

**Michigan FFA Association
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2024**

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 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 11, 2024, by William Barnum, the State President. 28 members and guests were present: William Barnum, Maze Guza, Lilly Nyland, Nathaniel Cochrane, Samantha Stanke, Lauren Gorsuch, Lexie Stump, Emma Kuhl, Logan Volmering, Emma Challender, Madalyn Simpson, Nataleigh Hilliker, Sarah Albrect, Henry Reinart, Beth Wilson, Chase Bos, Matt Jakubik, Scott Corrin, Travis Jones, Charles Scovill, Doug Pennington, Katie Holt, Jason Griffith, Haley Cucinello, Alexandria Schnabelrauch, Michelle Sidel, Mark Forbush, and Tiffany Rogers-Randolph.

- II. Opening Ceremonies - FFA State Officers

- III. Secretary's Report - Lilly Nyland
 1. 28 members and guests were present. March minutes were presented.
 - a. Logan Volmering moved to accept. Maze Gusa seconded. Motion passed.
 - b. Haley Cucinello moved to sustain. Doug Pennington seconded. Motion carried.

- IV. Treasurer's Report - Nathaniel Chocrance
 1. The FFA's Association account balance as of March 31, 2024, is \$133,613.86. There are approximately \$25,000 in outstanding payments for State Convention monetary awards to chapters and for Ag Skills Contests. The balance in our contingency fund as of March 31, 2024, is \$633,259.54.
 - a. Lauren Gorsuch moved to receive. Nathaniel Cochrane seconded. Motion passed.
 - b. Chase Bos moved to sustain. Haley Cucinello seconded. Motion carried.

- V. Michigan FFA Association
 1. State Officer Report - William Barnum
 - a. December: Consumers Energy Retreat
 - b. January: District Contests, Regional Updates
 - c. February: Regional Contests, State Convention
 - d. March: Recover!

- e. Upcoming Events: Ag Skills Contest, Chapter Banquets, Regional Camps, Rabbit Contest, Meat Judging Contest, Retirement of State Officers
 - 2. State Advisor Report - Mark Forbush
 - a. Updates were given regarding new chapter programs and Perkins V. Please contact Mr. Forbush with any questions.
 - 3. State Executive Secretary Report - Dr. Tiffany Rogers-Randolph
 - a. State Convention:
 - i. 2,014 attendees, with 215 delegates
 - ii. 40-50 more Proficiency Awards, State Degrees, Outstanding Junior, and Academic Excellence awards were received this year than last year
 - iii. A BIG thank you to those who assisted with Star Awards, Proficiency Awards, National Chapter Awards, and LDE contests. An additional thank you to the Michigan FFA Alumni and Friends for hosting our dance and to our DEI Committee for hosting our sensory room.
 - b. Ag Skills Contest: Currently, we have 17 events, with 863 teams registered; this is 50 more than ever before
 - i. Thank you to those who have assisted in preparation thus far
 - c. Upcoming Events: Banquet Speeches, Base Camp for 2024-2025 State Officers, Ag Skills Contest, Horse Judging, Rabbit Contest, Capstone, Meats Evaluation, National Officer Candidate Selection
 - d. Updates:
 - i. Our FFA office is moving to a different location in the building after 18 years (more to come on this)
 - ii. Award checks for Ag Skills will be sent out shortly after the completion of contest
- VI. DEI Committee - Katie Holt
 - 1. Updates about the DEI Committee training and new funding opportunities were given. Please contact Katie Holt with any questions.
- VII. Michigan FFA Alumni - Mark Forbush
 - 1. The Alumni Report was delivered by Mark Forbush on behalf of Hailey Gilbert. Updates about the Alumni raffle held at the Michigan FFA State Convention were given. Please contact Hailey Gilbert with any questions.
- VIII. Past State Officers - Henry Reinart

1. No report

IX. Michigan FFA Foundation - Alexandria Schnabelrauch

1. A new implementation at our Ag Skills contest this year is sponsorships of contests. A sign of a corporate partner who is sponsoring a specific contest will be displayed at each appropriate contest location. Note: All 17 contests have a sponsor!
2. Earlier this spring, the Foundation put together a slideshow deck informing students of how to write a professional thank you note.
3. The Foundation's media presence will be changing to create a more positive influence. The Foundation aims to magnify and highlight students and supporters.
4. The Foundation is working on planning more business and industry tours for state officers, Association and Foundation staff, Foundation Board of Directors, and our Alumni.

X. Ag Ed Club - Sarah Albrecht

1. Nomination for e-board officers will be taking place next week!
2. Due to the change in the Ag Ed curriculum plan (5 year to 4 year program), a proposal of our e-board term length will be voted on during our next meeting.
3. Our MSU Ag Ed apparel sale is currently open and will close on April 15th. Some items that can be purchased include MSU Ag Ed gear and MAAE gear.
4. Voting to change e-board terms- start mid year
5. We have been hard at work with partnerships with other collegiate Ag Ed clubs. 9 MSU Ag Ed students had the opportunity to visit the University of Kentucky and strengthen a partnership with their Ag Ed program.

XI. Call To The Public

XII. Standing Committee's Report

- Vision and Special Topics Committee (**338 Nat Res**) - Chairperson Beth Wilson
- Awards and Activities Committee (**320A Nat Res**) - Chairperson TBD
- Career Development Event Committee (**338 Nat Res**) - Chairperson Haley Cucinello
- State Officer Policy Committee (**320A Nat Res**) - Chairperson Doug Pennington
- Governing Committee (**149 Nat Res**) - Chairperson Jason Griffith

XIII. Informational Items

XIV. Old Business

XV. New Business

1. Proposals

a. Judge Discrepancy Scoring Proposal - Career Development Event Committee

i. Issue: "Judging with outlier scores"

1. Description: "When scoring we have three judges who rank each contest at the conclusion to advance teams to the next round of contest or name a winner. Often we experience two judges who rank a team first, while the third judge ranks them in the bottom half of the teams. Depending on where the third judge ranks them, it ultimately knocks a team that had a majority opinion of be named a first place team/individual out of moving on or winning."

2. Recommended Solution: "At any round of contest, a team or individual who receives two judges who rank them as #1 will be first in that contest, regardless of the third judge score. Under the General Contest Rules for LDES add under "Scoring and Ranking" and on the "Guide to Ranking Teams" document direction number two the following, "If a team/individual is ranked 1st by two judges they will be named first place for that contest, regardless of the third judges score."

a. It was not moved to accept altering judging with outlier scores.

i. Motion fails to accept. No further vote.

2. Recognition of 23-24 State Officer team and Industry Representatives who will be term limited off the board

3. Executive Session

a. Code of Conduct - 24-25 Officer

XVI. Announcements

1. Recognition of Board Members whose term has ended

a. Region III and IV Representatives, Industry Representative (2 positions), State Officers

2. Contests that will be reviewed are listed below; these will be reviewed during SLCRO/SLCCO

3. Note: Be sure to look at your calendar to keep updated on FFA activities/events

a. National Convention, Broiler Contests, District and Regional Contests, and State Convention will be transitioning dates in the calendar year

- b. The tentative schedule for the incoming year can be viewed online at the Michigan FFA website, under FFA Association; Calendar; Future Calendars

XVII. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.

1. Adjourned through closing ceremonies

XVIII. The next Board of Directors Meeting will be September 12, 2024, at 6:00 pm in Room 338 Natural Resources.

Respectfully submitted for the last time,

Lilly Nyland

2023-2024 State Secretary

FYI: 2024-25 contests slated to be reviewed are:

- Poultry Contest
- Dairy Judging
- Dairy Handlers
- Creed Speaking
- Greenhand Public Speaking
- Market Rabbit
- Demonstration

FYI: Positions that will be completing their three years of service include:

- Region III Representative (currently Haley Cucinello)
- Region IV Representative (currently Beth Wilson)
- MHTA Representative (currently Jennifer Smith)
- Industry Representative (currently Scott Corrin)
- Industry Representative (currently Travis Jones)

2024-2025 Meeting Dates:

September 12, 2024

December 5, 2024

February 20, 2025

April 17, 2025