, West DePere, Campbellsport, DeForest, Brookwood, and Blackhawk. He also noted the Perkins Grant is delayed due to new online application.

Wisconsin FFA Foundation Update

Mr. Hromyak provided an update from the Wisconsin FFA Foundation. He discussed the budget for next year decided upon by the Foundation Board. He shared that the Star Mission Grant Dollars were approved and other funding for Proficiencies, CDEs, and LDEs are on track.

Wisconsin FFA Alumni Update

Mr. Hicken reported on behalf of Mrs. Steinbach. He noted the name change and a new alumni chapter forming at CNH Industry.

WAAE Update

Mr. Hicken provided an update from WAAE. He shared the current membership total is 325 members with an additional 110 student members. WAAE is busy planning for the upcoming Professional Development Conference in June.

State Officer Election Process and Recommendations

Ethan Dado presented a proposal written by Sally Albers and himself regarding the State Officer Election Process and Filling a Vacant Section. *See Handout* He noted that this proposal is not personal but rather, focuses on continuing to improve the process. The plan is to survey state officers, past state officers, advisors, and past state officer candidates who were not selected regarding the state officer election process. Then a task force will be created to review the survey and provide recommendations. A constitutional change may be needed in the long-run. The proposal will ensure that all state officer candidates are qualified for the position.

The proposal includes: 1) a revised scorecard 2) plan to fill a vacant section from another section 3) questions in interview regarding the willingness to serve a different section 4) ensure the delegates are still utilized.

Mrs. Konkel shares her concern regarding the mark of “unqualified” and how devastating that would be to a student. The logistics of Sectional Leadership Workshops and Leadership Development Events was another concern. Mr. Meyer shared that candidates should be interviewed again if running for another section to eliminate bias in regard to Part 9 of the proposal. He suggests adding a panel of judges to interview those candidates or another round of interviews for candidates. Mrs. Beaty suggested the removal of the terms “qualified” and “unqualified” and implementing a minimum point system where a candidate must earn a least the set amount of points to continue with the process. Mrs. Erb shares that the advisors send the recommendation of the candidate and in their eyes are qualified. She adds that by marking a candidate “unqualified”, it may discourage other candidates from running in fear of by marked “unqualified” themselves. Morgan Fitzsimmons asked when the proposal will be implemented. The proposal will be implemented this year, if passed.

The board removed the terms qualified and unqualified. Sam Pinchart moved to accept the proposal with modifications made by the Board of Directors. Amelia Hayden seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Motion passed with sustaining action by advisors.

Amelia moved to table the approval of the proposal so Ethan Dado could make changes given the board’s suggestions. Sam Pinchart seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed with sustaining action by advisors.

The meeting was recessed at 8:45p.m. and resumed at 8:55p.m.

Committee Reports

- Policies/Constitution/Bylaws – Presented by Kathryn Lampi
- Finance/ State FFA Budget – Presented by Elisha Riley and Mr. Hicken
 - Elisha Riley moved to approve the Wisconsin FFA Budget. Ciara Koboski seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed with sustaining action by advisors.
 - Mr. Hicken presented the audit and shared that the association is in good financial standing. He reports the FFA has about \$350,000 in reserve funds in two CD accounts but the bank insures up to \$250,000 so there is a possibility of opening another CD account.

- Marketing and Membership – Presented by Amelia Hayden and Sam Pinchart
 - Mr. Hicken shares membership update. There are about 10 chapters awaiting registration. Some members are sitting at local level and are not registered at the state level. Union Grove will be recognized at State Convention in Session Four with their chapter charter.
- Awards and Programs – Presented by Brooke Brantner and Sam Jesse
 - Their recommendations will be sent to CDE committee.
- Media and Public Relations – Presented by Meikah Dado
- Service – Presented by Liz Grady and Ciara Koboski
- Partners – Presented by Morgan Fitzsimmons and Ciera Ballmer

Kathryn Lampi moved to approve all committee reports as presented. Sam Jesse seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The motion passed with sustaining action by advisors.

Unfinished Business

Mr. Hicken reported that the Star Mission Grants applications were approved.

Mr. Hicken shared the Crisis Management Plan created by Education & Non-Profit Insurance Company of America (ENPICA).

New Business

Mrs. Zimmerman shares the Delegate Issues Recommended to National FFA. *See Handouts*

Morgan Fitzsimmons moved to adjourn the meeting. Kathryn Lampi seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Motion passed with sustaining action by advisors.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:43p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Ciera Ballmer at 8:31a.m.

Attendance: Mrs. Cheryl Zimmerman, Mr. Jeff Hicken, Mr. John Hromyak, Mrs. Carol Ellis, 11 State FFA Officers and 11 FFA Advisors.

Unfinished Business

State Officer Election Process Proposal was edited via Google Docs by the Board of Directors. All thoughts regarding the proposal should be made on the document. The proposal will be voted on at a later time.

State FFA Convention

Mrs. Zimmerman reviewed the convention schedule and changes. The Agriscience Fair is now in Hall C which opens the East Corridor for Food Hall. The Career Show is now named the Convention Expo and will host the Teach Ag Signing.

Convention Suggestions:

- Mr. Hromyak reports that the Foundation is searching for ways to get sponsors more involved in convention. He shared the plan of incorporating a reception to the awards and sponsors dinner where sponsors can interact with members. The board supported this idea.
- Mr. Nowak suggested to shorten the length of sessions if possible.
- Mrs. Konkel would like to see session chair(s) share an inspirational message to connect with students.
- Mr. Hromyak suggested creating a video for SAE Grant recipients and to shorten star/proficiency videos.

Special Events

Mrs. Zimmerman reported about the special events at State Convention.

- There will be a Board of Directors Meeting at 2p.m. on Monday, June 11, 2018.
- The Day of Service is searching for new service projects in the area.
- School Administrators will be recognized at the Wednesday Afternoon Session with a program beginning at 9:00a.m. This program includes speakers about FFA and Career and Technical Education, a welcome from the State President and National Officer, a free lunch and a convention tour guided by a past state officer. Please remind school official that this is a professional event. Also, remember to register the attending school officials.
- Parent and Advisor Recognition and Appreciation Lunch
 - Parent and Family Recognition is on Thursday in Seventh Session
 - Advisor Recognition on is Tuesday in the First Session
 - All are invited to a closing lunch on Thursday following convention

Convention Assignment/Duties

Mrs. Zimmerman provided a schedule of advisor assignments during convention. Please let her know of any conflicts.

Convention Program and Convention Managers

Please share suggestions with Mrs. Zimmerman regarding the Convention program. Managers are listed in program. Note retirement of managers.

Convention Details

- Housing – Let Mrs. Zimmerman know of plans. Board of Directors have first choice on hotels.
- Meals – Section 5 will provide lunch on Tuesday afternoon as well as snacks and beverages back stage.
- Registration – no major changes
- Stage Set-Up - same as previous years
- Contests – Please bring stopwatches for LDEs
- Guests
 - Gracie Furnish, Eastern Region National Vice President
 - Dr. Tony Evers, State Superintendent
 - Wisconsin Secretary of Agriculture
 - Alice in Dairyland

- Photography – Empire Photography
 - Order pictures following convention

The meeting was recessed at 9:50a.m and resumed at 10:07a.m.

Committee Reports

- Speakers & Entertainment - Presented by Mrs. Zimmerman and Ciera Ballmer
 - Wiley Bailey is no longer available
 - Lucas from Train2BClutch is in contract
 - Al Snyder, Hypnotist, is in contract
- Convention Workshops – Presented by Amelia Hayden and Kathryn Lampi
 - Note: New Panel about careers in agriculture
- Convention Tours – Presented by Brooke Brantner
- Meals and Receptions – Presented by Liz Grady
 - Suggestions were made to have state officer candidates and 3 Star Leaders to stand in seats instead of coming on stage.
- Special Projects and Decorations – Presented by Elisha Riley and Ciara Koboski
- Courtesy Corps and Seating – Presented by Sam Jesse and Liz Grady
 - Suggestions were made to create signs and/or map for seating arrangements and to utilize state officer candidates as convention greeters.
- Contests – Presented by Sam Pinchart
 - Suggestions were made to publicize the Agricultural Artwork Contest.
- Delegate Operations – Presented by Ciera Ballmer
 - Suggestions were made to pick committee chairs ahead of time and/or include interest in being a committee chair in delegate registration. The board suggested the following topics: SAE, delegate process, awards/applications, State Officer Election Process, and convention.
- Past State Officer – Presented by Kathryn Lampi
- AV and Branding – Presented by Morgan Fitzsimmons
 - Suggestion were made to create “Why Come to Convention” Video.
- Convention Media – Presented by Meikah Dado

Kathryn Lampi moved to approve all committee reports as presented. This motion was seconded by Sam Jesse. There was no discussion. Motion passed with sustaining action by advisors.

Open Discussion for Convention Ideas & Recommendations

Meikah Dado suggested utilizing Badger Catholics as a resource for Day of Service Projects.

Kathryn Lampi moved to adjourn the meeting. Sam Jesse seconded this motion. There was no discussion. Motion passed with sustaining action by advisors.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Liz Grady, State FFA Secretary