



---

**WAAE Board Meeting**  
**@ 212/360 Conferences in Green Bay**  
**Saturday, November 11, 2017, 9:00 a.m.**

**Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 9:09 by President, Darren Swartz.

Present: Nicole Nelson – Exec Director, Darren Swartz – President, Becky Wirkus – President-Elect, Dani Schott – Section 1, Leanna Cernohous – Section 3, Shelby Mitchell – Section 4, Rhonda Knapp & Jillian Beaty - Section 5, Kris Beaver – Section 6, Mark Zimmerman & Amy Gerhardt – Section 7, Sandra Dykes – Section 8, Tracy Heinbuch & Erica Eickert – Section 9, Jacob Cramer – Section 10, Sara Maass-Pate – Post-Secondary FBPM, John Hromyak – WI FFA Foundation, Jeff Hicken – DPI, Cheryl Zimmerman – WI FFA Center

Approval of minutes – moved by Sandy Dykes, seconded by Jacob Cramer. Motion carried.

Discussion of quarterly financial report – Becky Wirkus shared a brief overview of the financial meeting. Thanks to Nicole for having the report all numbered out for ease of understanding. We are continuing to monitor trends. Financially we are solid and still able to support many new initiatives.

Executive Director report by Nicole Nelson – notations of financial reports is helping with ease of understanding, keeping on track with Star Mission Grants, updating Facebook page to WI Ag Ed to help capture a broader audience, new Teach Ag Day initiatives, propose workshops and tours for 2018 PDC through the website, future initiatives and events

**Unfinished business:**

Discussion of the following:

Sectional Meetings at Fall DPI In-services - Darren followed up with Jeff regarding how WAAE Sectional Meetings went. How did meetings go? How could we improve? How was communication/distribution of materials? Discussion of award nominations/voting. Using electronic nominating/voting to help save time. Be aware of years of teaching vs years of WAAE membership for awards. All award nominees need to be WAAE members. Sections should be submitting their list of committee members (what committee each member is on).

Section 7 Committee assignment – Post Banquet Social (starting in LaCrosse)

Motion moved by Leanna Cernohous, seconded by Tracy Heinbuch to change Section 7 from Forestry to Post Banquet Social. Motion carried.

PDC Day Rate: Discussion of member vs nonmember, what other associations do for their members vs nonmembers, having an introductory rate, the professional level of other attendees. Shelby Mitchell moved that the day rate be \$125 plus membership dues for members. Seconded by Dani Schott. Motion carried. Discuss with your sectional member and tech teachers/science teachers and get opinions to bring back to Halftime meeting on a non-member day rate.

Strategic Priorities – discussion of following up on strategic plan ideas, making all members more aware of FFA Center Board function /structure, building relationships, workshop proposals



## New Business

Star Mission Grant Applications – email approval of Star Mission Grant applications by WAAE Board. Many new ideas and grants. Only application that didn't get approved was the SAE Committee to visit pre-service teachers; they can resubmit with some future clarifications. Reviewed the concept that we are asking for money to pair with the time invested by the WAAE members to create/implement these initiatives. Be sure to share your results with the Foundation upon completion of your grant.

2018 PDC Planning – discussion:

Session proposals - NAAE participants are expected do one of the following three things 1) present/coordinate a PDC workshop/tour, 2) work a shift in the booth at State FFA Convention/Farm Technology Days, or 3) a different activity pre-approved by exec. comm.

Proposals are due **December 8, 2017**. ( <http://waae.com/pages/Workshops-Tours/> )

All-group sessions - Teach Ag Thrives, SAE Renewal (the committee is still in discussion of their plan)

Teach Ag Thrives – speakers won't charge time, but need airfare and hotel reimbursed, trying "Dear Abby" – through the Wellness Committee, need to continue to push students attending Teach Ag workshop to keep numbers up, will collect data, continue to do program...will need to see how funding/costs go

SAE -- Vivaic presentation was a possible idea, but we need to wait for the committee

Socials - Monday or Tuesday? New options? : Tracy & Erica will organize a paint/wine night as an option (cost/max number of people – can fit 40-42 people), Baseball is out of town all week – Jim Melby looking into Winneconne riverboat tour or drive to Fud Du Lac/Green Bay (40-50 minute drive), first preference is to have picnic Monday so the exhibitors can attend

Picnic (once we lock in a date, Nicole will reserve the park), Tracy / Brian will talk to Eric

Sectional and statewide committees? – leave as is

Speakers:

Kickoff – want energetic speakers, Craig Culver (role has shifted), Tom Kidd, Dan Ellsworth -- Animart connection (will reach out to him to be Monday speaker), Teach Ag Thrive – as a speaker (decided to schedule during workshop time)

Lunch with the 20 Year – have a reception for them prior to lunch, introduce them and have them stand at their table, maybe have some of them speak, Nicole trying to get in touch with David Laatsch

Tours – discussion of what the radius from PDC could be for tours

Door prize items for the business meeting and raffles for NAAE Relief Fund - Section 5 is in charge (Nicole will touch base with Minn-Tex) (Don Josko donated prints as well)



# Wisconsin Association of Agricultural Educators

PO Box 935 | East Troy, WI 53120  
262-470-8369 | www.waae.com

---

Give Away – Possible brief case bag would be \$6 embroidered through Crestline (budget roughly \$11 per person) – chargers/back packs/ etc (more ideas will be brought to Dec. meeting)

December planning meeting - December 28<sup>th</sup> at Stratford High School Ag Room (#168) at 9 am

Award judging process - Nicole will send out award apps electronically and all the awards should be judged and scores entered into the respective Google Form by Jan 5. Banner highlights are actually in the application now and can be used in bio. Word count recommendations need to be followed for award bios. If you have alumni or business/industry people you would like to contact for judging, you are free to do that.

## Reports

Membership 2017-18 – Nicole Nelson -- WAAE membership – 322 (14 still have to pay)

University membership - 111 UWRF (UW-P will be submitting their roster soon)

WACTE/ACTE - 41; WACTE-only - 10; ACTE-only - 10

We are looking at nearly 40 teacher changes across the state. Individuals new to teaching, new to teaching ag ed, or moving school districts. Please welcome and offer assistance!

49 Post-Secondary Members

501c3 progress - Nicole Nelson written and verbal report with description/purpose/objective, application timeline

NAAE State Teach Ag Results (STAR) Program and Grant – Kris Beaver – encourage students to attend Teach Ag Day. As VPs we should actively be thinking about and recruiting other sectional members to serve as the next Alt VP (need to be sure that they understand the MOU process)

Upcoming Events – Darren Swartz and Nicole Nelson

NAAE

National Ag Ed Policy (we send 3-4) March 5 -7, notification by Nov 30

Instructional Kits - Tracy Heinbuch -- costs of instructional can be an issue for schools...would WAAE be able to cover a portion of the kit or a number of the kits as a scholarship. We would need to work it into the budget. Put more information out there for people to apply for Perkins or local grant funding.

## Team Ag Ed Reports

Annual Team Ag Ed Meeting - Darren Swartz - submit things that were positive at National Convention in your feedback. My Journey has virtual fieldtrips. National FFA Lifetime Dues will be going up soon. If you have 25 lifetime members they will waive the affiliation fee.

DPI - Jeff Hicken - if you have licensing questions, check the website as updates are still coming in and are posted there. Brief overviews on in-services and utilizing the NQPS to collect data, updating SAE components, budget passed, sparsity aid in rural areas, upcoming CTE meetings, dual credit language changes, state certified coop



## Wisconsin Association of Agricultural Educators

PO Box 935 | East Troy, WI 53120

262-470-8369 | www.waae.com

---

FFA - Cheryl Zimmerman – written and verbal report of SLW review, membership review, National Convention (WI had 2,941 at Nat. Conv), projects, LDEs, 2018 State Officer training will transition into advocacy (funding implications to get all officer to D.C.), FFA Center Fee is \$350 through the 2018-2019 school year, upcoming Halftime/State Convention planning, there will be upcoming changes to the charter

Center - Darren Swartz - doing a membership survey to increase awareness of Center Board and feedback on how we should structure the board, succession plan for when Cheryl retires

John Hromyak – WI Foundation – written and verbal report - Record Year of Support \$296,554, retention of current donors/sponsors, overview of communications, golf outing, and seeking out new sponsors by “telling our story”, 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of WI Foundation is in 2018

Alumni

UW-Platteville and UW-River Falls

### Upcoming Dates:

NAAE Convention – Dec 5-9

Board Meeting in Stevens Point (Half-Time Conference) – Friday, January 12 at 1 p.m.

National Policy Seminar – March 5-7 (deadline Nov 30)

Board Meeting in Madison (State CDEs) – Friday, April 27 at 9 a.m.

Next Meeting – Halftime Conference – Jan. 12 at 1 pm

Motion to adjourn by Jacob Cramer. Seconded by Leanna. Motion carried. 12:23 pm