

**Michigan FFA Association  
Board of Directors Meeting  
December 7, 2023  
5:00 PM Dinner Available  
5:00 to 6:00 PM Committee Meeting  
6:00 to 8:00 PM Board Meeting  
338 Natural Resources, MSU**

- I. The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm on Thursday, December 7, 2023, by William Barnum, the State President. 30 members and guests were present: William Barnum, Maze Guza, Lilly Nyland, Nathaniel Cochrane, Samantha Stanke, Lauren Gorsuch, Lexi Stump, Emma Kuhl, Logan Volmering, Emma Challender, Madalyn Simpson, Nataleigh Hilliker, Sarah Albrecht, Henry Reinart, Beth Wilson, Jennifer Smith, Chase Bos, Aaron McKim, Matt Jakubik, Scott Corrin, Travis Jones, Charles Scovill, Doug Pennington, Katie Holt, Jason Griffith, Haley Cucinello, Samantha Buggia, Alexandria Schnabelrauch, Michelle Sidel, Mark Forbush, and Tiffany Rogers-Randolph.
  
- II. Opening Ceremonies: FFA State Officers
  
- III. Secretary's Report - Lilly Nyland
  1. 30 members and guests were present. September minutes presented.
    - a. Maze Guza moved to accept. Logan Volmering seconded. Motion passed.
    - b. Haley Cucinello moved to sustain. Doug Pennington seconded. Motion carried.
  
- IV. Treasurer's Report - Nathaniel Cochrane
  1. The FFA Association's account balance as of November 30, 2023, is \$118,761.96. There are approximately \$10,000 in outstanding invoices for the broiler contest and state convention filming. The balance in our contingency fund as of November 30, 2023, is \$649,967.29.
    - a. Nataleigh Hilliker moved to receive. Maze Guza seconded. Motion passed.
    - b. Doug Pennington moved to sustain. Haley Cucinello seconded. Motion carried.
  
- V. Michigan FFA Association
  1. State Officer Report - William Barnum:
    - a. September - December: Chapter Visits
    - b. October: Fall Conference, Checkpoint 2
    - c. November: Broiler Contest, National Convention

- d. Upcoming Events: Consumers Energy Retreat, Regional Updates
2. State Advisor Report - Mark Forbush:
    - a. Staff of ANFRE Program at MSU: Dr. Buddy McKendree has recently resigned from Assistant Professor of AFNR Education and from AFNRE Club Advisor as he will be moving back to Florida to run a family farm
    - b. Transition Plan of AFNRE program at MSU: The 5-year and 4-year programs are still merging, with the final transition occurring in 2025
    - c. Current Numbers: 127 programs 156 teachers
    - d. AFNRE Master's Program: 21 graduates since the fall of 2019.
  3. State Executive Secretary Report - Dr. Tiffany Rogers-Randolph
    - a. Fall Conference: Students gathered for a leadership and career conference with the Michigan Farm Bureau and 16 networking businesses. A record high of 39 student entries competed in the Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources Education Career Development Event (CDE) held during the conference
    - b. Broiler Contest: A record high of 531 entries were placed
    - c. National Convention:
      - i. BIG thanks to the Michigan FFA Alumni and Friends for sponsoring a suite during convention sessions! During this time various school administrators, advisors, and student members were able to join State Officers
      - ii. Very excited to announce that Amara Jackson, 2021-2022 Michigan FFA State President and Corunna, MI graduate is serving as the 2023-2024 National FFA President
        1. On behalf of Amara, thank you to the Michigan FFA Foundation for the generous scholarship awarded to her to assist in this journey!
      - iii. Competitors:
        1. Noah Koth, a member from the North Huron FFA chapter was a National Proficiency winner in the category of Speciality Crop and Production
        2. Seven of Michigan's Agriscience Fair competitors received placement within the top 10 nationally
    - d. Upcoming Events: State Officer Retreat, Star interviews, National Chapter, Applications, and Regional Updates.

VI. Michigan FFA Foundation - Alexandria Schnabelrauch

1. Glassbrook Grants: 15 grant applications from various FFA chapters in MI were received and recipients will be announced in January
2. Ag Heritage License Plate: Please consider donating \$35 towards the FFA Foundation by purchasing an Ag Heritage License Plate!
3. FFA Foundation Donation: HUGE thank you to Greenstone Farm Credit Services for a generous \$5,000 donation at Sen. Stabenow's retirement reception in November
4. Upcoming: Changes in the Foundation are still/will be occurring; look for more information in the future as this continues to move forward

VII. Ag Ed Club - Sarah Albrecht

1. November: Members of the club had a fun Friendsgiving meeting!
2. December: Members of the club celebrated Dr. McKendree for their last meeting of the semester
3. Potential Fundraising Opportunities to occur in the future: Cookie or Apparel Sale

VIII. Call To The Public

- A. Becca Gullivar, who served on the State Officer Task Force as a Past State Nominating Committee Representative, expressed her sincere request to approve the Task Force proposals.

IX. Standing Committee's Reports

1. Vision and Special Topics Committee (338 Nat Res)
  - a. Chairperson: Beth Wilson
2. Awards and Activities Committee (320A Nat. Resources)
  - a. Chairperson: Jennifer Smith
3. Career Development Event Committee (338 Nat. Resources)
  - a. Chairperson: Haley Cucinello
4. State Officer Policy Committee (130 Nat. Resources)
  - a. Chairperson: Doug Pennington
5. Governing Committee (149 Nat. Resources)
  - a. Chairperson: Jason Griffith
6. Special Committee- State Officer Task Force

X. Informational Items

XI. New Business

1. National Contest Declaration - Career Development Committee
  - a. It was moved to update the National Contest Declaration as proposed with a friendly amendment. See updated resources for changes
    - i. Haley Cucinello moved to accept. Jennifer Smith seconded. Motion carries.
    - ii. Nataleigh Hilliker moved to sustain. Logan Volmering seconded. Motion passes.
  
2. 5th and 6th Membership - Visioning and Special Topic Committee
  - a. It was not moved to accept 5th and 6th grade membership into the Michigan FFA Association.
    - i. Motion fails to accept. No further vote.
  
3. State Officer Task Force Proposals - State Officer Policy Committee
  - a. Proposal 1: Team Structure
    - i. It was moved to update the Michigan FFA Constitution as proposed. See updated resources for changes.
      1. Haley Cucinello moved to accept. Doug Pennington seconded. Motion carried.
      2. Logan Volmering moved to sustain. Nataleigh Hiliker seconded. Motion passed.
        - a. Note: This motion will now be voted on at the 2024 State FFA Convention by delegates
  
  - b. Proposal 4: Interview Structure & Advancement of Candidates
    - i. It was moved to update the State Officers Election Procedures document as proposed. See updated resources for changes.
      1. Doug Pennington moved to accept. Chase Bos seconded. Motion carried.
      2. Maze Gusa moved to sustain. Logan Volmering seconded. Motion passed.
  
  - c. Proposal 2: Selection Process Coordination & Nominating Committees Structure
    - i. It was moved to update the State Officers Election Procedures document as proposed. See updated resources for changes.
      1. Doug Pennington moved to accept. Chase Bos seconded. Motion carried.

2. Nataleigh Hilliker moved to sustain. Logan Volmering seconded. Motion passed.
  - d. Proposal 3: Appointment of the Nominating Committee
    - i. It was moved to update the Michigan FFA Constitution as proposed. See updated resources for changes.
      1. Haley Cucinello moved to accept. Beth Wilson seconded. Motion carried.
      2. Emma Kuhl moved to sustain. Nataliegh Hilliker seconded. Motion passed.
        - a. Note: This motion will now be voted on at the 2024 State FFA Convention by delegates
  - e. Proposal 5: Elections
    - i. It was moved to update the State Officers Election Procedures document as proposed. See updated resources for changes.
      1. Doug Pennington moved to accept. Beth Wilson seconded. Motion carried.
      2. Lauren Gorsuch moved to sustain. Logan Volmering seconded. Motion passed.
- XII. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.
  1. Logan Volmering moved to adjourn. Emma Kuhl seconded. Motion carried.
- XIII. The next Board of Directors Meeting will be on February 15, 2024, at 6 pm in Room 338 Natural Resources.

Respectfully submitted,

**Lilly Nyland**

2023-2024 State Secretary

**2024-2025 contests slated to be reviewed are: Poultry Judging, Ag. Sales, Dairy Cattle Judging, Dairy Handlers, Creed Speaking, Greenhand Public Speaking, Market Rabbit and Demonstration.**

**2023-2024 Meeting Dates:**

February 15, 2024

March 14, 2024

April 11, 2024