

**Michigan FFA Board of Directors  
December 17, 2007**

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:27pm by State FFA President, Alex Henry, in Room 338 of the Natural Resources Building at Michigan State University.

There were 25 members present, including: Alyn Kiel, Amanda Sollman, Alex Henry, Kate Krepps, Dustin Grezeszak, Joe Ankley, Bailey Albright, Brittany Armbruster, Nate Deschepper, Demitria Gavit, Andrew Walker, Michelle Sidel, Dave Wyrick, Nadja Payok, Megan Merrill, Beth Stuever, Megan Hirschman, Brian Kiesling, Charles Scovill, Tom Smith, Dave Krueger, Dr. Eddie Moore, Lori Chamberlain, Steve Beattie, and Tom Condon.

There were 7 members not present, including: Randy Showerman, Heather Dexter, Tammy Hyatt, Bart Marshall, and Kevin Nugent.

**II. Opening Ceremonies**

Opening Ceremonies were conducted by the 2007-08 State FFA Officers.

**III. Secretary's Report**

The minutes from the last meeting were submitted by the State FFA Secretary Amanda Sollman for review. There were three changes to the last meeting's minutes.

On page 4, Item VII, the money made from the Golf Outing should be "\$23,000" instead of "\$33,000". In the same item, the word "approximately" should be added before "\$2.6 million" for the market value of the Glassbrook Endowment.

On page 6, in the second paragraph, the phrase "FFA Leadership/Career Development Event Contest Committee" should be changed to "FFA Leadership/Career Development Event Dispute Committee".

Bailey Albright moved to accept the Secretary's minutes as revised. Second. Motion carried.

Charles Scovill moved to sustain the Student Board's motion. Second. Motion carried.

**IV. Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's Report was presented by State FFA Treasurer Kate Krepps. As of November 30, 2007 the Association's account balance was \$152,346.20. There is also \$52,514.29 in outstanding bills that are currently in the MSU system to be paid in December.

Dustin Grezeszak moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Second. Motion carried.

Beth Stuever moved to sustain the Student Board's motion. Second. Motion carried.

## **V. Michigan FFA Association**

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

Alex Henry reported that the state officers have been busy with a variety of things. Everyone is wrapping up their chapter visits around the state, which have been going very well. The Potential State Officer meeting was held on Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup> with 22 potential candidates in attendance. Additionally, the officers are beginning to get into State Convention preparation with a number of items due following the holiday break.

### **2. State Advisor and Executive Secretary Report**

Due to Dr. Showerman's absence, Dave Wyrick delivered the Advisor and Executive Secretary Report as one.

The Association staff attended the National FFA Convention, which went well. The Michigan Farm Bureau Annual Meeting took place in November. The state officers attended that as well as the State FFA Discussion Meet which took place during the MFB Annual.

The Association is currently working with Michigan Farm Bureau to put together a mini-career conference, similar to the former December MFB/FFA Career Conference. The conference will take place April 2<sup>nd</sup> at Michigan State with the state officers helping with workshops.

State Convention planning is getting underway and the officers as well as the state staff are working on the various pieces that go along with that.

Rosters are coming in to the state office. As a general trend, it appears as if membership is down slightly.

There are several outstanding PDI bills that need to be paid in order for future conferences to function. Michelle Sidel and Dr. Dave Krueger will work on getting a list out of who owes and any assistance in getting the bills paid would be appreciated.

Mr. Wyrick also passed out the new official dress rules, which include Michigan's rules for junior high members and the rules allowing slacks for female members.

## **VI. Michigan FFA Alumni**

In Floyd Beneker's absence, Lori Chamberlain delivered the Alumni Report.

The School Administrators trip to the National FFA Convention had ten attendees and was very well received by all who attended. All appeared to enjoy their trip and were interested in finding out how to improve their own chapters.

The Alumni will be switching their rosters over to the electronic rosters and are now in the process of gathering e-mail addresses for those.

The Michigan FFA Alumni annual meeting will be held February 9<sup>th</sup> in Byron at 6:00pm. All are encouraged to attend.

## **VII. Michigan FFA Foundation**

Megan Hirschman delivered the Foundation Report.

Financials for the Foundation were passed around and explained to the Board. In the future, they will be sent out via e-mail monthly to bi-monthly.

The Chapter Challenge program is underway. Students are encouraged to donate \$5 to the Michigan FFA Foundation and have the choice as to where their donation will go (Glassbrook Endowment or General Fund). Megan passed out flyers explaining the program.

In response to a question from the Board, there will be a second FFA Race Day on Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. This Race Day will be in partnership with GreenStone Farm Credit Services and will be designed more as a public relations event and will be geared more towards chapters and members.

## **VIII. Standing Committee's Report**

### **1. Finance Committee Report**

The Finance Committee has not met and had no report. Chairman, Tom Smith, did say that now that the funding for Michigan FFA has moved to the Higher Education budget, the committee will be looking at how that is going to affect the Association.

### **2. Awards and Activities Committee Report**

Chairman, Beth Stuever, delivered the Awards and Activities Committee Report.

Due to some confusion, the committee will speak with Dr. Showerman about their role in determining specifics about the CANR scholarship program.

The committee will be presenting on the Academic Excellence program at the next meeting. The current Scholarship Recognition system will remain the same for this year's convention.

The committee decided that promotion materials will be made when and if funding becomes available. Until then, promotion materials will be put on hold.

### **3. Career Development Event Committee Report**

Chairman, Charles Scovill, delivered the CDE Committee Report.

Although discussion was done at the Fall PDI Conference about the possible Vet Tech contest, the committee has received no information on that. They will put that item on hold until the committee receives more information from the teachers.

### **4. State Officer Policy Committee Report**

The State Officer Policy Committee has not met and had no report.

### **5. Governance Committee Report**

Steve Beattie delivered the Governance Committee Report.

On the first proposed amendment change, the Board chose to add the word “seven” prior to the phrase “Regional Vice Presidents” in the second line of Article VI, Section A of the Michigan FFA Constitution. Accordingly, the Board chose then to strike the word “twelve” from before “state FFA officers” from Article VI, Section C and change the word “six” to “seven” before “local FFA advisors”.

On the second proposed amendment change to Article VIII, Section C of the Michigan FFA Constitution, the Board chose to strike the word “six” and replace it with “the number of” and to strike the word “possessing” and replace it with “allowed by National FFA and who possess”.

On the third proposed amendment change to Article VI, Section C of the Michigan FFA Constitution, the Board chose to strike the words “State FFA Projects Consultant” and replace it with “State Executive Secretary-Treasurer”. It was discussed that in the event of Michigan FFA opening the position of State FFA Projects Consultant again, the Board would look at changing the Constitution to reflect that change.

All Board members received a copy of the amendment changes prior to these revisions in order to view the context of the changes.

Steve Beattie moved to accept the proposals as amended by the Board. Second. Motion carried.

Dustin Grezeszak moved to sustain the Adult Board’s motion. Second. Motion carried.

In other discussion, Beth Stuever will create a description of the intent of the 7<sup>th</sup> region proposed amendment to better prepare the delegates and chapters. Additionally, it was discussed that the Constitution should be reviewed in the near future to look at contradictions and ease of understanding.

## **6. Diversity Task Force**

Joe Ankley and Amanda Sollman reported on activities of the Diversity Task Force.

Joe said that the last meeting of the Task Force was poorly attended. Dr. George Rowan was appointed chairman.

Amanda said that she, Dr. Showerman, and Dr. Rowan attended a meeting at Whirlpool Headquarters with their head of diversity/inclusion, Mark McClane. The meeting brought up several points about how Michigan FFA could go about tackling the diversity/inclusion issue as well as bringing up the point that the Task Force will have to determine exactly what their goal is before too many more steps are taken.

## **XI. Old Business**

There was no old business.

## **X. New Business**

### **1. Parliamentary Procedure Questions**

Dave Wyrick presented a proposal about judge's questions for the Parliamentary Procedure contest. The proposal states that there would be pre-made questions for the judges, similar to how it is done in Junior High and Greenhand Conduct of Meetings. The proposal must go before the teachers as it is a CDE contest change and, therefore, would not go before the delegates until next year's State Convention.

Beth Stuever moved to refer the proposal to the CDE Committee to get feedback from the teachers. Second. Motion carried.

Kate Krepps moved to sustain the Adult Board's motion. Second. Motion carried.

### **2. Elimination of Regional Display**

Megan Merrill presented a proposal that would eliminate the Regional Display contest at the State FFA Convention and replace it with college and business and industry displays. Due to the fact that some regional officers have already begun displays, there was concern about eliminating the displays for this year's convention.

Charles Scovill moved that the regional displays be optional for the 2007 State Convention with no contest and eliminated for the 2008 State Convention. Second. Motion carried.

Joe Ankley moved to sustain the Adult Board's motion. Second. Motion carried.

### **3. Poultry Program**

Two proposals were submitted in regards to the Poultry Improvement Contest.

Charles Scovill moved to send the proposals to the State FFA Office along with review of the contest. Second. Motion carried.

Dustin Grezeszak moved to sustain the Adult Board's motion. Second. Motion carried.

### **4. Resignation**

Dave Wyrick presented the resignation of State Vice-President, Cally Hass.

In discussion, Tom Condon presented his frustrations with the number of individuals that have resigned from the state officer team this year. The state officers assured the Adult Board that they are working to look for some solutions that will hopefully help the situation at hand and help prevent future situations like the ones that have happened.

Steve Beattie moved to accept the resignation. Second. Motion carried.

Nate Deschepper moved to sustain the Adult Board's motion. Second. Motion carried.

## **XI. Other**

### **1. Committee Meeting Time**

In order to make the Board of Director committees as effective as possible, it was suggested by the state officers that a designated time was set aside as a minimum meeting time for those committees.

Andrew Walker moved to make the time from 5:00pm to 6:00pm of Board of Directors meetings designated for committee meetings, with 6:00pm on being for general business. Second. Motion carried.

Tom Smith moved to sustain the Student Board's motion. Second. Motion carried.

### **2. Dispersal of Standing Proposals**

In order that all committees are aware of the proposals they currently hold, it was suggested by the state officers to create a list of all standing proposals to be handed out by committee chairmen.

Amanda Sollman moved that all committee chairs prepare a list of all standing proposals within their committee and distribute them to their committee members at least one week prior to the March 13<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors meeting. Second. Motion carried.

Beth Stuever moved to sustain the Student Board's motion. Second. Motion carried.

### **3. Board of Directors Policy Manual**

Tom Smith moved that a review of the Board of Directors Policy Manual be referred to the governance committee. Second. Motion carried.

Kate Krepps moved to sustain the Adult Board's motion. Second. Motion carried.

## **XII. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:46pm.

-Amanda Sollman  
2007-2008 State FFA Secretary