

**Michigan FFA Board of Directors Meeting  
December 18, 2006**

**I. Call to Order**

The Meeting was called to order in Room 338 of the Natural Resources Building at Michigan State University by State FFA President Alyn Kiel at 5:04 PM.

There were 26 members in attendance, including Megan Hirschman, Tom Condon, Mark Forbush, Charles Scovill, Jason Griffith, Steve Beattie, Randy Showerman, Jerry Block, Bart Marshall, Dave Wyrick, Jason Smith, Tammy Hyatt, Eddie Moore, Beth Stuever, Megan Merrill, Alyn Kiel, Katie Eldred, Gabriel Holdwick, Anna Timmerman, Emily Ries, Henry Reinart , Nicole Schaendorf, Danielle Martinez, Kirk Yackle, Ashley Orlovski, and Hannah Caruthers.

There were five members absent, including Nadja Payok, Tom Smith, Floyd Beneker, Charles Snyder, and Brooke Rockentine.

There were two guests present, Michelle Sidel and Tracy Groom.

**II Opening Ceremonies**

Nicole Schaendorf moved to suspend rules, dispensing with opening and closing ceremonies. Second. Motion carried.

A motion from the Adult Board was made by Steve Beattie to sustain the Student Board's motion. Second. Motion carried.

Alyn Kiel welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**III Secretary's Report**

The minutes from the last meeting were submitted by the State FFA Secretary Gabriel Holdwick. It was noted that the information regarding the meeting time change, outlined in Section XI, was incorrect. The actual date is May 22, 2007 from 1-4 PM.

Henry Reinart moved to accept the Secretary's Minutes. Second. Motion Carried.

Tom Condon moved to sustain the Student Board's motion. Second. Motion Carried.

**IV Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's Report was delivered by State FFA Treasurer Anna Timmerman. The Michigan FFA Foundation balance from 2005-2006 is \$32,000. The balance from 2006-2007 is \$170,000. The 2006-2007 balance is in the Foundation's 31 account. All bills are paid and up to date.

## **Michigan FFA Association**

### **1. State Officer Report**

State FFA President Alyn Kiel delivered the State Officer Report. The State Officers just conducted a meeting earlier in the afternoon. She reported that the State Officer's most recent project is compiling a version of the Arsenal for Chapter and Regional Officers. Advisors will be receiving a letter in the near future requesting information for this publication.

State Sentinel Henry Reinart reported on the progress of the service project the State Officers are planning for State Convention. So far, the project will consist of a contest between chapters for canned food collection, and having volunteers box food at the Mid-Michigan Food Bank. Jerry Block suggested that there is probably a Corporation that would be willing to match donations collected. Bart Marshall also informed the assembly that Spartan Stores have been known to match donations in the past.

Region II Vice President Danielle Martinez reported on the Program of Activities Project that is currently in a State Officer Committee. There has not been a State Program of Activities for several years, and an effort is being made to start this practice once again.

### **2. State Advisors Report**

Dr. Randy Showerman delivered the State Advisors Report. He distributed a handout, outlining the chapters that have unpaid balances with the Association. The total uncollected amount totals over \$26,000. The second page of the handout includes the open amounts for PDI. There has been late fees applied to all past due accounts. Please call Michelle in the State FFA Office if you have any questions. Dr. Showerman also distributed a handout regarding a workshop for High School Counselors about the new State Education Standards and how they relate to Agriscience Education programs. These workshops will also highlight the admissions process for Michigan State University. Dr. Showerman also reported on the progress of the new academics that have recently been passed into law. If Botany and Zoology are combined, they can count toward the third required science. Agriscience also has the potential to cover the fourth mathematics-related science. It will ultimately be a local decision as to which classes will be structured to count for each respective requirement. Currently, most of the classes called Plant Science or Animal Science will need to be re-aligned to fit the necessary benchmarks. In closing, Dr. Showerman reported that 55 Michigan Chapters attended the National FFA Convention in October, with 955 individuals registered.

### **3. State Executive Secretary Report**

The State Executive Secretary's Report was delivered by Dave Wyrick. Four State Officers represented the Association at Autumnfest by having a display at the tailgate party. The State Officers also attended the National FFA Convention in October. The Convention was held in Indianapolis, IN for the first time in the history of the event. The Broiler contest was once

again a success. A total of 185 entries were registered, which is about 20 less than last year. Mr. Wyrick also reported on the progress of the State Chorus. Pattie LaJoye of Hastings has offered to lead the Chorus. Mrs. LaJoye is also the Director of the National FFA Chorus. The Star Selection Committee met on December 7 to determine the individuals that will receive a visit. Interviews will be conducted in January. Mr. Wyrick also presented a copy of the Board of Directors Policy Manual with proposed revisions. The items in bold are proposed additions, and the items with a line through them are proposed deletions. These revisions will be formally proposed in March. Mr. Wyrick suggested that the Manual be effective for a five year cycle, and that it be reviewed each year. In closing, Mr. Wyrick proposed that the fiscal year of the Association be changed to coincide with that of the University.

## **VI Michigan FFA Alumni**

Floyd Beneker was not present, so the Alumni Report was dispensed with.

## **VII Michigan FFA Foundation**

Megan Hirschman delivered the Foundation Report.

Megan attended the National Convention, and spent her time keeping in touch with current sponsors, and also recruiting new ones. As March draws closer, Megan will be spending more time on the road gathering support from many of these sponsors. Megan also informed the assembly that if any chapter has an event that they would like publicized, they should contact her office and she will try to put it in the Blue Jacket Journal. Megan and the State Officers have been diligently selling raffle tickets for the Restored Tractor, most recently at the Michigan Farm Bureau Annual Meeting. So far, about \$8,000 of profit has been realized. The tractor for next year will be restored by the students of the Grant FFA. The Foundation is also continuing the Toy Tractor Fundraiser, as in years past. The tractor this year costs \$60, \$15 of which goes to the Foundation. The retail cost of the tractor will be less than \$60 next year. In the area of general finances, the Foundation is about \$40,000 ahead of November, 2005. In closing, Megan reported that the move from the Michigan Farm Bureau to Michigan State University has been completed, and everything is running smoothly.

## **VIII Standing Committee Reports**

### **1. Finance Committee**

Mark Forbush indicated that there is nothing to report.

### **2. Awards and Activities**

Beth Stuever indicated that there was nothing to report.

### **3. Career Development**

Charles Scovill indicated that there was nothing to report.

### **4. State Officer Committee**

Jason Griffith delivered the State Officer Committee Report. The committee had a meeting before the board meeting, and outlined several areas that could be hindering the effectiveness of the process. Some of these areas were quality of the chapter delegates, and encouraging the best candidates from each region/chapter to run. There will be an informational meeting on Saturday January 6, 2007 for potential State Officer Candidates. The meeting will consist of a forum with current and past State Officers to inform the potential candidates of the “ins and outs” of being a state officer.

## **5. Governing Committee**

Mark Forbush and Steve Beattie indicated that there was nothing to report.

### **IX Old Business**

There was no Old Business to discuss.

### **X New Business**

Mr. Wyrick outlined his proposal to make the Michigan Standards for Official Dress match the National Standards. The issue was recently a Delegate Issue at the National FFA Convention, and the delegate body voted for “no change” to the current National Policy. The main issue facing Michigan is a single standard for Official Dress, as the materials provided to contest judges regarding the scoring of official dress differ from one another. There was much discussion about specific aspects of the current policy versus the proposed changes, and what they would mean for the membership.

Katie Eldred moved to accept the proposal as outlined in the Agenda packet. Second. Motion Carried.

Gabriel Holdwick called for a Division of the Assembly. 7 in the affirmative, 2 in the negative, 1 abstention. Announcement stands.

A motion from the Adult Board to sustain the Student Board’s motion was made by Eddie Moore. Second. Motion Fails.

Gabriel Holdwick moved to refer the matter to the Governance Committee to be examined and report back to the Board of Directors, and to have Mr. Wyrick use his best judgment if in fact an issue arises this year. Second. Motion Carried.

A motion from the Adult Board to sustain the Student Board’s motion was made by Eddie Moore. Second. Motion Carried.

The next meeting will be on March 15, 2007 from 5-8 PM at Michigan State University.

The following meeting will take place on May 22, 2007 from 5-8 PM at Michigan State University.

Katie Eldred moved to adjourn. Second. Motion Carried.

A motion from the Adult Board to sustain the Student Board's motion was made by Charles Scovill. Second. Motion Carried.

The Meeting was adjourned at 6:16 PM.

-Gabriel B. Holdwick  
2006-2007 State FFA Secretary