

Michigan FFA Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
5:00 PM Dinner Available - Room 338 Natural Resources
5:00 to 6:00 PM Committee Meeting - Please see below
6:00 to 8:00 PM Board Meeting
338 Natural Resources

- I. The meeting was called to order at 5:55 pm on Thursday, March 23, 2023, by Clara Milarch, the State President. 30 members and guests were present: Clara M. Milarch, Jenna Stanton, Amanda L. Johnson, Mckenna Morton, Samara Dowding, Peyton Kuhn, Austin Smego, Dakota Spink, Blaine Cords, Hailie Hall, Lillian Houtteman, Haley Cucinello, Chase Bos, Aaron McKim, Nathan Snow, Becca Gulliver, Travis Jones, Jennifer Smith, Matt Jakubik, Deb Schmucker, Jason Griffith, Katie Holt, Amara Jackson, Charles Scovill, Beth Wilson, Henry Reinart, Doug Pennington, Michelle Sidel, Mark Forbush, and Tiffany Rogers-Randolph.

- II. Opening Ceremonies - FFA State Officers

- III. Secretary's Report - Amanda Johnson
 1. 30 members and guests were present. December minutes were presented.
 - a. Jenna Stanton moved to accept. Austin Smego seconded. Motion passed.
 - b. Haley Cucinello moved to sustain. Beth Wilson seconded. Motion passed.

- IV. Treasurer's Report - Mckenna Morton
 1. The FFA Association's account balance as of February 28, 2023 is \$198,095.23. There are approximately \$60,000 in outstanding bills for state convention. The balance in our contingency fund as of February 28, 2023 is \$616,460.54.
 - a. Dakota Spink moved to accept. Blaine Cords seconded. Motion passed.
 - b. Haley Cucinello moved to sustain. Travis Scott seconded. Motion passed.

- V. Michigan FFA Association
 1. State Officer Report - Clara Milarch
 - a. December: Consumers Energy Retreat
 - b. December - January: Chapter Visits
 - c. January: Star Interviews, Regional Updates
 - d. February: LDE Contests, Regional Level State Officer Interviews
 - e. December - March: State Convention Practice
 - f. March: State Convention
 - g. Upcoming: Chapter Banquets, Regional Camps

2. State Advisor Report - Mark Forbush
 - a. The process of reformation of the agricultural education curriculum is almost complete with final approval to come by June 2023.
 - i. The program is headed from a five-year plan to a four-year plan
 - b. Current MSU admission for incoming freshman students entering into AFNRE: 43 enrolled, with 7 admitted successfully
 - c. The grant for teacher professional development has been approved; a drone workshop will be hosted with the assistance of Northern Michigan College in Traverse City, MI
 - i. The selection process for participants: look for more to come towards the end of April

3. State Executive Secretary Report - Dr. Tiffany Rogers-Randolph
 - a. State Convention: Record attendance and registration: 2,000+ in attendance with 1,829 registrants
 - i. 173 Gold Academic Excellence Winners
 - ii. 15 National Chapter Awards
 - iii. 365 Outstanding Juniors
 - iv. 25 State Proficiency Winners
 - v. 399 State Degree recipients
 - vi. 488 competitors in the State Level Leadership Development Events
 - vii. With the support of the Alumni, we were able to host a well-attended dance
 - viii. 200+ delegates were present and were able to use the newly built Heritage Hall in the Capitol Building in Lansing
 - ix. Thank you to all who served as judges and chairs for Stars, National Chapter, Proficiencies, and LDEs
 - b. Upcoming events:
 - i. State Officer Base Camp (for officer-elects)
 - ii. State FFA Career Development Events

VI. DEI Committee - Katie Holt

1. State Convention:
 - a. A sensory space was made available for students; was a successful, but are looking to make it more accessible
 - b. A survey was developed as a way to better understand what direction the committee should go
 - c. Filming of students occurred - in the process of currently editing; once finished the video will be posted on the FFA website

2. Training for DEI committee members is to take place

VII. Michigan FFA Alumni - Becca Gulliver

1. Gator Raffle:
 - a. A check is being cut to the Foundation for \$57,500 from the raffle
 - b. The Alumni is still counting the total impact of the fundraiser to include the local level
 - c. Nutrien Ag Solutions and Hutson's have committed to the donation of another Gator for next year's raffle
 - d. The Alumni is working on obtaining new tickets, a raffle license, and other necessary items in preparation for next year
 - e. Note: Proceeds from next year's raffle will be going towards the Foundation's operational funds
2. All alumni affiliate fees have been paid - this is the first time that has happened in a while
3. New alumni chapters added this year include Dundee, Muskegon, and Blissfield
4. The FFA Alumni Annual meeting will be taking place during the AgroLiquid Expo (Aug. 16 at noon)
 - a. There will be a silent and virtual action option; proceeds will go directly to student-based scholarships (WLC, Fall Conference, Challenge 24)

IX. Past State Officers - Henry Reinart

1. Currently planning a dinner for Past State Officers to occur soon

X. Michigan FFA Foundation - Kyle Schaberg (Report provided by Charles Scovill)

1. A nonprofit legal council is working with the Foundation to make the changes necessary to allow the Foundation to restructure

XI. Ag Ed Club - Nathan Snow

1. Contest critique night will be happening next year as planned
2. All six seniors have placements for interning next year
3. Ag Ed Club apparel sale - timeframe is TBD
4. Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences - April 14, 2023
 - a. 14 students attending the field trip

XII. Call To The Public

XIII. Standing Committee's Report

- Vision and Special Topics Committee (**338 Nat Res**)
 - Chairperson Beth Wilson

- Awards and Activities Committee **(320A Nat Res)**
 - Chairperson Jennifer Smith
- Career Development and Event Committee **(338 Nat Res)**
 - Chairperson Haley Cucinello
- State Officer Policy Committee **(320 Nat Res)**
 - Chairperson Doug Pennington
- Governing Committee **(149 Nat Res)**
 - Chairperson Jason Griffith

XIV. Old Business

XV. New Business

1. Proposal: Three State Officer Proposals - Assigned to the State Officer Policy Committee for review
 - a. Issue: Re-evaluate the state officer selection process and team structure/experience
 - b. Proposal Recommended from State Officer Policy Committee: “To form a task force that will be charged with:
 - i. Evaluating the current Michigan FFA State Officer (1)m selection process and (2) team structure/experience
 - ii. Exploring options (including those proposed at the March 2023 Board of Directors’ meeting) for future state officer selection processes and team structures/experiences
 - iii. Presenting a proposal for consideration at the December 2023 Board of Directors’ meeting
 1. Task force will be comprised of:
 - a. Current State Officer (1)
 - i. Member from 2023-2024 team
 - b. Past State Officer (2)
 - i. At least one PSO will have served in the last three years
 - ii. At least one PSO will have served as member of Convention Staff and worked in the FFA Office
 - iii. (These qualification could be covered by the same individual)
 - c. FFA Advisor (2)
 - i. At least one advisor will have experience at a career center

- ii. At least one advisor will have experience at a comprehensive high school
 - iii. (Advisors will be from different regions)
 - d. Past Adult Nominating Committee Member - State Level
 - i. At least one nom com member will have served on the committee in the last three years
 - 2. Emails will be sent directly to the above stakeholder groups asking for those that are interested in serving on the task force to submit a letter of interest. Letters will be reviewed by Michigan FFA State Staff with guidance from the Governance Committee.
 - 3. Based on the recommendations received, a list of task force members will be provided at the April 2023 Board of Directors' meeting.
 - c. Motion passed.
 - d. Samara Dowding moved to sustain. Blaine Cords seconded. Motion passed.
2. Proposal: Emergency Judges - Assigned to the Career Development Event Policy Committee
 - a. Issue: Lack of judges needed during State Level Leadership Development Event contests in last-minute emergency situations
 - b. Proposal Recommended by Career Development Event Policy Committee: To accept recommended solutions with a friendly amendment of:
 - i. "Create a spreadsheet with advisors' names, cell phones, and preferences to be contacted during State FFA Convention to fill in as a judge, contests they are able to judge, as well as contests they prefer not to judge"
 - c. Henry Reinart moved the previous question. Haley Cucinello seconded. Previous question passed.
 - d. Motion passed.
 - e. Jenna Stantion moved to sustain. Dakota Spink seconded. Motion passed.
3. Proposal: Dispute Process at State Contests - Assigned to the Career Development Event Policy Event Committee
 - a. Issue: There is no time limit for when advisors can submit a dispute during State Level contests

- b. Proposal recommended by Career Development Events Policy Committee:
“Under General Rules Governing Michigan FFA Leadership Contest”
 1. Advisors can submit a written dispute to the FFA advisor up to 1 hour after contests conclude on either contest date.
 2. Furthermore, under ‘Process for disputes’ clarify that disputes must be in written format sent to the State Advisor for it to be presented to the state level dispute committee.”
- c. Jennifer Smith moved to amend the main motion by striking the words “1 hour” and substituting the words “2 hours.” Seconded by Charles Scovill.
- d. Haley Cucinello moved the previous question. Henry Reinart seconded. Previous question passed.
- e. Amendment failed.
- f. The original motion passed.
- g. Blaine Cords moved to sustain. Hailie Hall seconded. Motion passed.

XVI. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm.

1. Jenna Stanton moved to adjourn. Dakota Spink seconded.

XVII. The next Board of Directors Meeting will be April 27, 2023, at 6:00 pm in Room 338 Natural Resources.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Johnson

State Secretary

FYI: 2023-24 contests slated to be reviewed are:

- Ag Communications
- Jr. High Quiz Bowl
- Ag Issues
- Public Speaking
- Livestock Judging
- Broiler Contest
- Extemporaneous Public Speaking

2022-2023 Meeting Dates:

April 27, 2023