Wisconsin FFA Center Board Meeting Minutes  
The Plaza Hotel and Suites, Eau Claire, Wisconsin  
November 15th, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Kim Houser at 7:31 p.m.

Members Present: Glenda Crook, Kim Houser, Shari Graffunder, Cheryl Zimmerman, Ralph Johnson, Brian Kast, Kristin Hanson, Bridgett Neu, Linda Sattler (arrived later)  
Others Present: Jeff Hicken

Members Absent: Clara Hedrich

Motion to approve the agenda with flexibility was moved by Graffunder/Crook. Motion passed.

Motion was made to approve the June minutes made by Graffunder/Crook. Motion passed.

**FFA Center Operations Update**

- Cheryl presented the group with the Growing Wisconsin magazine. This publication was spearheaded by Ben Brancel and the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. The members of Wisconsin Team Ag Ed agreed to put an advertisement in the publication. This ad is located on page 12. Each group that contributed to the ad has received a box of the magazines.
- New website launched August 1st. Trying to work out the kinks but it is slowly coming together.
- Membership is at 19,135 members. There initially was an issue with duplicate members. In the end there was an increase in membership but Wisconsin lost a delegate due to the mathematical formula that National FFA uses to determine how many delegates each state receives. Wisconsin still took all four delegates that were selected in addition to the state officers. The concern is that Wisconsin had an increase in membership and lost a delegate and other states had an increase and gained multiple delegates. There is a fixed number of 475 delegates but there is concern about how this process works and is it still fair. Cheryl will continue to investigate. Next year Wisconsin FFA will select one less delegate to take to convention.
- Ag Career Network – Need to work with the teachers to get all the student profiles completed.
- National FFA staff is at the 212/360 conference. Cheryl has been working with them to development an assessment to analyze if there are behavioral changes in the students as a result of attending these conferences. Wisconsin is a pilot state for this assessment.
- National FFA Convention was a success. *(See attachment).*
- National FFA Officer Experience Training – The national officer team will be here for a statewide training and then end up doing some presentations at Half-Time Conference. Wisconsin FFA provides transportation, hotels, and meals. A Star Mission grant was applied for through the Wisconsin FFA Foundation and received. The Alumni has also offered to assist if needed. The State Officers will join in for parts of the tour. The local Alumni’s are invited to attend local events. Chapters are also invited to participate in these local events.
- Wisconsin FFA is starting to explore more options for FFA membership with distance learning and virtual schools. Cheryl and Jeff are trying to learn more about how virtual FFA chapters work.
- Discovery Barnyard – November 20th there will be a conference call to discuss improvements.
- Cheryl has been selected to serve a two year term on the National FFA Foundation Board of Trustees.
- Cheryl has started a new teacher newsletter. There have been two “issues” so far.

**Update on Liability Insurance Case**

The Wisconsin FFA Center has been formally dismissed from the case.
**Office Rent**

Kim and Cheryl will work on a rental agreement for the Wisconsin FFA Center office space. The history of the rent can be found in the budget. Starting at $2,000 in 2004 to currently at $3,600. Comparable office space in Marshfield would be $12,000-16,000 per year without utilities.

**Executive Director and Office Staff Update**

The Executive Director contract has been signed and filed. It took longer this year due to circumstances beyond our control.

Executive Assistant Contract – Terry is currently at $14.25 per hour. It was moved by Crook/Graffunder to increase Terry’s salary by 25 cents to $14.50 per hour retroactive back to September 1st. Motion passed.

**Summer Assistant**

A copy of last year’s summer assistant position description was provided. Last year the Wisconsin FFA Center struggled to find someone to take the position. Some interest has already been expressed for next summer. The position will be posted and Cheryl will keep us posted. Moved to approve the position at the salary of $3,000 by Hanson/Kast. Motion passed.

**Financial Report**

- Affiliation Fees – Chapters that have not paid are St. Croix Falls, Turtle Lake, Hudson, St. Croix Central, Black River Falls, Independence, Iowa-Grant, Pardeeville, Rosholt, Almond-Bancroft, Coleman, New London, Oshkosh North, and Hustisford

- Financial Report – There has been a membership increase. Cheryl walked through the financial report with the Board. The office assistant line item was less last year as Terry was out for five weeks when she was injured. Contracted services under the expenses are the weekend in the Dells that Terry is paid and the $1,000 that Jamie Hagenow is paid to help with state convention and state officers. These dollars are GPR funds. Moved to approve the 2013-2014 budget as presented by Hanson/Graffunder. Motion passed.

The next meeting of the WisconsinFFA Center Board will be Friday, January 10th at 10:00 a.m. in Steven’s Point.

Due to the busy schedule of the Region III conference we will have the June Board meeting on Thursday of PDC (June 19th) at 9:30 a.m.

It moved to adjourn the meeting by Graffunder/Crook. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bridgett Neu

**FFA Center Board Representatives Term**

Sections 1&2 Kristin Hanson 2012-2015
Sections 3&4 Brian Kast 2013-2016
Sections 5&10 Ralph Johnson 2013-2016
Sections 6&7 Glenda Crook 2011-2014
Sections 8&9 Clara Hedrich 2011-2014
Kim Houser WAAE Past-President 2011-2014
Shari Graffunder WAAE President 2012-2015
Linda Sattler WAAE President-Elect 2013-2016
Wisconsin FFA Center, Inc. and Wisconsin Association of FFA 2013-2014 State Theme: Ignite the Passion, Live with Passion  
NOVEMBER 2013

**What’s Happening In FFA**

As of August 1, new website design and getting items reorganized.

Membership increase!!! 19,135 members!! Issues with duplicate members on the roster. Loss in a delegate at National Convention from 15 to 14.

National Affiliation Fee Program – 42 chapters have signed on to participate during 2013-14 school year.

Working with Ag Career Network through National FFA – Review at SLW with teachers……more work needed to get teachers to have all students complete their profiles. New features added to Ag Career Network….hope there will be additional training for state staff to understand all the features.

Growing Wisconsin Magazine Advertisement is now published.

Working with National FFA Staff to develop and test a new Assessment Tool for the 212 and 360 conferences.

Very Successful National FFA Convention!!!

Developing schedule for National Officer Training in January 2014

Half-Time Leadership Conference and State Convention Planning – State officers meeting in December. Redesigning some items with the Half-Time Conference to include National Officer team.

Exploring FFA membership options with distance learning and virtual FFA chapters.

Discovery Barnyard at State Fair – Beginning discussions for improvements

Cheryl Zimmerman elected to serve on the National FFA Foundation Board of Trustees for a two-year term starting January 2014.

Email Updates to New Teachers About FFA Topics…just started….wanting feedback if they are useful.

**Upcoming Events**

Farm Bureau Annual Meeting – Dec. 7-8 – Wisconsin Dells - State Officers in Attendance

State FFA Officer December Meeting - December 9-12 – Marshfield

National Officer Experience State – January 5 - 12

FFA Half-Time Conference – January 10-12 – Stevens Point

First District Speaking Contest – January 20

School Board Convention – Milwaukee – January 22-23

CTSO Night with the Milwaukee Bucks – January 25

National Ag Ed Summit – Indianapolis – January 28-30

CTSO Legislative Day – February 6 - Madison

State FFA Alumni Convention – February 7-8 – Elkhart Lake

FFA Week - Feb. 15-22, 2014

FFA Board of Directors Meeting - Feb. 20-21 - Hotel Mead, Wisconsin Rapids

FFA Farm Forum - Feb. 21-22 - Hotel Mead, Wisconsin Rapid

Eau Claire Farm Show – March 4-5

State FFA Proficiency Award Judging – March 7-8 – Wisconsin Dells

State FFA Board Meeting – March 13-14 – Madison


Janesville CDEs – March 15

Co-ops YES! Conference – March 17-18 – Eau Claire

UW-Platteville CDEs – March 27

212º and EDGE Conferences - March 21-22 – Stevens Point

WPS Farm Show – Oshkosh – March 25-27

UW-River Falls CDEs – March 29

FVTC-Appleton CDEs – April 4

State CDEs – April 25 - Madison

State FFA Convention – June 9-12 - Madison

**Leadership Conference Attendance**

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360 Leadership Development

**2013 Business and Industry Visits During Sectional Leadership Workshops**

- Oxbo International Corporation – Clear Lake
- ConAgra Foods - Menomonie
- Habelman Cranberry Company - Tomah
- Gunz Muck Farms – Endeavor
- National Farm Medicine Center - Marshfield
- CRI – Shawano
- American Foods Group – Green Bay
- Montchevre-Betin, Inc. - Belmont
- NASCO International – Fort Atkinson
- MacFarlane Pheasant Farm - Janesville

- Advanced Food Products – Clear lake
- Fairmount Minerals - Menomonie
- Star Blend - Sparta
- Brakebush Brothers, Inc. - Westfield
- H & S Manufacturing - Marshfield
- Twig’s Beverage Company - Shawano
- Jim Golf Cars - Reedsville
- Ritchie’s - Darlington
- Tyson Prepared Foods - Jefferson
- Kerry Ingredients & Flavours - Beloit
2013 Wisconsin National FFA Award Results

American Star in Agricultural Placement
Trenton Bemis, Lincoln-ACHM FFA Chapter

National FFA Proficiency Award Winners
Agricultural Communications - Aaron Zimmerman, Spencer FFA
Equine Science - Entrepreneurship - Camber Sannes, Amherst FFA

National Chevron-Delo Tractor Restoration Competition - Riley Hanson, Melrose-Mindoro FFA - National Winner

Honorary American Degree Recipients
Jeff Hicken, State FFA Advisor, DPI
Kevin Champeau, Ag Instructor/FFA Advisor, Freedom High School
Don Dipprey, Retired Ag Instructor/FFA Advisor, Turtle Lake High School
Al Ott, State Representative, Wisconsin State Assembly
Janet Keller, Director of Communications/Public Relations, World Dairy Expo
Pam Jahnke, Farm Broadcaster, Wisconsin Farm Report

National Career Development Event Results
GOLD RATED TEAMS

Ag. Mechanics: Arcadia FFA – Gold 5th place team
Damian Wolfe, Arcadia FFA – Gold 7th place individual
Nick Schank, Arcadia FFA - Gold Individual

Dairy Cattle Evaluation: Seymour FFA – Gold 8th place team
Cody Moeller, Seymour FFA - Gold 10th place individual
Kayla Moeller, Seymour FFA - Gold Individual

Veterinary Science: Badger FFA – Gold 8th place team
Taylor Kundert, Badger FFA – Gold 4th place individual
Rebecca Kamps, Badger FFA - Gold Individual

SILVER RATED TEAMS:
Agricultural Sales: Portage FFA – Cody Carlin, Portage FFA – Gold Individual
Agronomy: Osceola FFA - Michael Murphy, Osceola FFA - Gold Individual
Dairy Handling: Jordan Siemers, Howards Grove FFA
Farm Business Management: Kickapoo FFA
Floriculture: Oshkosh West FFA
Food Science and Technology: Arcadia FFA - Geena Whalen, Arcadia FFA - Gold Individual
Horse Evaluation: Fort Atkinson FFA

BRONZE RATED TEAMS:
Ag. Communications: Cochrane-Fountain City FFA
Environmental Sci./Natural Resources: Waterford FFA
Forestry: DC Everest FFA
Meat Evaluation: River Ridge FFA
Ag. Issues: Mosinee FFA

Milk Quality and Products: Hillsboro FFA
Nursery/Landscape: Oshkosh West FFA

National Quiz Bowl
Spencer FFA - 9th place team
Katelyn Zimmerman, Spencer FFA - 16th place individual

National Agriscience Fair GOLD RATED:
Animal Systems - Division 3 - Kendall Bentley and Rachel Vande Voort, Wrightstown FFA - Gold 3rd place

Environmental Services/Natural Resource Systems
Division 2 - Carlie O'Donnell, Big Foot FFA – Gold 4th place
Division 3 - Brianna Beseler and Riley Ruehmann, Cochrane-Fountain City FFA - Gold 3rd place
Division 4 - Brittany Rambatt and Citaly Leon, Big Foot FFA - Gold 2nd place

Food Products and Processing Systems
Division 2 - Katy Vacula, Big Foot FFA - Gold 7th place
Division 3 - Tina Gordon and Sierra Huser, New Auburn FFA - Gold 4th place

Plant Systems - Division 3 - Deanna Wiersgalla and Hayley Duellman, Cochrane-Fountain City FFA - Gold 8th place

Power, Structural and Technical Systems
Division 1 - Whitley Harelstad, New Auburn FFA - Silver
Division 2 - Monica Heath, Big Foot FFA - Gold 6th place
Division 3 - Tony Gordon and Zach Rehder, New Auburn FFA - Gold 2nd place

National Agriscience Fair SILVER RATED:
Animal Systems - Division 1 - Faith Carpenter, Big Foot FFA - Silver

Environmental Services/Natural Resource Systems - Division 1 - Hunter Contant, Tomah FFA - Silver

Food Products and Processing Systems
Division 1 - Mikayla Grinnell, Big Foot FFA - Silver
Division 4 - Ally Vande Hey and Mariah Seiltz - Wrightstown FFA - Silver

Speaking CDE Participants
Job Interview: Eric Coddington, Montello FFA – Silver
Creed Speaking: Ally Magnin, Oconto Falls FFA - Bronze
Extemporaneous Speaking: Sydney Endres, Lodi FFA - Silver
Parliamentary Procedure: Amery FFA - Bronze
Prepared Speaking: Jennifer Rynes, Brookwood FFA - Bronze