

Wisconsin Association of FFA Board of Directors Meeting

Hotel Mead, Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin

February 19, 2015

The meeting was called to order by President Alison Wedig at 6:45 pm.

Attendance: Alison Wedig, Ethan Dado, Maggie Larson, Matt Kortbein, Danielle Jentz, Kaitlyn Owens, Sally Albers, Leeah Luepke, Hallie Kopczynski, Kelly Wilfert, Kati Kindschuh, Mr. Lobdell, Mr. Meyer, Mr. Boettcher, Mrs. Bailey, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Babcock, Ms. Houser, Mr. Talford, Mr. Zimmerman, Ms. Kroeplien, Mrs. Propson, Mr. Robinson, Mrs. Zimmerman, Mr. Hicken

Secretary's Report: Ethan Dado moved to accept the Secretary's minutes from January. Danielle Jentz seconded. Motion carried and sustained.

State Officer Reports:

Kati Kindschuh and Leeah Luepke reported on Wisconsin School Board Convention with Auburndale FFA and agricultural education department. Suggestions were given to have additional publicity with other schools, host a separate Wisconsin FFA booth, and to have pamphlets or Annual Reports from Wisconsin FFA to give out.

Ethan Dado, Maggie Larson, and Matt Kortbein reported on State FFA Alumni Convention. The State Officer Team gave two workshops (Life of a State Officer and Exploring Leadership), helped out with the auctions by announcing and modeling items, and received lifetime membership and a \$150 scholarship. Alison Wedig updated the Board and shared that the 2014-15 team will be painting milk cans to auction at the 2016 Wisconsin FFA Alumni Convention.

Danielle Jentz, Kaitlyn Owens, and Sally Albers reported on CTSO (Career and Technical Student Organization) Day at the Capitol on February 12. The team toured the Capitol, visited legislators, and met with other CTSO State Officers.

District Speaking Contest Reports:

It was suggested to remind advisors to ask other advisors who are not hosting for additional help. The concern of Discussion Meet impacting so many other contests was brought up. Discussion ensued about whether or not it should be considered a "group" or "individual" competition. Clarification is needed for how many copies of manuscripts/resumes/cover letters need to be sent in as it states differently in different locations. This will be looked at and updated. Clarification was given for the Quiz Bowl and Parliamentary Procedure rule on addition of a team member—as long as a team is entered, members can be added, substituted, or deleted as desired.

One contest was rescheduled in Section IV this year because of weather.

Mrs. Zimmerman reported on rule violations: one person competed multiple times in Creed. The advisor was informed that the member could not advance. Plagiarism and/or lack of an attached bibliography was addressed in Prepared Speaking, and offending members were disqualified.

Ethan Dado moved to approve Clarification #1 of the Parliamentary Procedure Contest so that all rules and scorecards are consistent in their wording. Maggie Larson seconded. Motion passed by a majority vote and sustained by advisors.

Ethan Dado moved that the host chapter be in charge of providing the paper for the Secretary and Chairperson for the Parliamentary Procedure Contest. Kaitlyn Owens seconded. Maggie Larson moved to amend the motion by inserting the words “and a gavel.” Matt Kortbein seconded. Amendment passed by a majority vote and sustained by advisors. The motion now reads that “the host chapter be in charge of providing the paper and a gavel for the Secretary and Chairperson for the Parliamentary Procedure contest.” Motion passed by a majority vote and sustained by advisors.

Ethan Dado moved for the host chapter to provide paper for the Discussion Meet Contest. Maggie Larson seconded. Motion passed by a majority vote and sustained by advisors. Matt Kortbein moved for the host chapter to provide notecards for the Extemporaneous Speaking Contest. Maggie Larson seconded. Matt withdrew his motion because this is already specified in the rules; this will need to be brought to the host advisors’ attention.

The 2011-12 Wisconsin Association of FFA Board of Directors adopted a procedure at the March 2012 Board meeting for advancement to the Sectional Speaking Contest when not all six spots are filled. Within a week of the contest, drop-outs are not filled for cross-district substitutes. The process for finding a third place team in Quiz Bowl was discussed. Mrs. Zimmerman handed out results of those advancing, as well as empty spots being filled and by whom.

State FFA Executive Director and State Advisor Reports:

Mrs. Zimmerman and Mr. Hicken reported on the National FFA Inservice. Mrs. Zimmerman’s part focused on FFA, the new website, award applications, and middle school members. There is a new Career Development Event in the works for middle school members. Mr. Hicken told us about a workshop on liability; he is working on finding out what coverage Wisconsin FFA has. State Officers were encouraged to ask if their school has volunteer or volunteer-rider liability insurance.

Wisconsin Stars and Proficiency judging will be March 6-7, 2015 at the Chula Vista.

With the Stoughton agriculture teacher retiring, the Stoughton FFA will no longer be able to provide the risers and stands for the Wisconsin FFA Band and Choir. The question arose about if schools nearby who could assist.

State Fair FFA Band and Choir Alumni Day is Saturday of State Fair. Folks are working on figuring out when the band/choir alumni day actually started.

Committee Reports:

Convention Speakers (Alison Wedig): Jermain Davis contract completed. Barrett Keene contact in process.

Convention Tours (Kelly Wilfert): Eight locations have been identified; Kelly will work on cementing dates and times. Mr. Hicken updated the Board on a change in busing companies. He and Kelly will continue to work to get a quote on busing for the 2015 Wisconsin FFA Convention.

Service Committee (Hallie Kopczynski and Leeah Luepke): They reported on Sectional Leadership Workshop highlights. “Speak Up, Slow Down” and “Pens for Hens” have been

identified as potential workshops for State FFA Convention. Mrs. Rieth has asked about having Troy Gardens (Community Groundworks) speak at Session 1. Meals for packaging have been ordered.

Programs and Awards (Maggie Larson and Alison Wedig):

The Website Contest has been sent out on listserv. Pat Sternitsky will make sure everything is working correctly before the State Officer Team judges.

There are suggestions to add questions to the Opening/Closing Ceremonies Contest: These could be about positions, room set-up, meeting format, etc. The committee would like questions/suggestions by March. They will look at better definition of rules and potentially adding one question per office. It was suggested to try questions this year without counting for scoring.

Danielle Jentz moved to add a digital scrapbook contest category to the current Wisconsin FFA Scrapbook Contests starting at the 2015 State FFA Convention. Sally Albers seconded. Ethan Dado moved to postpone the motion until the next scheduled meeting in March. Danielle Jentz seconded. Motion passed by a majority vote and sustained by advisors.

Ag Artwork Contest (Matt Kortbein): There are considerations to split the Ag Artwork Contest into three categories with two divisions. Categories would be Grades 7-9, Grades 10-12, and Alumni/Advisor. Divisions would be 2D and 3D. Last year there were 106 entries. The essay will be judged more on content and less on grammar/spelling. NASCO sponsored the event last year, and there will have to be decisions made on how to split the prizes to fit the new categories. The option of selling artwork was discussed; it was decided to leave this up to the individual to keep liability off of Wisconsin FFA. A cultural art card with specific questions was suggested for future contests.

Convention Entertainment (Mrs. Zimmerman): We have a roughly \$3500 budget for entertainment. In the past, Wisconsin FFA split ticket money with Jim Wand. We've decided to go another direction because of issues affecting those who are hypnotized. The Peterson Brothers are not available. Wisconsin FFA could potentially get Leeman of David and Leeman for \$3500. Additional suggestions are welcomed at the March meeting.

Old Business:

Membership Update (Mr. Hicken): As of February 19, 2015, Wisconsin FFA has 17,513 members. Supplemental rosters are due March 2. Unity is on probation. The following chapters are in the corresponding year with no advisor or certified teacher: Algoma-2nd, Alma-3rd, Benten-3rd, Fall River-2nd, Frederic-4th, GB West-3rd

Chapter Constitutions and POAs (Mr. Hicken): Mrs. Zimmerman passed out lists of those missing to the Board.

Update on Constitutional Amendment sent to National FFA: There are two proposals that will be discussed at the 2015 National FFA Convention by the delegate body. New York submitted a proposal regarding the number of delegates per state. Pennsylvania and Wisconsin submitted a proposal regarding the process for amending the National FFA Constitution and Bylaws.

State Officer Reimbursement Banquet/Special Events—Speaker Agreement Form (yellow):

Maggie Larson moved to accept the speaker agreement for State Officers as presented. Sally Albers seconded. Motion passed by a majority vote and sustained by advisors.

New Business:

State FFA Proficiency Award—Second Place Cash Awards: Wisconsin is no longer receiving \$150 from National FFA to cover second place. A Star Mission Grant application has been prepared to request the additional funds from the Wisconsin FFA Foundation. Kelly Wilfert moved to approve the Star Mission Fund Grant for application and if not selected to pull funds from Association Reserves for 2015. Sally Albers seconded. Motion passed by a majority vote and sustained by advisors.

Reimbursement for SOs to work on State Convention Committee Projects: Ethan Dado moved to accept the State Officer Convention workday request as proposed. Sally Albers seconded. Motion carried and sustained.

Agriscience Fair Policies: Leeah Luepke moved to accept the Wisconsin Association of FFA Agriscience Fair Policy updates. Kaitlyn Owens seconded. Motion carried and sustained.

Hall of Fame Nominations: The Board of Directors discussed past nominees who were not selected, how to interpret the eligibility criteria, and new nominees.

State FFA Degrees and Review Process: If the State Degree application says DRAFT, something is not completed correctly, and the application automatically does not pass. Discussion ensued about online capabilities and the future of applications.

State FFA Convention Update:

Procedures for State President Election: State Officers must declare candidacy before April 15. Mrs. Zimmerman handed out information regarding the position and responsibilities. Interviews will be held April 24, and voting will take place June 18, 2015 at the 8:00 a.m. team meeting.

Officer/Parent Housing: Mrs. Zimmerman can make the reservations. Parents will be responsible for payment.

March Meeting:

Madison Country Inn and Suites, March 12-13

Sally Albers moved to adjourn. Marguerite Larson seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Wilfert
Wisconsin Association of FFA
2014-15 State Secretary