

**Michigan FFA Association
Board of Directors Meeting
March 22, 2012
5:00pm – 6:00pm Committee Meetings
6:00pm-8:00pm Board Meeting
338 Natural Resources, MSU**

- I. The meeting was called to order at 5:52pm on Thursday, March 22, 2012 by Addie Spolyar, the State President. 23 members and guests were present: all members of the 2011-2012 Michigan FFA State Officer Team, Henry Reinart, Dave Wyrick, Dr. Randy Showerman, Brian Kiesling, Charles Scovill, Matt Jakubik, Ramey Lunceford, Dr. Eddie Moore, Doug Pennington, Steve Beattie, Beth Eggleston, Jerry Kovach

Missing: Casie Forbush, Tammy Hyatt, Cathy LaLonde, Carolyn Bloodworth, Jason Gehrke, Kevin Nugent

- II. Opening Ceremonies: FFA State Officers

- III. Secretary's Report – Jennifer DeClerg

1. 23 members and guests present. December minutes presented.
 - a. Sara Fosburg moved to accept. Brittny Bommarito second. Motion passed.
 - b. Matt Jakubik moved to sustain. Charles Scovill second. Motion passed.

- IV. Treasurer's Report – Katie Jo Gentner

1. The Michigan FFA Association's account balance as of February 29th is \$148,547.88. All convention bills are outstanding. The balance in our contingency fund as of February 29th is \$169,467.67.
 - a. Becca Gulliver moved to accept. Caitlin Pell second. Motion passed.
 - b. Steve Beattie moved to sustain. Charles Scovill second. Motion passed.

- V. Michigan FFA Association

1. State Officer Report: Addie Spolyar
 - a. State Convention
 - 1) Everything was well and went smoothly. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and there were many compliments on the professionalism of the convention and how quickly we got through everything.
 - b. Banquet season
 - 1) Officers will begin attending chapter banquets starting next week, going through June.
 - c. Three officers will be attending the Tennessee State Convention at the end of the month
2. State Advisor Report – Randy Showerman
 - a. Approved 10 new programs in the state

- 1) Will have 11 new programs hopefully at the beginning of the year
- b. Members not on the roster
 - 1) Broiler contest – 264 participants were found to not be members
 - 2) State convention – on 2 non-members applied for awards (down substantially from last year)
- c. New membership – about 6000
- d. Conducted 2 workshops for careers in agriculture and natural science (put on with Michigan Farm Bureau)
 - 1) There were 40 people who attended each
 - a) a large amount of those who participated came from schools without agriscience programs
 - 2) at least 2 more workshops are planned
 - a) possibly have state officers attend next workshops
 - 3) this model is being taken to National FFA to be recommended that every state implement something similar
- e. there are openings in Ag Tech if there are students that have applied to a university but haven't gotten into a program
- 3. State Executive Secretary Report – Dave Wyrick
 - a. In the process of preparing for spring Skills Contests
 - 1) Begin working on packets this week
 - 2) Registration is due April 2nd
 - 3) Food science is limited to 16 teams (being held at the Breslin Center this year)
 - b. DTE Energy is providing an end of the year activity for retiring State officers
 - c. Dr. Showerman and Mr. Wyrick are traveling this next week
 - 1) Will be looking at how urban students are being exposed to agriculture and its opportunities
 - 2) Trip includes stops in: Chicago, St. Louis, and Jonesborough, Arkansas
 - d. Star Battery
 - 1) Doesn't currently cover Star in Agriscience
 - 2) Henry has created a section that will be inserted into the current document
 - a) Matt Jakubik moved to insert the new section into the current battery.
 - (i) Brian Kiesling second.
 - (ii) Motion passed.
 - b) Mallory Weber moved to sustain.
 - (i) Katie Jo Gentner second.
 - (ii) Motion passed.

VI. Michigan FFA Alumni/Past State Officers – Henry Reinart

- 1. Alumni Annual – JACC March 24th
 - a. Ramey Lunceford will be giving a workshop
 - b. PSO meeting
- 2. Sponsored a career fair at convention
 - a. Overwhelming response by students, not a large enough room
 - b. Had career speakers, booths

3. T-shirt sale
 - a. Good response – due to pre-orders
 - b. More t-shirts were ordered after convention as well
4. WLC Scholarship
 - a. Scholarship recipient – Jed Bushey
 - b. Scholarship funds may be a bit less because of fewer funds from the auction at National Convention

VII. Michigan FFA Foundation – Ramey Lunceford

1. Model for MI FFA Foundation
 - a. 3 committees (sponsors, donors, events)
2. VIP social at convention
 - a. Donors and sponsors were happy to see officers there
3. Photographer at convention
 - a. Officers will be getting pictures on CD
 - b. A lot of interest from individuals and chapters
4. Handful of CDE events (spring) are not yet sponsored
 - a. Looking for sponsors (individual, businesses, etc)
5. Golf Outing
 - a. Location has been changed – the outing will now be in Ithaca
 - b. Prices have also been changed
6. Race Day
 - a. Have partnered with sponsors
 - b. Will try to have FFA car at the event
 - c. Event will take place during the Sunday race

VIII. Standing Committees' Report

1. Finance Committee (320A Natural Resources)
 - a. Chairperson – Eddie Moore
 - 1) Audit
 - a) MSU is taking on that responsibility
 - 2) Commend FFA Foundation for doing a good job
2. Awards and Activities Committee (338 Natural Resources)
 - a. Chairperson – Jason Gehrke and Cathy LaLonde
3. Career Development Event Committee (338 natural Resources)
 - a. Chairperson – Charles Scovill
 - 1) Agriscience Education CDE
 - a) Committee recommends that the CDE be postponed until next year. The proposal needs to be more specific and we need to make sure there is someone to take charge of it.
 - 2) Jr. High School Broiler Contest
 - a) Jr. High students are already competing, this proposal will simplify the contest for them
 - b) The committee recommends the board approves the proposal

- c) Charles Scovill moved to accept the proposal that simplifies the Broiler Contest for Jr. High participants.
 - (i) Doug Pennington second.
 - (ii) Motion passed.
 - d) Connor Hubbard moved to sustain.
 - e) Mallory Weber second.
 - f) Motion passed.
- 4. State Officer Policy Committee (130 Natural Resources)
 - a. Chairperson – Steve Beattie
 - 1) Payment options
 - a) Ag tech is looking to collect money with online payment situation
 - b) The committee recommends to let it be for the time being

IX. Old Business: (none)

X. New Business:

- 1. Broiler Contest Organic Class – David Mellor
 - a. Doug Pennington moved to refer this to the CDE committee for further evaluation
 - 1) Steve Beattie second.
 - 2) Amendment: Dr. Karcher should be involved and teachers' opinions should also be considered
 - 3) Motion passed
 - b. Mallory Weber moved to sustain.
 - c. Katie Jo Gentner second.
 - d. Motion passed.
- 2. Regional Judges – Jessica Couch
 - a. Issues include: blank comment cards, judges that are too young
 - b. Possibly make a rule stating the guidelines for choosing judges
 - 1) Set across the board for District contests as well
 - 2) Allow advisors to choose judges with discretion – it can be difficult to find judges for every contest
 - 3) Some younger judges have experience in the contests and would be good judges
 - c. Possibly establish a dispute committee
 - d. Doug Pennington moved to refer this issue to the CDE Committee.
 - 1) Charles Scovill second.
 - a) Discussion: Have the committee make recommendations, not rules
 - 2) Motion passed.
 - e. Connor Hubbard moved to sustain.
 - f. Katie Jo Gentner second.
 - g. Motion passed.
- 3. Photo Consent – Dave Wyrick
 - a. This issues was brought up by the Creed editor (Jasper Cunningham)
 - b. Board adopted a photo policy last year but did not include motion pictures or audio

- c. Charles Scovill moved to amend the current policy by adding the terms 'motion pictures and audio.'
 - 1) Matt Jakubic second.
 - 2) Motion passed.
 - d. Becca Gulliver moved to sustain.
 - e. Mallory Weber second.
 - f. Motion passed.
4. Forming a Middle School Activity Task Force – Dave Wyrick and Randy Showerman
- a. More middle school students are becoming active FFA members
 - b. Matt Jakubic moved to put together a task force to report back at the next board meeting to report options.
 - 1) Doug Pennington second.
 - 2) Discussion: include Jr. High FFA advisors on the committee as well as State officers.
 - 3) Motion passed.
 - c. Sara Fosburg moved to sustain.
 - d. Katie Jo Gentner second.
 - e. Motion passed.
 - f. Committee members will include: Bethany Schrock, Mallory Weber, Brittny Bommarito, Dave Wyrick, Henry Reinart, Donna Hines, Karen Scovill
5. Appeal – Broiler Contest, Mr. Kovach, Chesaning
- a. Mr. Kovach treats to Broiler Contest as a class project and uses it as a recruitment event
 - b. Currently, the rules for the contest state that all students participating should be FFA members
 - 1) Executive decision made by Dr. Showerman and Mr. Wyrick to charge the finders fee for students who participated that were not members
 - c. Appeal: The Broiler Contest is a good recruitment project. The contest is treated as an experimental project in class. Close to 100% of the students participate every year. Chesaning is not on the affiliate fee program. Advisor can only recommend that students become FFA members. 11 students (out of 60) did not pay dues. These students did not come to the contest but their names were submitted on the report. Mr. Kovach does not believe that the chapter should have to pay dues for students that are not/do not want to FFA members.
 - d. Steve Beattie moved to grant the appeal.
 - 1) Doug Pennington second.
 - 2) Discussion:
 - a) The overall issue needs to be clarified
 - b) Policy I-A-01 needs to go back to the Governance Committee
 - c) Explore options to fix the problem – possible sign-in sheet or have advisor provide roster
 - d) Make it about education, not finances
 - e) Does it have to be all or nothing? Explore possible ways to mediate the costs

- f) While checking names the intent was to clear up membership status (charges were made under the old policy – discovery fee). The Association respectfully asks that the students become members
- g) Have teachers recognize that students participating on any level of the contest will be considered members
- h) Awards recipients at State Convention that were not members were caught after the fact
- i) Doug Pennington called Previous Question
 - (i) Motion passed.
 - j) Motion passed.
- 3) Matt Jakubic moved to refer item I-A-01 to a committee for revision
 - a) Eddie Moore second.
 - b) Motion passed.
- 4) Becca Gulliver moved to sustain.
- 5) Brittny Bommarito second.
- 6) Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer De Clerg

Region IV State Vice President