

**Wisconsin Association of FFA
Board of Directors Meeting
Hotel Mead, Wisconsin Rapids
February 24, 2012**

Ethan Giebel, State FFA President called the meeting to order on February 24 at: 8:07 a.m.

Members Present: Isaac Christenson, Ms. Mencheski, Ashleigh Schlewitz, Mrs. Loewenhagen, Brian Guza, Mrs. Hanson, Abbie Baker, Mr. Robinson, Katie Dreier, Sara Raschein, Mr. Talford, Alissa Milonczyk, Mrs. Wirkus, Stacey Kunde, Mr. Melby, Nicole Petrie, Mr. Friend, Kayla Hack, Mr. Holle, Ethan Giebel, Mr. Hines, Mr. Petrowitz, Mrs. Zimmerman, Mr. Hicken.

Kayla Hack moved to approve the January Board Meeting minutes. Seconded by Stacey Kunde. Motion passed. Sustained by advisors.

State Officer Reports:

School Board Convention was held in Milwaukee. Kayla Hack attended and represented the team. Several people were interested to know how to get an agricultural education program in their schools.

Ag Day at the Capitol: Wednesday, February 8. Officers attending were Ethan Giebel, Isaac Christenson, Ashleigh Schlewitz, Brian Guza and Kayla Hack.

Media Training: Wednesday, February 8. Jill Makovec held training for the state officer team. She covered topics in using all types of media to get your points across and creating key messages.

CTSO Legislative Day: Thursday, February 9. Met with other CTSOs at the State Capitol to visit legislators and shared facts with them about CTE, Agricultural Education and FFA. Very successful day.

State FFA Alumni Convention: Friday, February 10 – Sunday, February 12. All state officers attended and helped with live auction, attended sectional meetings, board meetings, conducted two workshops, presented reflections, attended banquet in the evening and helped with basket auction. Two baskets were donated by the state FFA officers and purchased by Fort Atkinson, and Clinton, Milton, and Janesville

- Mail Boxes from last year's team brought in around \$1500
- 2011-12 State FFA Officers will be painting something that you can sit on. (Examples include benches, chairs, stools, etc.)

National FFA Week: Busy week for the State FFA Officers. Several officers had media interviews and many local chapter activities.

School Counselors Convention: Thursday, February 23. Sara and Abbie attended. The new "Why Ag?" campaign was introduced at this event.

District Speaking Contests: District Speaking Contests have been completed. No rule violations were found. Results have been finalized. Students' membership was verified to make sure they were eligible for competitions. Hosts need to work on better handwriting on result sheets and submitting final materials properly. Mrs. Zimmerman reviewed with the Board where all the materials are located for Sectional Speaking Contests and if the advisors have any questions regarding hosting upcoming contests.

Executive Director Reports:

Jag Lake Improvement Committee Update: Mr. Hicken reported to the FFA Board that the committee has recommended that we reroof the cabin. Committee is recommending metal roofing and finalizing details to stay within budget. Money for the cabin roof comes from the Jag Lake fund. A Past State Officer team from a number of years ago is asking if they can rent the cabin for a weekend. We are looking for new rowboats if anyone knows where to get some.

National FFA In-service: See attached report

Stars and Proficiency Judging March 2-3: Chula Vista in WI Dells. Friday judging - Stars and smaller areas. Saturday: 8:30 a.m. starting with larger areas and work from there.

State FFA Activity Update: See attached report

Mr. Hicken discussed comments made by people regarding the jacket of Randy Jackson with FFA emblem on it. Mixed reviews. Some viewed it as questionable. Child Labor Laws: Debate is still happening, no change at the moment. There are still problems for those students with placement on farms and not being a relation to the family. Milwaukee Vincent: excited about program, will be hiring teacher this coming fall.

Committee Reports:

Convention Speakers – Stacey Kunde: Speakers are set to go, contacts are being worked out by Mrs. Zimmerman and Mr. Hicken, topics are being worked on with speakers, and workshops will be a possibility as well.

Tours – Kayla Hack: Review of possible ideas. Kayla Hack moved to approve list of tours as printed. Second by Isaac Christenson. Motion passed. Sustained by advisors.

Workshops – Nicole Petrie: Letters have been sent out, waiting for reply, looking to bring in new ideas to workshops with as many hands on opportunities as possible along with animals being brought in as a possibility.

Service Projects – Kayla Hack: Water Drops of Hope - Denmark and Gresham are the two chapters that have sold the most water bottles at this point. Options for a second project were discussed. Isaac Christenson moved to select the Change for Literacy Project. Seconded by Sara Raschien. Discussion followed: It was suggested that books go to a variety of locations including having chapters submit requests for books in their area. Extra money that is collected for this project was suggested to be used for purchasing additional books if needed or pay for shipping costs if necessary. Motion passed. Sustained by advisors.

Program and Awards – Sara Raschein: Website competition is underway. Pat Sternitsky will be the final person to look at all of the websites for layout and design.

Short break requested...9:35 a.m. Resumed at: 9:45 a.m.

Old Business:

State FFA Degree Review: The FFA Advisors were thanked for their time in reviewing the State FFA Degree the night before the Board meeting. Advisors suggested a different format for judging. Board meeting Thursday night with some time to work on State Degrees and the orientation. Then Friday morning will be the main time for reviewing state degrees. Advisors suggested that this may give the possibility of having another advisor help with process if the state officer advisor wishes to invite another person to assist them. The updated list of above the chapter level activities was reviewed. Sara Raschien

moved to approve the updated activities above the chapter level. Seconded by Katie Dreier. Motion passed. Sustained by advisors.

Membership Update: Mr. Hicken provided an update on our current members. 17,078 members as of February 24. We have 27 affiliated chapters. We are now working with the new Ag Career Network. State Staff is more than willing to help with questions on “ACN.”

New Business:

District and Sectional Speaking Contest Participation: A concern has been brought forth that there are openings in some districts in speaking contests that are not filled when the Sectional Speaking Contests is held. The Board discussed an option to potentially fill vacant spots in speaking contests so there is full participation at sectional level in all events, therefore creating more opportunities for all FFA members. A proposal will be brought to the March Meeting for consideration.

Foundation Mission-Based Initiative Grants: Proposed grants were shared with the Board to financially support the additional training provided to state FFA officers. The proposals consisted of key message training, answering tough questions training and media training. Sara Raschien moved to approve the mission-based initiative grants. Seconded by Abbie Baker. Motion passed. Sustained by advisors. These grant applications will now be forwarded to the Wisconsin FFA Foundation for consideration.

State FFA Convention: All new ideas need to be thought through asap! Final details are starting to come together. All officers need to continue to work on their committee work.

Procedures for State President Election: State officer eligible need to declare candidacy to Mrs. Zimmerman by Monday April 16th (cannot add name after that date, but can take it off).

Board of Directors Housing and State Officer Parent Housing: Mrs. Zimmerman is taking in requests for rooms. At the March meeting final yes or no needs to be given and number of rooms requested.

Next meeting: March 15 officers need to arrive at noon, dinner at 5:00 p.m. – advisors are invited to join state officers for dinner if they wish. Officers need to send to Ethan an official committee report so he can complete the committee report binder.

Isaac Christenson moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Stacey Kunde. Motion passed.

**Wisconsin Association of FFA/FFA Center Report
February 2012**

NATIONAL FFA INSERVICE UPDATE – FEBRUARY 8-10

National FFA Chapter Award Application has changed. Make sure to use the new application on the National FFA Website. There is no longer a Form 3. Form 1 has been changed. The application and scoring rubric are new. There will be the new Model of Excellence awards presented at the National FFA Convention. This will be the top 10 chapters that score highest overall in the nation on their application. Model of Innovation Awards will also continue. We are currently reviewing a new structure to our state awards depending on funding.

Agriscience Fair – There will be new categories this year.

- Animal Systems
- Environmental Services/Natural Resource Systems
- Food Products and Processing Systems
- Plant Systems
- Power, Structural and Technical Systems
- Social Systems

This year the state winners are not guaranteed to move on to National Competition. State winners must submit an application and written report by July 15 to National FFA. National FFA will then select the top 15 in each Division to compete at the National FFA Convention.

American Degree and Proficiency Award Applications – The application will not change until the 2014-2015 school year. The same application will continue to be used until the new applications are ready.

Leadership Training provided to state staff by Dr. Tim Elmore – Habitudes!!!!

The **National FFA Officer Selection process** will change slightly. No longer will the application be judged and some of the rounds of interviews have changed. Scoring will be basically the same.

Update on **Ag Career Network** – Wisconsin is way ahead in working with teachers. Key was that we had our training for teachers at the Half-Time Conference.

FFA UPDATE

1. Successful Half-Time Conference held at the new location in Stevens Point in January – 350 members attended. Highest student attendance. Total 568 people in attendance. We have signed a three-year contract with the Holiday Inn and Convention Center.
2. Wisconsin FFA Center Summer Assistant Position – Jamie Renier has accepted the position.
3. Working with the new Ag Career Network and answering questions for advisors.
4. Reviewing District Speaking Contest results and Preparing Sectional Speaking Contest materials.
5. Receiving, processing and evaluation of the State and American Degrees and Proficiency Award Applications with the Wisconsin FFA Center Staff.
6. Processing State FFA Honors Band and Chorus applications. – Auditions are now sent to the directors. 88 band applications and 103 choir applications.
7. State FFA Convention planning has started.
 - a. Hotel contracts are being reviewed – Online reservations will be ready in March.
 - b. State Officer Committees are underway and plans were developed at December Officer Meeting.

8. Preparing Wisconsin National FFA Officer Candidate selection process for March.
9. Working on the Summer COLT Conference – Nick Palkowski heading up this project.
10. Looking to locate information on Hispanic/Latino involved in agricultural education and FFA – National FFA Project for the 2012 National FFA Convention.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES/CALENDAR OF EVENTS

National FFA Week Activities – February 18-25, 2012.

Wisconsin FFA Foundation Board Meeting and Spring Visit Training – March 1, 2012 – Beaver Dam
Wisconsin FFA Proficiency Awards will be judged March 2-3 in Wisconsin Dells at the Chula Vista Hotel.

Eau Claire Farm Show – March 6-7 – Eau Claire – Isaac, Ashleigh and Brian

National Ag Day – March 6-8 – Washington D.C. – Ethan

FFA Alumni Bucks Game – March 9

Spring Foundation Business Visits: Kayla, Sara, Ethan, Abbie

March 9	March 12	March 21
March 22	March 26	March 28
March 30		

National Teach Ag Day – March 15

Wisconsin Association of FFA Board Meeting – March 15-16 – Madison

Co-ops YES! Conference – March 19-20 Ashleigh, Brian, Katie, Sara, Alissa, Stacey, Kayla and Ethan

CDE Assignments :

- Janesville – March 17 – Katie and Kayla
- UW-Platteville – March 29 – Ethan and Abbie
- UW-River Falls – March 31 – Isaac and Ashleigh
- Fox Valley Tech – March 31 – Stacey and Nicole
- Belleville CDEs – April 13 – Abbie and Katie
- State CDEs – Madison – April 26 – All State Officers

State Degree Appeal Process interviews will be scheduled for the March 23-24 for those students wishing to appeal their state degrees.

212° Conference will be held March 23-24, 2012 at the Holiday Inn in Manitowoc. The EDGE Conference will also be presented for Middle School Students. Registration due online March 1. Those scheduled to attend: Ethan, Kayla, Nicole, Stacey, Sara and Katie

Two individuals have indicated interest in running for Wisconsin's National Officer Candidate. Selection process will occur over the March 23-24, 2012 weekend.

Two individuals have indicated interest in running for Wisconsin's National Officer Candidate. Selection process will occur over the March 23-24, 2012 weekend.

Wisconsin Public Service Farm Show – March 27-29 – Stacey, Kayla and Alissa

STATE FFA CONVENTION

Date & Locations: The State FFA Convention will be held at the Alliant Energy Center in Madison, June 11-14, 2012

Career Show: Exhibitors-Contact Nicole Nelson or Amy Ryan at the Wisconsin FFA Foundation.