

## Wisconsin Association of FFA

### State FFA Delegate Business Session

*June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011*

Alicia Hodnik, State FFA President, officially opened the 2011 State FFA Convention Business Session at 10:00am in Halls C/D of the Alliant Energy Center Exhibition Hall on June 14, 2011.

Jeff Hicken, Alicia Hodnik, Amy Kringle, Samantha Becker, Laura Hornby, Julie Orth, Cory Brown, Ethan Giebel, Anna Peissig, Sam Tauchen, Whitney Barnes, Noah Wiedenfeld and voting delegates were present.

The official delegate counts were as follows:

Section 1: 21	Section 6: 36
Section 2: 31	Section 7: 38
Section 3: 36	Section 8: 37
Section 4: 34	Section 9: 40
Section 5: 39	Section 10: 44

Total of 356 voting delegates present

**MOTION 1:** Shellie Zweifel of the Brodhead FFA Chapter in Section 5 moved to approve the minutes of the 81<sup>st</sup> Wisconsin State FFA Convention. Julian Slefo from the Markesan FFA in Section 6 seconded the motion. The motion was passed by the delegate body of the Wisconsin Association of FFA. The minutes stand approved.

**MOTION 2:** Ethan Olson from the Adams Friendship FFA in Section 6 moved to accept the 2011-2012 Wisconsin Association of FFA budget. Derek Donnelly of the Ellsworth FFA Chapter in Section 2 seconded the motion. The motion was passed by the delegate body of the Wisconsin Association of FFA.

**MOTION 3:** Jeris Nigh of the Sheboygan Falls FFA in Section 9 moved to accept the Wisconsin State FFA Degree recipients. Tony Heine from the Jefferson FFA Chapter in Section 10 seconded the motion. The motion was passed by the delegate body of the Wisconsin Association of FFA.

#### **Delegate Committee Reports:**

##### State Convention:

Committee Chair: Ashley Gerlach, Fennimore

Whereas the State Convention committee discussed current issues and topics for the given area and hereby recommends the following:

Recommendation #1: Group rates should be established at hotels housing students for convention. The cost would be lower for chapters and hotels could also be enlightened more onto what the FFA is and what members do at State Convention.

Recommendation #2: All State Convention information should be sent out at one time. With the past years, information has been sent out at various times making it difficult for some members to know if they can attend or not.

Recommendation #3: Convention should also host live animal shows. This would give members a chance to show off what they do in SAE's and projects. Other recommendations include: Military booths at convention, breaks/intermissions in the sessions, more career representation at the career show, more advertising, cut sessions down, new tours, and more activities on Tuesday.

Student Advocacy:

Committee Chair: Jennifer Rynes, Brookwood

Whereas the Student Advocacy committee discussed current issues and topics for the given area and hereby recommends the following:

Recommendation #1: Promotion agriculture to the legislature by inviting representatives to parades, banquets, and other events.

Recommendation #2: Utilize media sources including Facebook, radio stations, websites and newspapers to publicize the activities of the FFA.

Recommendation #3: A more student lead approach requiring students to do the talking rather than advisors and having students go in and talk to middle school classes would be beneficial.

Alumni Committee:

Committee Chair: Abby VanHaren, Tri County

Whereas the Alumni committee discussed current issues and topics for the given area and hereby recommends the following:

Recommendation #1: Sponsorship of scholarships. These are beneficial to students going to college. They also raise awareness of the Alumni and allow students to know that they have support so they are more willing to join the alumni.

Recommendation #2: Workshops given about alumni to juniors and seniors. This would allow students to get to know alumni members and intermingle with them.

Recommendation #3: Community project that alumni sponsor and puts on to reach out to members in the community. This gets alumni members into the community to make them known.

National FFA Week:

Committee Chair: Jon Talle, Holmen

Whereas the National FFA Week committee discussed current issues and topics for the given area and hereby recommends the following:

Recommendation #1: Every chapter on a certain day of FFA week would wear FFA colors. This would show mass support for FFA.

Recommendation #2: Have the state FFA theme song played during FFA week in chapters to bring enthusiasm about the FFA.

Recommendation #3: Have a sectional activity one day during FFA week. This would encourage media to cover a big event better.

Vision/ Branding:

Committee Chair: Taylor Egnarski, Watertown

Whereas the Vision of FFA/Marketing and Branding committee discussed current issues and topics for the given area and hereby recommends the following:

Recommendation #1: Educate the community through displays at town festivals, food stands, and leadership.

Recommendation #2: Education of agriculture mandatory in junior high. Ways to educate these students include powerful speeches with props, being a delegate for FFA, and developing a prepared speech.

Recommendation #3: Act kind to others and courteous to all while wearing FFA apparel. Wear FFA apparel proudly and remember you are representing all FFA members.

Enhanced Leadership:

Committee Chair: Julien Slefo, Markesan

Whereas the Enhanced Leadership committee discussed current issues and topics for the given area and hereby recommends the following:

Recommendation #1: Teach parliamentary procedure at some conferences, including SLW's, Halftime, and FIRE Conference.

Recommendation #2: More hands on at conferences. To keep members attention, more hands on activities are needed.

Recommendation #3: Overall membership involvement. Teach more about membership involvement and how you can get involved in the FFA.

Social Networking:

Committee Chair: Mike Powers, Black Hawk

Whereas the Social Networking committee discussed current issues and topics for the given area and hereby recommends the following:

Recommendation #1: To make sure that members understand what is going on and keep them updated on upcoming events, the Facebook page should be updated regularly.

Recommendation #2: A twitter account should be started to appeal to more people.

Recommendation #3: Text messaging updates should be used. Since most members have text messaging, FFA members would benefit from this because it's mobile and updates can be received where ever.

SAE Committee:

Committee Chair: Valerie Harris, Fort Atkinson

Whereas the SAE committee discussed current issues and topics for the given area and hereby recommends the following:

Recommendation #1: A state Identified record keeping system should be in place. Everyone would then have consistent information and accurate information for award applications.

Recommendation #2: Proficiency award area identification should be provided by the state as a flyer, booklet, or website. At least 5-10 examples of each area should be listed so that students can recognize their area.

Recommendation #3: Hold an SAE workshop at SLW's yearly. This would get students involved at the beginning of the year and provide opportunity to explain state record book system.

Middle School Opportunities:

Committee Chair: Sierra Coulthard, Neillsville

Whereas the Middle School Opportunities committee discussed current issues and topics for the given area and hereby recommends the following:

Recommendation #1: A middle school fun/activity night should be created at State Convention. Middle school members may be overwhelmed with older students. This would encourage more involvement and communication.

Recommendation #2: Create support materials that will aid in establishing a PALS program. More relations with younger students in learning along with involvement in FFA will increase participation.

Recommendation #3: Create a pre-session dedicated to Middle School Opportunities. This would showcase the numerous opportunities for the Middle School along with FFA activities.

Affiliation/ Dues:

Committee Chair: Tanner Johnson, Bangor

Whereas the National FFA Week committee discussed current issues and topics for the given area and hereby recommends the following:

Recommendation #1: Keep the affiliation fee optional for WI chapters. This will save money for big chapters with affiliation and small chapters will save money without the affiliation.

Recommendation #2: If affiliation fee is mandatory then there should be an adjustable fee for size of chapter. Smaller chapters should have to carry the same weight as the larger chapters.

Recommendation #3: Strong emphasis on member participation. If an affiliated chapter, the 3 circle model should be used so all must participate and are not just getting the benefits.

After all committee reports were given and items of business taken care of, the meeting was adjourned by President Alicia Hodnik.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Kringle  
State Secretary  
Wisconsin Association of FFA