

**Michigan FFA Association
Board of Directors Meeting
March 21, 2019
5:00PM – 6:00PM Committee Meeting
6:00PM Board Meeting
338 Natural Resources, MSU**

- I. The meeting was called to order at 5:58 pm on Thursday, March 21, 2019, by Caitlin Henne, the State President. 28 members and guests were present: Caitlin Henne, Raegan Gembariski, Grace Platte, Kylie Sperow, Abby Puskala, Sam Wortz, Nate Scovill, Carson Evans, Kyle McFarren, Beth Wilson, Katie Holt, Haley Schulz, Scott Corrin, Mark Forbush, Doug Pennington, Henry Reinart, Travis Jones, Hanna Dutcher, Jennifer Smith, Josephine Forbush, Kevin Nugent, Matt Jakubik, Aaron McKim, Michelle Sidel, Dave Wyrick, Mark Daniels, and Deb Schmucher.
- II. Opening Ceremonies: State Officers
- III. Secretary's Report - Raegan Gembariski
 - A. 27 members and guests present
 - B. Travis Jones was not present for the last meeting, remove him from the last meetings minutes.
 - C. December minutes presented
 1. Nate Scovill moved to accept, Carson Evans seconded. Motion passed
 2. Doug Pennington moved to sustain. Haley Schulz seconded. Motion passed
- IV. Treasurer's Report – Nate Scovill on behalf of Ben Butcher
 - A. The FFA Association's account balance as of February 28, 2019, is \$187,914.96, with \$80,000 in outstanding bills for State Convention.
 - B. Our contingency fund as of February 28th, 2019 is \$168,611.64
 - C. Kyle McFarren moved to accept, Kylie Sperow seconded, motion passed
 - D. Haley Schulz sustained, Matt Jakubik seconded, motion passed
- V. Michigan FFA Association
 - A. State Officer Report - Caitlin Henne
 1. Since our last meeting we have:
 - a) Gone on retreat
 - b) Ran Leadership Contests / State Officer interviews
 - c) A new team has been elected
 2. Banquet season is now on
 - B. State Advisor Report - Mark Forbush
 1. New Programs
 - a) **Ashely**
 - b) **Brimlee**

(1) Contract with Lake Superior State University

c) Rapid River

2. The Night of Excellence, August 10th, 2019
 - a) Goal to raise \$90,000
 - b) Regional Advisors
 - (1) We want a jacket from every school to display
 - (2) Auction Items
 - c) 47 students enrolled in Ag Ed
 - d) 6 current student interns with 6 more coming next year
 - e) 1 of every 5 science teachers from MSU are now ANFRE teachers

C. State Executive Secretary Report - Dave Wyrick

1. Registration for Ag Skills is due on Monday, March 25th, 2019
2. Base Camp for the new State Officer Team is April 5-7th
3. Convention wrap-up meeting is happening soon
4. State Officers are on their "Victory Tour", with banquets and regional camps
5. TL Bushey got the Comerica Suite for the team, on April 19th
6. AFNRE advisory committee is being put together by Mr. Forbush and Mr. Wyrick

VI. Michigan FFA Alumni – Henry Reinart on behalf of Amanda Sollman

- A. March 23rd is the State Annual Meeting, at the Sanilac Fairgrounds

VII. Past State Officers - Henry Reinart

- A. Meeting before the State Alumni Annual Meeting
- B. Sold all but one convention shirt, during state convention
- C. The newsroom is doing great things!

VIII. Ag Ed Club – Josephine Forbush

- A. Critique night for Leadership Contests held in February
 1. Will make it annual
- B. Apparel sale
- C. 12 members are going to the University of Kentucky in two weeks
- D. Ag in the Classroom event in April, for a local preschool
- E. Small Animals Day booth
- F. Culvers fundraiser in April
- G. Enacting a point system this year
- H. Officer elections are in April

IX. Michigan FFA Foundation - Dave Wyrick

- A. Refer to the information about the Night of Excellence

X. Call to the Public

- A. Nothing to report

XI. Standing Committee Reports

XII. Old Business

A. Nothing to report

XIII. New Business

A. CDE Committee – Haley Schulz

1. Out of 197 invites, only 78 people committed to help

2. How can we enforce this?

a) Suggestion

(1) Contest chair can address the holding room to:

(a) No cellphones in holding room, phones should be turned over to an adult

(b) No leaving the holding room unless bathroom or an emergency

(c) No communication with parents, advisors, or other members, unless of a medical emergency

(d) Failure to comply, for any questionable doubt, will result in immediate disqualification

b) Matt Jakubik seconded

c) Scott Corrin asked if we should include coaches

(1) Haley suggested adding “or any other person” at the end of 1C

d) Could later consider using 360 cameras so we have recordings

e) Kevin Nugent stated that this is already in the contest rules, so this should just be addressed.

(a) Maybe pay contests chairs?

(b) State Contests should have a higher standard

(2) Jennifer agreed that this is an issue

(a) Apple Watches

(3) Hannah Dutcher stated that there are currently courtesy corp meetings before contests and never has

“disqualification” been brought up before, so maybe saying that could help scare people

f) Haley Schulz stated that this accountability should be on Chapter Advisors, not the Association

g) Jennifer said that it is unfair that high school students are asked to make these decisions against adults

h) David Wyrick stated that we had two assistant chairs for the parliamentary procedure contest. He also said that the best team will likely always win anyway.

i) Doug Pennington offered that we should only need the extra adults for the Parliamentary Procedure contests.

- j) Sam Wortz brought up how do we stop conversation happening during set-up for ag issues and demonstration
- k) Jennifer Smith stated how not having proper holding room staff could influence the regional and district level.
- l) Motion carries
- m) Sam Wortz moved to sustain the adult board, Nate Scovill seconded. Motion sustained

B. Awards & Activities – Katie Holt

- a) Suggestion
 - (1) Add “given to the judges with the time deductions”
 - (2) Doug Pennington Seconded
 - (3) Doug Pennington asked if this will be added to the score sheet
 - (4) Grace Platte asked how do we quantify how many points are taken off for poor official dress
 - (a) Kevin Nugent answered that since it is addressed by the chair person, it will be the same deduction across the board.
 - (5) Doug Pennington stated that he has had girls docked points for wearing pants
 - (6) Katie Holt stated that hopefully the chair for the contests will be more knowledgeable and can judge OD more appropriately
 - (7) Motion Passed
 - (8) Sam Wortz moved to sustain the adult board, Nate Scovill seconded. Motion Sustained

C. State Officer Policy – Doug Pennington

- a) Suggestion
 - (1) The Regional Nominating Committee will be made up of a minimum of (5) and a maximum of (7) members. One member will be an FFA chapter advisor and one member shall be an FFA member. The FFA Advisor and the local FFA member must be from chapters in the region who do not have an officer candidate. Each regional nominating committee will have a former state officer. We recommend that this past state officer not serve on his/her home region's committee. The remaining members of the committee will be selected from the following categories.

(2) 5. Every effort must be made to avoid any conflicts of interest when selecting any of the interview committee members. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Regional Officers
- Business professionals conducting business in the student's community

Final decisions on the committee selection will be approved by the Michigan FFA state staff.

- (a) Matt Jakubik seconded
- (b) Nate Scovill asked for clarification on the examples listed
- (c) Henry Reinart added clarification that we added a bullet point
- (d) Motion carries
- (e) Kyle McFarren moved to sustain, Carson Evans seconded. Motion sustained.

D. Vision and Special Topics – Deb Schmucker

1. Some students have special beliefs and we want to be inclusive
2. We need to tell the judges, so they are not penalized
 - a) Except the proposal as written
 - (1) Doug Pennington seconded
 - (2) Matt Jakubik asked how this fits in with students with disabilities and singling children out, and filling out the appropriate form
 - (a) Doug Pennington said that only judges need to know, it doesn't need to be announced
 - (3) Kevin Nugent asked why this has to be relayed to the state staff, why can't this just be handled on a level-specific basis? Or why can't we just respect this scenario?
 - (a) Mr. Forbush said that we are doing this to have record, and it is only for the state-level
 - (4) Kevin Nugent asked why are we adding this level of difficulty?
 - (a) Henry Reinart agreed, and suggested that we just do this on a level-specific basis
 - (b) Haley Schultz suggested that we fill out a form, similarly to an IEP

- (c) Matt Jakubik said the form can be handed to the judges, from the contest chair
 - (i) Beth Wilson agreed, also reminded board members that this could also include headdresses and other religious markings
 - (d) Grace Platte offered that students could take it upon themselves to tell the judges
 - (i) Beth Wilson said that some students might not be willing to speak up that way
 - (5) Haley Schultz moved to amend that the form needs to be handled at a level-by-level basis
 - (a) Henry Reinart seconded
 - (b) Kyle McFarren asked for the form to have a signature spot for both the student and the advisor
 - (c) Jennifer Smith wanted to clarify who receives the form
 - (i) Mark Forbush said that the contest chair must receive the form before the contest begins, and the form does not go to the state office
 - (d) Kevin Nugent asked what constitutes a form? Wheelchairs? Is this inclusive?
 - (i) Matt Jakubik said that this giving protecting the kids about discrimination, even if it is an extra step
 - (ii) Nate Scovill asked how we are allowed to ask for paperwork for something like this
 - (iii) Grace Platte stated that we shouldn't be singling the children out by having them sign the document
 - (e) Amendment carries
 - (6) Motion carries
 - (7) Kyle McFarren moved to sustain the adult board, Carson Evans seconded. Sustainment passes
 - (a) Sam called for division of the assembly
 - (i) Voted 5 -3 failed, sustainment failed
- b) Motion failed

2019 - Summer at SLCCO/SLCRO – Contests slated to be reviewed are: Poultry Judging, Ag Sales, Dairy Cattle Judging, Dairy Handlers, Creed Speaking, Greenhand Public Speaking, Market Rabbit and Demonstration.

2018-19 Meeting Dates

May 2, 2019

The meeting was adjourned by Caitlin Henne at 7:14 PM