

Wisconsin Association of FFA

Board Of Directors Meeting

Clarion Suites Hotel, Madison, Wisconsin

Minutes Recorded by State FFA Secretary: Alicia Hodnik

Monday, March 15th, 2010

BJ Chrisler, State FFA President called to order the 2010 March Wisconsin Association of FFA Board Of Directors Meeting at 7:02pm at the Clarion Suites Hotel in Madison.

Those in Attendance: BJ Chrisler, Mr. Troy Talford, Leah Christenson, Mr. Derrick Meyer, Kirsten Konder, Mrs. Lisa Jagielo, Jessica Klinkner, Mr. John Heinberg, Adam Moore, Ms. Lori Berget, Tyler Franklin, Mr. James Kvalheim, Caitlin Roberts, Mr. Brad Gefvert, Jeanie Untiedt, Mr. Gary Wirkus, Mrs. Teri Raatz, Andy Moravec, Mr. Joe Heinbuch, Kim Schadrie, Mr. Aaron Kilsdonk, Alicia Hodnik, Mrs. Lisa Konkell, and Mr. Rick Henningfeld, Mrs. Zimmerman and Mr. Hicken.

Guests present: Mrs. Nicole Nelson, Mr. Jim Check, Melissa Ploeckelman, Nick Palkowski, Emily Lezpona, and Whitney Peissig.

BJ Chrisler gave a brief welcome to the Wisconsin Association of FFA Board Of Directors. Mrs. Zimmerman reviewed the agenda for Monday, March 15th and Tuesday, March 16th.

Approval Of Minutes- Kim Schadrie suggested a change in spelling from "Quesa" to "Cuesa" in the sentence "Andy Moravec gave a brief overview of the State Officers' experiences with transportation, culture, and the Quesa Farmer's Market." The new sentence now reads "Andy Moravec gave a brief overview of the State Officers' experiences with transportation, culture, and the Cuesa Farmer's Market."

The February Board Of Director's Meeting Minutes were then approved by the 2010 Wisconsin Association of FFA Board Of Directors.

State Officer Update-

Farm Forum- Kim Schadrie commented on the Farm Bureau FFA Farm Forum Conference that was held on February 26th and 27th in Wisconsin Rapids. Kim Schadrie stated that the conference was very useful for learning current agricultural issues and knowing the dynamic of future agriculturalists. We thank the Wisconsin Farm Bureau for providing this opportunity for FFA members.

The Country Today Silent Auction- Leah Christensen, who assisted with this two-day event, commented that the silent auction was very beneficial and organized very well. We thank The Country Today and Jim Massey for providing this opportunity for the FFA Foundation and FFA.

Kiwanis Club Dinner- BJ Chrisler spoke to the Kiwanis Club on March 14th. Every chapter in the Dane County area attended with at least six FFA members per chapter. BJ Chrisler said this was a very successful event and a great opportunity for FFA members.

State Officer Candidate Kick-Off- Andy Moravec gave an overview of the State Officer Candidate Kick-Off. Over twenty-five candidates from all over Wisconsin met in Madison on March 6th and were given the opportunity to strengthen their skills in running for State Office.

FFA Center Update:

Sectional Speaking Contests: Sections who have hosted their contest prior to the March Board of Directors Meeting gave a report on their contest's success. Sections who will be hosting their contest on March 22nd gave updates on their progress. Dates for the Sectional Speaking Contests can be found online at http://www.wisconsinffa.org/files/2010_SECTIONAL_SPEAKING_C.pdf

Update on State FFA Activities: Please see the attached report.

Wisconsin FFA Foundation Update: Mrs. Nicole Nelson gave the Wisconsin FFA Foundation report. Please see attached report for all of the Foundation's current action items.

Wisconsin FFA Alumni Update: Mr. Jim Check commented on the State FFA Alumni Convention that was held on February 12th and 13th and said it was a great and successful event. He gave the dates of the following events: Bucks Night Out: April 10th, Brewer Outing: August 22nd, and the State Leaders Conference: September 19th.

WAAE Update: Jeff Zobeck could not attend the meeting, so Mr. Aaron Kilsdonk gave the Wisconsin Association of Agricultural Educators Update. He thanked the State Officers for attending the School Board Convention and commented that the Wisconsin Association of Agricultural Educators has been working to keep Agricultural Education strong in schools in Wisconsin. Please see attached report.

Upcoming Events For Advisors:

Sectional Safe Tractor Operators Contest: Mrs. Zimmerman reminded the advisors that they must choose a date to host their Safe Tractor Operators Contest. The rules and regulations for this event can be found online at <http://www.wisconsinffa.org/files/05-tractor.pdf>.

State FFA Convention: Dates for the 2010 State FFA Convention are June 14th-17th at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison.

Chapter Officer Leadership Training Conference: Whitney Peissig, Emily Lezpona, and Nick Palkowski spoke on behalf of the Chapter Officer Leadership Training Committee. The 2010 COLT Conference will be held from August 18th-20th at the Central Environmental Station in Amherst Junction.

There will be four presenter positions available for the upcoming year. Applications will be available by the end of March. The applications give emphasis on Past State Officers but do not limit the position to those who have not served at the state level.

Mrs. Zimmerman reported the progress on the contract for the facility. Additional Information is being sent to the Department of Public Instruction to finalize the contract with the Central Environmental Station in Amherst Junction. It is estimated that the contract will be finalized by the middle of April.

The 2009-2010 Chapter Officer Leadership Training Committee will serve as the coordinator for the 2010 COLT Conference. In September a coordinator for the 2011 COLT Conference will be hired. Due to the time constraints of this Conference, advisors will have an opportunity to review the COLT curriculum and conference structure at the 2010 State FFA Convention.

BJ Chrisler asked how many members would be needed to break even financially. When accumulating all costs, a total of sixty-seven members would be needed to break even. Emails were sent to advisors during the preliminary development of COLT to gauge interest in the conference. Forty-one students were interested during preliminary development. Nick Palkowski believes that the committee will have no issues filling the quota.

Andy Moravec asked about meal accommodations. Emily Lezpona clarified that the initial cost of seventy-five dollars includes both meals and lodging.

Kim Schadrie moved to continue the development of the COLT Conference. Leah Christenson seconded the motion. Discussion took place at this time.

Kim Schadrie amended the main motion by adding the words "on the condition that all contracts are passed through the Department of Public Instruction and that the conference breaks even financially." Leah Christenson seconded the motion. This motion was approved by the State FFA Officers with sustained action from the advisors.

The main motion now read "to continue the development of the COLT Conference on the condition that all contracts are passed through the Department of Public Instruction and that the conference breaks even financially." This motion was seconded by Jessica Klinkner and passed by the State FFA Officers with sustaining action from the advisors.

Kirsten Konder moved to send a proposal to the Wisconsin FFA Foundation to make the Chapter Officer Leadership Training Conference an annually funded project. Tyler Franklin seconded the motion. This motion was passed by the State FFA Officers with sustaining action from the advisors.

State FFA Committees:

Policies/Constitution/Bylaws Committee: Jessica Klinkner moved to accept the Policies/Constitution/Bylaws Committee report. With an implied second, this motion was passed by the State FFA Officers with sustained action from the advisors.

Finance Committee: Mr. Hicken handed out the budget for the 2009 fiscal year. He explained the budget and the outlook on balances for the 2010 fiscal year. Feedback was given by the Board Of Directors on the Wisconsin Association of FFA budget.

DPI Update: At this time, Mr. Hicken delivered his Department of Public Instruction Report in addition to the Finance Committee Report. The saw blades that were sold at the 2010 State FFA Alumni Convention earned the Association money to put towards sponsorship. BJ Chrisler is going to send out the list of items that still need sponsorship so that the 2009-2010 State FFA Officer team can decide where to budget the money. Mr. Hicken reviewed the current membership standing in Wisconsin. There are currently about 15,700 members in Wisconsin with about 1,400 members in People Soft waiting to be processed.

Kirsten Konder moved to approve the Finance Committee budget for the 2009 fiscal year. With an implied second, this motion was passed by the State FFA Officers with sustained action from the advisors.

At this time, Mrs. Zimmerman commented on the National and State FFA Affiliation Fees. Some chapters have expressed interest in instating the affiliation fee. Any state or chapter may now utilize this option. For that reason, the Wisconsin Association of FFA needs to review the development of a State Affiliation Fee to make available to those chapters that want to pay the National Affiliation Fee. The Affiliation Fee FAQ can be found online at http://www.ffa.org/documents/ss_affiliate_faq.pdf

Discussion took place at this time. Mr. Hicken proposed to have a discussion session at the MFE/EDGE Conference in Stevens Point at the Ramada Hotel. The session will take place at 3:00pm on Friday, March 19th.

State Membership Committee: Jeanie Untiedt moved to accept the State Membership Committee report. With an implied second, this motion was passed by the State FFA Officers

with sustained action from the advisors. Mr. Troy Talford advised that the State Membership Committee link information for this on the Wisconsin FFA Website and Facebook page.

Awards and Programs Committee: Leah Christensen moved to accept the Awards and Programs Committee report. With an implied second, this motion was passed by the State FFA Officers with sustained action from the advisors.

One of the goals of the Awards and Programs Committee was to review the Food For America Application. At the February Board Of Directors Meeting, it was moved to create a rubric for the new Food For America Application so that judges may effectively review applications at the 2010 State FFA Convention. Mrs. Zimmerman passed out copies of the new application and rubric that were decided upon at the February Board of Director's Meeting.

Kim Schadrie moved to approve the new Food For America Application. Andy Moravec seconded the motion. Discussion was held at this time concerning how many goals a chapter should be limited or required to submit.

Kim Schadrie moved to amend the motion by adding the words "with focus on three main chapter goals." Alicia Hodnik seconded the motion. This motion was passed by the State FFA Officers with sustained action from the advisors.

The new motion now read "to approve the new Food For America Application with focus on three main chapter goals." This motion was passed by the State FFA Officers with sustaining action from the advisors.

With the Chapter Safety Program discontinuation, Andy Moravec moved to redirect the funding from the Chapter Safety Program to the Chapter Wellness Fund. Kirsten Konder seconded the motion. This motion was passed by the State FFA Officers with sustaining action from the advisors.

Media and Public Relations Committee: Caitlin Roberts moved to approve the Media and Public Relations Committee report. With an implied second, this motion was passed by the State FFA Officers with sustained action from the advisors.

Service Committee: Andy Moravec moved to accept the recommendations from the Service Committee. It was recommended that the Service Committee create a concrete list of items that chapters should supply at the 2010 State FFA Convention. With an implied second, this motion was passed by the State FFA Officers with sustained action from the advisors.

Partners Committee: Kim Schadrie moved to accept the Partners Committee report. With an implied second, this motion was passed by the State FFA Officers with sustained action from the advisors.

Andy Moravec moved to take a five minute recess. This motion was seconded by Alicia Hodnik and passed by the State FFA Officers and advisors. The Board Of Directors will reconvene at 9:01pm.

The Wisconsin Association of FFA March Board Of Directors Meeting reconvened at 9:03pm.

Program Of Activities Committee: Adam Moore moved to accept Option #3 of the Program Of Activities Committee Report. Option three states "To eliminate the Program Of Activities from the Constitution and Bylaws and replace the statement with the choice for the chapters to hand in a Program of Activities to the State Officer or State for their use." Leah Christenson seconded the motion. Discussion took place among the Board Of Directors.

Adam Moore amended the motion to strike the words "Option #3" and add the words "Option #2." Option two states "Create an excel document that would bring statistical information to the state staff that would be useful for both the Wisconsin Association of FFA and the Department of Public Instruction." This motion was seconded by Kirsten Konder. The amendment was passed by the State FFA Officers with sustaining action from the advisors.

The final motion now read "To accept option #2 of the Program Of Activities Committee report." This motion was passed by the State FFA Officers with sustaining action from the advisors.

Old Business:

Sectional Speaking Contests: Mrs. Zimmerman requested that host chapters collect all of the confidential information from the contest and send it back to the Wisconsin FFA Center. There were issues after some of the District and Sectional Contests in which students obtained confidential information. It was suggested that in the future all Sectional Speaking Contests happen on the same day so that there are multiple sets of motions for parliamentary procedure or to have the State Officer bring all of the confidential information to the contest and collect it when the contest concludes.

For prepared speaking, it was suggested to put an example of an APA formatted speech in the handbook so that there is a correct format and example for FFA members to use.

10x10x2010: BJ Chrisler gave all of the final updates for the 10X10X2010 program. Forms and information will be posted on the Wisconsin FFA Website.

Andy Moravec moved to accept the 10X10X2010 Committee report so that the program will go into action this year. With an implied second, this motion was passed by the State FFA Officers with sustained action from the advisors.

SAE Committee Scoring: At the February Board Of Directors meeting, it was suggested to change the scoring percentages from 70% Application : 30% Interview to 60% Application : 40%

Interview. The SAE Committee met again to address this issue and still feels strongly about the decision of having the scoring percentages of 70% Application : 30% Interview.

Kim Schadrie moved to accept the SAE Committee's scoring recommendation as presented at the February Board Of Directors Meeting and clarified at the March meeting. This motion was seconded by Andy Moravec. Discussion was held at this time.

Andy Moravec called the previous question. Kim Schadrie seconded the motion. This motion was passed by a vote of 10 to 1 by the State FFA Officers with sustaining action from the advisors.

State President's Report:

Ceremonial Scissors: BJ Chrisler purchased a pair of blue and gold twenty-four inch scissors that will be used annually to cut the ribbon at the grand opening of each State FFA Convention.

Alcohol Protocol: Kim Schadrie moved to approve the Alcohol Protocol for the state staff to take a closer look at. This motion was seconded by Kirsten Konder. The State FFA Officers passed this motion with sustaining action from the advisors.

Andy Moravec moved to approve the State President's Report minus the Discipline System proposal. This motion was seconded by Leah Christenson and passed by the State FFA Officers with sustaining action from the advisors.

Discipline System: Andy Moravec moved to approve the Disciplinary System for State FFA Officers. This motion was seconded by Kim Schadrie. The Board Of Directors took time to read the protocol and discuss pro's and con's of the proposal.

Adam Moore moved the previous question. The State FFA Officers passed the motion by a vote of 8 to 2. Action was not sustained by the advisors.

Honorary State and American FFA Degrees: Suggestions for State and American Degrees can be submitted to Mr. Hicken and Mrs. Zimmerman.

Nominations for Distinguished Service: Suggestions can be submitted to Mr. Hicken and Mrs. Zimmerman

Delegate Operations Committee: Alicia Hodnik moved to accept the Delegate Operations Committee report. With an implied second, this motion was passed by the State FFA Officers with sustained action from the advisors.

Tyler Franklin moved to adjourn the meeting. Adam Moore seconded this motion. The motion was passed at 11:14pm. The Wisconsin Association of FFA Board Of Directors will reconvene at 8:30am on Tuesday, March 16th.

Tuesday, March 16th, 2010

BJ Chrisler, State FFA President called to order the 2010 March Wisconsin Association of FFA Board Of Directors Meeting at 8:30am at the Clarion Inn and Suites in Madison. All Wisconsin Association of FFA Board Of Directors members were present.

Mrs. Zimmerman welcomed the Board Of Directors and explained the agenda for the Tuesday, March 16th.

State FFA Convention:

2nd Annual Day of Service: Beth Reith has done a great job in improving this year's Annual Day of Service. She is currently in the process of confirming four different sites in the hopes that there will be more duties for the Day of Service members to take part in. On Monday, June 14th, Day of service members will meet the State Officers at the capitol in the rotunda to kick-off Convention. The State FFA Officers will wrap up the Day of Service in the Capitol with the Day of Service members.

Board Of Directors Meeting at Convention: Due to the Kick-Off to Convention, the Board Of Directors Meeting and Orientation will be moved to 2:30pm on Monday, June 14th.

Kick-Off to Convention: The Kick-Off to Convention will be held from 6:30pm-8:30pm in the Alliant Energy Center parking lot. The kick-off is designed to help members network with individuals from other schools and to get revved up before the Reflections Ceremony on Monday night. It was suggested to make the tickets for the Kick-Off to Convention \$5.00 per person.

Convention Assignments and Duties: Mrs. Zimmerman went through the layout of the advisors' assignments and allowed advisors to adjust schedules based upon prior engagements and duties.

Administrator Attendance: Each officer must have a representative from their administration attend Convention on Wednesday June 16th. However, the invitation is formally sent from the Department of Public Instruction. Each administrator will receive recognition and a certificate on stage at the 5th General Session at 2:00pm. All administrators being recognized will have specific seating at the 5th General Session.

Parent and Advisor Appreciation Luncheon: After the 7th General Session, there is a luncheon offered to the parents and advisors of the 2009-2010 State FFA Officer team.

Convention Managers:

Spot Light Responsibility: Section V is in charge of the spot light for Convention. They are in charge of picking up the spot light from Full Compass, finding members to run the spot light at

Convention, and returning the spot light to Full Compass at the conclusion of Convention. Also, Section V is in charge of bringing food for the State Officers during the week of Convention.

Door Check Assignments: Section VI is in charge of securing door checkers at the State FFA Convention. Their job is to monitor official dress and answer questions that Convention-goers might have.

Partners Committee: The Partners Committee is in charge of helping Mrs. Zimmerman and Mrs. Nelson reorganize the sponsor's portion of the Convention program.

Mrs. Zimmerman also explained the list of advisors who help manage Convention annually. This can be found annually on the last page of the Convention program.

Convention Facilities:

Leadership Dinner: The Leadership Dinner will be moved into Hall A, where the State Degree Luncheon is held because it seats attendees more comfortably.

Agriscience Fair: Mrs. Zimmerman is contemplating where to move the Agriscience Fair. There is a possibility that they will be moved to the Mendota Rooms 1-4. All four rooms will not be needed for Agriscience Fair, however; Life Work Expo is growing a substantial amount and will need more room at the 2010 State FFA Convention. It was suggested to change the recognition program for Agriscience Fair winners. Mr. Derrick Meyer is assigned to Agriscience Fair and will work with Mrs. Zimmerman in making the recognition program more formal and meaningful for students receiving state awards.

Steel Emblem: Mr. Dippery from Turtle Lake is creating a plasma cut, steel emblem that will be permanently fixed to the wall in the atrium of the Alliant Energy Center.

Convention Housing: Mrs. Zimmerman handed out the housing that advisors have requested at the February Board Of Directors Meeting. Advisors were able to look over their original requests and make changes if needed.

Convention Parking: The Alliant Energy Center gives the Association 50 free parking tickets per year. The Association sells the tickets and all of the money goes back to the Association. Money from other parking tickets bought throughout the week goes to the Alliant Energy Center.

Special Guests: The Association has invited Governor Doyle, Alice in Dairyland, and Tony Evers to the 2010 State FFA Convention as special guests.

Leah Christenson moved to take a seven minute recess. Alicia Hodnik seconded the motion. This motion was passed by the Board Of Directors to reconvene at 9:38am.

The meeting was called back to order at 9:38am.

Convention Committee Reports:

Speakers and Entertainment Committee: Jessica Klinkner moved to accept the Speakers and Entertainment Committee report to have Bret Bielema as the second Convention Speaker. With an implied second, the State FFA Officers approved the motion with sustaining action from the advisors.

Convention DJ: Discussion was open for advisors to speak on behalf of previous DJ recommendations. Kim Schadrie moved to offer Garret VanderVeen from the Big Foot FFA the opportunity to be the DJ at the 2010 State FFA Convention. Andy Moravec seconded the motion. This motion was approved by the State FFA Officers with sustaining action from the advisors.

Convention Workshops Committee: Kim Schadrie moved to accept the Convention Workshops Committee report. With an implied second, the State FFA Officers approved the motion with sustaining action from the advisors.

Convention Tours Committee: Alicia Hodnik moved to accept the Convention Tours Committee report as presented. With an implied second, the State FFA Officers approved the motion with sustaining action from the advisors.

Meals and Receptions Committee: Tyler Franklin moved to approve the Meals and Receptions Committee report. With an implied second, the State FFA Officers approved the motion with sustaining action from the advisors.

Life Work Expo and Special Projects: Tyler Franklin moved to accept the Life Work Expo and Special Projects Committee report. With an implied second, the State FFA Officers approved the motion with sustaining action from the advisors.

Courtesy Corps and Seating Committee: Jeanie Untiedt moved to accept the Courtesy Corps and Seating Committee report. With an implied second, the State FFA Officers approved the motion with sustaining action from the advisors.

Media and Public Relations: Caitlin Roberts moved to accept the Media and Public Relations committee report. With an implied second, the State FFA Officers approved the motion with sustaining action from the advisors.

Contests Committee: Leah Christenson moved to accept the Contests Committee report. With an implied second, the State FFA Officers approved the motion with sustaining action from the advisors.

Special Projects and Decorations Committee: Alicia Hodnik moved to accept the Special Projects and Decorations Committee report. With an implied second, the State FFA Officers approved the motion with sustaining action from the advisors.

Past State Officer Committee: Kim Schadrie moved to accept the Past State Officer Committee report. With an implied second, the State FFA Officers approved the motion with sustaining action from the advisors.

AV Productions Committee: Andy Moravec moved to accept the AV Productions Committee report. With an implied second, the State FFA Officers approved the motion with sustaining action from the advisors.

Pre-Session Committee: Caitlin Roberts moved to accept the Pre-Session Committee Report. With an implied second, the State FFA Officers approved the motion with sustaining action from the advisors.

Spirit Stick Committee: Adam Moore moved to accept the Spirit Stick Committee report. With an implied second, the State FFA Officers approved the motion with sustaining action from the advisors.

FFA Hall of Fame Committee: Kirsten Konder moved to accept the Hall of Fame Committee report. With an implied second, the State FFA Officers approved the motion with sustaining action from the advisors.

State FFA Convention Floral Budget: The Board of Directors suggested that small bouquets be made for the parent recognition and flower arrangements be made for honored adults. It was suggested that this could be done in the Floral Workshop that Kathy Breunig is facilitating. Andy Moravec moved to accept the floral budget at \$459.00. Kim Schadrie seconded this motion. The motion was passed by the State FFA Officers with sustaining action from the advisors.

Kim Schadrie moved to adjourn the meeting. This motion was seconded by Alicia Hodnik and passed by the 2009-2010 Wisconsin Association of FFA Board of Directors at 10:56am.

The next meeting of the Wisconsin Association of FFA Board of Directors will be held at the State FFA Convention, Monday, June 14 at 2:30 p.m. The State FFA Officers will be meeting on Friday, April 30th at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. State Officer Advisors are not required to be at this meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alicia Hodnik
State FFA Secretary
Wisconsin Association of FFA

Wisconsin FFA Report

Cheryl Zimmerman, State FFA Executive Director

State FFA Honors Band and Chorus – Final rosters will be published this week and sent to the applicants and advisors.

WLC Scholarship Recipients – Participants will be notified this week – 17 individuals were selected for scholarships.

State FFA Degree Processing – Chapters are in the process of being notified of the status of their state FFA degree applications via e-mail. Applications needing revisions will be returned to chapters. Final appeals are due April 1. Thank you State FFA Officer Advisors for your time in reviewing these applications. One appeal interview has taken place.

State FFA Star Applications - Were judged on Friday evening, March 12 in Wisconsin Dells. Finalists in each area listed in this report. There are 10 Star Farmer Finalists; 10 Star in Agricultural Placement Finalists; 5 Star in Agribusiness Finalists and 4 Star in Agriscience Finalists.

State FFA Proficiency Judging – Took place on Friday and Saturday in Wisconsin Dells. Cheryl Zimmerman, Terry Bernick and Jeff Hicken headed up the process. Results will be posted shortly. We had 56 FFA advisors, as well as, student teachers, university staff, and alumni involved in the judging process. Also UW-River Falls and UW-Platteville agricultural education students assisted with the process of writing comments. Over 780 proficiency award applications were received, processed and judged.

The Proficiency Award Review Panel was used again this year to verify the final placings and helped provide consistency in judging as well as catching items that the judges may have missed during the evaluation process. State Winning Proficiency Applications will be reviewed again by this Panel so the applications can be evaluated for any suggested corrections that should be made before moving on to National Competition.

American Degree Applications have arrived at the Wisconsin FFA Center. Unofficially we have 200 applications. Increase of 67 applications from last year. The official count and inputting has not yet occurred due to our focus on proficiency judging this past weekend.

Unofficial American Star Applications – 3 Farmer; 3 Agriscience; 1 Agribusiness; 7 Placement

Plans are in process of having a group of instructors assist at the MFE/EDGE conference in reviewing the American Degree Applications and the American Star Applications.

State Convention Housing and Tentative Planning Guide will be online very soon. Convention Managers have been invited to submit their housing requests. Monday everything will go online.

Agricultural Issues CDE, Agricultural Communications CDE, Marketing Plan CDE and Opening/Closing Ceremony Competition again offered at State FFA Convention. All applications can be found on the Wisconsin FFA website. Due date for entries is April 1.

Made For Excellence and EDGE Conferences – Stevens Point, March 19-20

Currently we have approximately 215 students for MFE and 200 EDGE. We plan to have American Degree Review, American Star Selection and National Officer Selection Process at the same location.

Wisconsin National FFA Candidate Selection Process - Interviews to be held March 20 in Stevens Point.

Constitutional Amendments sent to Wisconsin FFA by National FFA – See additional handout.

The National FFA Commemorative Coin Act: (U.S. Senate Bill #S.1553 and U.S. House of Representatives Bill #H.3464) will seek a U.S.-minted commemorative coin honoring the 85th anniversary of the National FFA Organization in 2012. FFA is working with key leaders in Congress to promote and gain co-sponsors of the bill. In order for the bill to emerge from committee, FFA must enlist a two-thirds majority of 67 Senate co-sponsors and 290 House co-sponsors. If we are successful in getting this legislation passed, the proceeds from the Commemorative FFA Coin will be used to strengthen programs and serve future generations of young people for decades to come. We know that our senators and congressional representatives respond to what they hear from their constituents, and we need your help. See information on the FFA Website.

2010 Wisconsin FFA Star Finalists

State Star in Agriscience Finalists

Emilie Cerny - Big Foot FFA
Kayla Schuld – Marshfield FFA
Jenna Verhaagh – Pulaski FFA
Dakotah Meyer – Tri-County FFA

State Star in Agribusiness Finalists

Ethan C. Rzentkowski – Amherst FFA
Blaine Romenesko – Big Foot FFA
Tanner Strunz – Brodhead FFA
Andrew S. Buss – Randolph-Cambria-Friesland FFA
Holly Sutcliffe – Wisconsin Heights FFA

State Star in Agricultural Placement Finalists

Tim Ostrowski – Amherst FFA
Trenton Styczynski – Bonduel FFA
Colton S. Carpenter – Darlington FFA
Tanner Bradley – Fort Atkinson FFA
Ethan E. Giebel – Mauston FFA
Trisha Blaser – Oconto Falls FFA
Joseph C. Cash – Parkview FFA
Brad Laack – Plymouth FFA
Benjamin Syvertson – Randolph-Cambria-Friesland FFA
Michael Niemann – Sauk Prairie FFA

State Star Farmer Finalists

Joshua D. Huber – Adams-Friendship FFA
Phillip Rutz – Amherst FFA
Nicholas Pues – Bonduel FFA
Mitchell Krahn – Brillion FFA
KoriTrescher – Cashton FFA
Emma Berget – Darlington FFA
SkylerPapcke – Elkhorn FFA
Joshua Joseph – Kickapoo FFA
Donnie Robinson - Lomira FFA
Sam Wiersma – Randolph-Cambria-Friesland FFA

Wisconsin FFA Foundation Report – Nicole Nelson, Executive Director

General Updates

- Nicole Nelson just returned from maternity leave on March 1. Rose Lynn Nelson was born Jan. 14.
- The next Foundation meetings are April 14.

2009-10 Campaign

- As of March 9, we've achieved 83 percent of our annual goal to raise \$285,000.
- We've received over \$8,200 thus far from 29 chapters and alumni affiliates
- In 2008-09 we received over \$22,500 from 64 chapters and alumni affiliates

New Brand Image

- The Foundation will be launching a new brand image at the state convention in June.
- The image includes a new logo, letterhead, newsletter design (print and electronic), brochure, website, newspaper ads, and potential sponsor folder and materials.

Fundraising events

- Annual raffle going on now! Sell tickets!
- 2010 golf outing dates are set:
 - Northwest (Eau Claire) – July 12
 - **NEW** Northeast (Wrightstown) – July 14
 - Southern (Cottage Grove) – July 26

WAAE Report – Jeff Zobeck, President

I sincerely apologize for not being able to attend the meeting. Madison is just a little too far to travel from Gresham on a school night and the night before our Chapter FFA Banquet.

- 1) WAAE is again helping sponsor and plan the Change Lives: Teach Agriculture program at the State FFA Convention. We will also be having a booth at the Expo. again.
- 2) Thanks to the State FFA Officers that assisted with our booth at the Wisconsin Association of School Boards Convention in Milwaukee. B.J. offered some very good advice to make this even better in the future that we will be taking under advisement.
- 3) The 1st Annual National Teach Ag. Day was a big success. We received a proclamation from the governor to promote the day and Mr. David Kruse, WAAE Sectional V.P. from Section 10 and the Elkhorn program spearheaded a very successful Students Teaching Students About Agriculture pledge program. We far exceeded our goals and expectations for this program.
- 4) We have and continue to be in discussion with the entire Team Ag. Ed. Family about the need to Recruit and Retain both Ag. Teachers and Ag. Ed. Programs throughout the state. A big piece to this challenge will be collecting relevant data to share our story.
- 5) Mr. Jeff Hicken and LPS Craig Frederick from the National FFA will be traveling the state of Wisconsin in April to follow up with the 9 programs that piloted the National Program Quality Standards assessment earlier this school year. They will be reviewing progress these programs have made on their goals to improve their entire Agricultural Education programs at the local level.

Overall we continue to advocate for the profession of Agricultural Education and are well into the planning and implementation of our Professional Development Conference in Middleton in late June.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Zobeck
WAAE President