Minutes
Wisconsin FFA Association Board of Directors Meeting
January 9, 2009
Ramada Hotel
Stevens Point, Wisconsin

President Nick Palkowski called the meeting to order at 1:05 P.M. Those in attendance included: Tyler Latz, Ms. Bos, Molly Heintz, Mrs. Sauvola, Emily Lezpona, Mr. King, Tommy Butts, Ms. Berget, Kimberly Forrester, Mrs. Beaty, BJ Chrisler, Mr. Talford, Jessica Hinrichsen, Mr. Slipek, Rodney Hillskotter, Mrs. Dykes, Jamie Renier, Mrs. Fischl, Mr. Rusk, Erin Theder-Belienski, Ms. Schutt, Mr. Ritscher, Mrs. Zimmerman, and Mr. Hicken.

This meeting was held in conjunction with the Wisconsin Association of FFA Half-Time Conference.

Mrs. Zimmerman gave a welcome to everyone attending the meeting, and explained how the Board of Director’s conducts business. She then proceeded with a Wisconsin FFA Center update.

State FFA President Nick Palkowski gave an update on State Officer activities. Some highlights included Sectional Leadership Workshops, FIRE Conference, Chapter Visits, and National Convention.

Mr. Hicken proceeded with discussing Membership Rosters with the Board. There were a large number of chapters with no payment received, and discussion followed on what action to take.

Tyler Latz moved to accept payment two weeks from the date of notice (Monday 12th by email); Probation will ensue if no contact or payment is made by the 26th of January, 2009. The motion was seconded by Erin Theder-Belienski. The motion was passed by the State Officers, and sustained by the advisors.

Mrs. Zimmerman gave a discussion about Sectional Speaking Contests covering the guidelines and setup of the site. She handed out the Speaking Contest Handbook and the Sectional Plaques.

Mrs. Zimmerman and Mr. Hicken presented the issue of the State Officer’s receiving an overpayment on mileage reimbursements. Instead of the Wisconsin Association of FFA approved $.35 per mile, the officers were given $.48 by the DPI CTSO temporary accountant. BJ Chrisler moved the officers pay back the overage charge for mileage. Emily Lezpona seconded the motion. It was passed by the State Officers and sustained by the advisors.

Mr. Hicken brought up a discussion on using government turn down rate for mileage. This would up the mileage rate to $.36. Jamie Renier moved to NOT use the State Turn down rate for mileage. BJ Chrisler seconded the motion. It was passed by the State Officers and sustained by the advisors.
Mr. Hicken gave a discussion on the State CDE’s competition. The CDE committee is working to develop an online registration process.

Mr. Hicken presented on having DPI background checks on speakers, state officer candidates, and volunteers at this year’s State FFA Convention. More information will continue to be provided from DPI as to what will be expected.

Mr. Hicken and Mrs. Zimmerman made a request to start a Food Service Proficiency Area. Mr. Gundlach advisor from the Randolph-Cambria-Friesland FFA chapter sent Mrs. Zimmerman and Mr. Hicken the initial proposal. This proposal had also been e-mailed to the WAAE SAE Committee for review. Molly Heintz moved to implement the Food Service Proficiency Area to be active this year. Jessica Hinrichsen seconded the motion. The state officers passed the motion and the advisors sustained.

Mrs. Zimmerman handed out the State FFA Degree Handbook. These had been e-mailed to the Board and SAE Committee prior to the meeting for review. A discussion ensued on various aspects and minor revisions were brought up. Jamie Renier moved to approve the State Degree Handbook with minor changes. Erin Theder-Belienski seconded the motion. It was passed by the State Officers and sustained by the advisors.

Mrs. Zimmerman discussed changing the March Wisconsin Association of FFA Board meeting date to March 19 and 20. State President Nick Palkowski would be attending National Ag Day in Washington, D.C. on March 12th, and would be unable to attend the Board meeting as currently scheduled. No objections were made to move the March Meeting to the dates of March 19th and 20th.

Ms. Nicole Schmidt, Executive Director of the Wisconsin FFA Foundation, provided an update on the FFA Foundation Raffle.

The next Wisconsin Association of FFA Board Meeting will be held on February 20 in Wisconsin Rapids. Thursday evening February 19, the state officer advisors will be reviewing State FFA Degrees. The state officers will also have a work session together.

BJ Chrisler moved to adjourn the meeting. Molly Heintz seconded the motion. It was passed by the State Officers and sustained by the advisors.

The January Board Meeting was adjourned at 3:35 P.M. by President Nick Palkowski.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tommy Butts
State FFA Secretary
Wisconsin Association of FFA