

Wisconsin Association of FFA Board of Directors Meeting
February 5th, 2020 – From All Corners of Wisconsin
Opened: 7:00 PM Closed: 8:40 PM

Call the Meeting to Order: The meeting was opened at 7:00 PM by State FFA President Joe Schlies.

Attendance:

Mr. Jeff Hicken..... State FFA Advisor
Mrs. Cheryl Zimmerman..... State FFA Executive Director
Joe Schlies..... State President
Jackie Rosenbush..... State Sentinel
Ms. Susie Olson-Rosenbush..... Spooner Advisor
Ben Styer..... State Vice President
Ms. Jean D’Angelo..... Menomonie Advisor
Carisa Cleven..... State Vice President
Ms. Nelda Bailey..... Tomah Advisor
Ms. Emma Huber..... Tomah Advisor
Kendra Jentz..... State Treasurer
Ms. Madeline Esser..... River Ridge Advisor
Brooks Lueck..... State Vice President
Ms. Kim Houser..... Wisconsin Heights Advisor
Ms. Beth Babcock..... Mauston Advisor
Cortney Zimmerman..... State Vice President
Mr. Mark Zimmerman..... Spencer Advisor
Katie Loehrke..... State Secretary
Mrs. Sandy Dykes..... Weyauwega-Fremont Advisor
Katrina Hoesly..... State Parliamentarian
Ms. Mary Handrich..... Denmark Advisor
Melissa Konkol..... State Vice President
Mrs. Lisa Konkol..... Bigfoot Advisor

Purpose of Meeting:

Mrs. Zimmerman went over the purpose for the Zoom Meeting, to continue the on-going discussion from last week’s meeting regarding the 2021 Leadership Development Events (LDEs). She mentioned that hopefully everyone had the opportunity to connect with each district hosts in their section and read through the supporting documents for this meeting she previously emailed to all. The goal is to get things organized and moving in the right direction about how these contests will be ran across the state.

Consideration of LDE Motion:

Cortney moved to move forward with the proposed 2021 Wisconsin LDE regulations. Jackie seconded the motion. Mrs. Konkel voiced concerns about the possibility of holding LDEs and Career Development Events (CDEs) together. Mrs. Zimmerman ensured that most CDEs are offered during the school day and if LDEs happen after school, they would not directly overlap but does need to be considered when setting up sectional contest dates. Placings will still be used for the contests over a gold, bronze, silver ranking style by a majority decision. At the sectional level, Mr. Hicken was concerned if some contests would be in person and others virtual. It was agreed that because they are not being judged by the same judges, it would still seem equitable as long as all students in the same section are being judged on the same platform. Mrs. Konkel added “It is a separate entity so you’re not comparing apples to oranges if you go across sections”.

Melissa moved to amend the motion under sub score 2a. by striking the word “two” and replacing it to “three” moving on to the Sectional competition and adding “two” after top for moving on to the State competition. If passed, 2a. would then read “*The top three individuals/teams in each competition at the District level will move on to the Sectional competition, with the top two individuals at the Sectional LDE moving onto the State competition...*” Brooks seconded the motion. Although it was debated that more students would have the chance to continue to advance in their skills and abilities through these extra opportunities, the state officers failed the amendment, with the advisors sustaining the state officers’ decision. The main motion was passed with eight in favor, one opposed, followed by the advisors sustaining the motion.

State Officer and Advisor Reports:

Overall, all district hosts are excited to start working through these LDE plans. A vast majority would like the contests to spread out over a course of a week per district, all after school. Many are hoping to have the judges in person at the host schools. Some things that will need to be considered is the opportunity for cheating, recording of competitions, accommodating the hearing impaired, assessing students body language during deliveries, submitting paperwork for certain competitions, working with confidential information, sending out and safety of the Zoom links, how the Quiz Bowl competition will be presented and the opportunity for students to receive judges’ feedback. The list of hosts was reviewed.

Consideration of Eligibility Motion:

Brooks moved to accept the Eligibility of District Level Contestants using the first option for 1a, “*Schools would be allowed up to 4 participants in individual Leadership Development Events. However, the 2 additional participants would only be open to 2020 graduate participants ...*” Carisa seconded the motion. Mrs. Zimmerman explained the motion follows the new National FFA guidelines regarding 2020 graduates and that those members had to only participate at the district level to be eligible. The motion passed and the advisors sustained the motion.

Online Registration/Substitutions:

Guidelines need to be figured out for how to set up the registration site. Mrs. Zimmerman is already working on this with Mrs. Bernick. Information will need to be collected within two weeks prior to each contest like normal, then will be communicated with district hosts. An idea was brought up for state staff to be notified of all substitutions 24-48 hours in advance of the contests because of the virtual setting. This would allow enough time for members to be checked to ensure current memberships and 2020 graduate participants participated last year. The decision was made that all substitute names for each competition should be on the initial registration under the substitution category so all background checks can be made ahead of time. If any students need special accommodations, they will need to be listed on the registration as well.

Other Items:

Mrs. Zimmerman will be compiling and sending a summary out to all advisors, to be sent out by February 9th with the official district dates selected by February 12th.and the sectional dates by March 1st. She will also be reaching out the Farm Bureau who recently put on a virtual discussion meet, and the Amery and Mount Horeb advisors who are putting on virtual practice Parliamentary Procedure contests. The district competitions are to be hosted between March 15th and April 10th. The sectional competitions are to be hosted between April 19th and May 15th with the determination whether they will be hosted in person or virtually by April 17th. Ms. Bailey brought up if any thoughts were given on extending the membership deadline since the contests are past the current deadline. Mrs. Zimmerman and Mr. Hicken are looking into those chapters that have not submitted initial rosters.

Mrs. Zimmerman and Mr. Hicken will continue to discuss the arrangement of these contests and guidelines to decipher how contests will be presented. We will be having more board meetings in the near future to discuss State Degrees and tackling more on LDEs. Ms. Houser brought up the potential to have a meeting with all district hosts to explain things.

Brooks moved to adjourn and Ben seconded. Motion passes and advisors sustain the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Katie Loehrke
2020-2021 State Secretary
Wisconsin Association of FFA