

Unapproved Minutes – August 6, 2009

Board meeting called to order by President Molly Walmer at 1:00pm in the Ferguson building at PSU.

Opening ceremonies were performed by the State Officer team. In attendance were: Molly Walmer, Tyler Funk, Brittany Wilmer, Allison Hoover, Caleb Wright, Billy Boring, Samantha Barrick-Poust, Heather Miller, Alex Spease, Coty Covert, Billy Saylor, Wayne Irish, Cliff Wallace, John Hines, Dave Steinfeld, Gretchen Dingman, Sherisa Nailor, Kerry Richards, John Ewing, Dan Foster, Ron Frederick, Annette Gray, Cecil Lohr, Cliff Day, Chris Weller, Kelly Over, Tyler Witter, Hannah Wentworth, Penny Brammer and Mike Brammer. Bruce Miller (Foundation) arrived later in the meeting. Introductions were made by all in attendance.

The minutes of the previous meeting were presented by Mike Brammer. *Hoover/Hines moved to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed.*

Financial reports were presented by Mike & Penny Brammer. No changes in the state budget yet so no 2010-11 budget is available. ALL reports will be filed for audit.

The State Officers activity report was presented by Samantha Barrick-Poust. A written report was provided.

FFA Foundation – Dr. Richards reported on a possible new project, “Leadership Lights”, Golf Tournaments, FFA Emblem Video, the Budget, weekly Foundation updates, and Ag Progress Days.

Kelly Over presented a report on the State Officer Committee research she has conducted. More information will be shared with the committee and then back to the Board.

PDE Report – Mr. Weller reported on the state budget – No changes. He continues to do school reviews. Mr. Day reported all teams for the Big E and National convention have been registered. The eight openings for the large exhibit displays at Farm Show have been filled. 47 American Degrees, all submitted Honorary Degree applications, 19 Proficiency applications and 8 Chapter award applications have been accepted by National FFA. Kristie Folk, Central Columbia FFA chosen as a regional star and Paul Heasley, State College HS selected as a National finalist in the AgriScience teacher of the year category.

At 2:30pm the Board recessed for an ice cream social with the Foundation Board. Mr. Frederick asked for 15 minutes with the adult Board immediately following the social.

At 3:30pm the full Board reconvened.

PDA Report – Mike Brammer brought greetings on behalf of Secretary Wolff, Deputy Secretary Russell Redding and Jean Lonie. The AG ED annual report is posted on www.marketplaceforthemind.com. Deputy Secretary Wehry has resigned and is now the state director for FSA of USDA. Ms. Lonie and Deputy Redding have met with Britney Marsh and Lonie continues to give her assignments to study in regards to agriculture issues.

FFA Alumni – Sherisa Nailor reported October 3 is the Blue and Gold Ball/Pst State Officer Reunion – Cost \$50 pp. October 6 is HOSS’s night – proceeds will benefit the jacket campaign. The Alumni also hosted the annual State Officer Candidate training session prior to the convention.

PSU Report – Dr. Dan Foster reported for the college of AG. New faculty is on board. He encouraged the State Officers to consider a career as an agriculture teacher. There is a need for more teachers nationwide. NEW endowment – Dennis Scanlon Scholarship endowment. Dr. Foster also reported for the collegiate FFA.

PAAE Report – Wayne Irish reported the summer conference was a great success. He also thanked the State Officers for their help during the conference.

National Officer Candidate Britney Marsh provided a written report of her activities. She was not able to attend.

REGIONAL COORDINATORS

EAST – Mr. Frederick reported the teachers met in July and set dates for the year. He will share those with Mike Brammer.

WEST – Mr. Lohr reported he thinks they have found a home for the Western Region CDE's.

NORTH – Mrs. Gray reported she met with the Sun Area teachers and also went to Costa Rica with her son on the National FFA trip. She encouraged everyone to have more students apply for proficiency awards.

SOUTH – Mrs. Bier was not in attendance. On her behalf, Mr. Hines reported they are working on schedules. She also has a question about verifying Keystone Degree candidates.

COMMITTEES

Activities Week – Mr. Day provided a written Activities Week review report from the teachers conference. Mike Brammer provided the financial report on Activities Week. Questions asked about selecting certain meals for purchase instead of all meals? Brammer to research. Question asked about the duties of the Assistant to Phil Hoy? Question raised about the number of National Chapter Award applications that were submitted.

Keystone Degree Application Committee – Mr. Frederick provided the NEW and revised Keystone degree application for 2010. *Wallace/Saylor moved to accept the Keystone Degree as changed. Motion passed.* Mr. Day reported Keystone Degree evaluations will be held November 14, 2009 in Bedford. He also presented a proposal for the Boards review and acceptance regarding the process of evaluating the applications. *Wright/Witter moved to accept the new procedures as written. Motion passed.* See attached.

Record Book Program Committee – Dr. Hoover provided a written report of the survey findings and comments. More to follow at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Summer Convention Review was given by Tyler Witter. He provided a written report.

Convention Delegates report also provided written by Tyler Witter.

National Convention Display – Discussion on whether Pennsylvania should have a display at the National Convention since the location of the Hall of States has been moved to the Lucas Oil Stadium. Consensus of the Board was to NOT have a display. Dr. Foster (PSU) suggested we partner with them at the collegiate booth. He and Mike Brammer will work out the details.

NLC SO – Mike Brammer reminded the Board Pennsylvania will hosting the six state conference in Gettysburg August 8-12

NEW BUSINESS

BLAST OFF Review – Brittany Wilmer provided a written report of this activity.

Western Leadership Conference/PAAE Conference – Heather Miller provided a written report of this activity.

State President's Conference – Tyler Funk provided a written report of this activity. Molly Walmer and Tyler Funk covered the National Delegate issues.

Foundation Golf Outings – Alexandria Spease provided a written report of these activities.

Fox Chase Farms - Discussion on a request to have an FFA Chapter at Swenson Fox Chase Farms was lead by Ron Frederick – Mr. Weller will follow up and report his findings and recommendation.

Middle School/Home School/Cyber School FFA Chapters – Wayne Irish lead the discussion in regards to this topic. A committee of six was formed to meet and discuss ideas concerning this subject. Those placed on the committee were: Chris Weller (Chair), Dan Foster, Sherisa Nailor, PJ Adam, Samantha Barrick-Poust, Allison Hoover and Mike Brammer (Ex-Officio).

OTHER

Future Meeting dates – The following dates were set for future meetings:

December 4, 2009

February 26, 2010

May 14, 2010

June 16-17, 2010 – PSU at Activities Week

Meeting locations to be determined.

Closing ceremonies were performed and the meeting was adjourned at 5:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Brammer

Samantha Barrick-Poust

Mike Brammer – FFA Executive Manager

Samantha Barrick-Poust – FFA State Secretary

2009 KEYSTONE DEGREE SELECTION/ VERIFICATION

The Keystone Degree Selection/Verification process will take place on Saturday, November 14th at Friendship Village Campground in Bedford starting at 10:00am. ALL applications and SAE books needed for documentation of the application MUST be in the hands of the Regional Coordinators by Nov. 10th.

The following individuals/ positions will be represented at the verification:

- 4 Regional Coordinators or their designated replacement
- 1 teacher-representative from each of the four regions
- FFA Facilitator
- FFA Executive Manager or his designee

Applications that are rejected will be identified as being either:

1. Rejected with No right of appeal. OR
2. Rejected but correctable.

REJECTED BUT CORRECTABLE

1) Applications which are rejected will have REJECTED written on the front cover as well as the reason why the application has been rejected. A letter will be e-mailed or faxed to the advisor of students whose applications have been rejected explaining why the application has been rejected and what can be done to have the application reconsidered, by the end of the day on the Monday following the state verification process. Appeals of REJECTION will be made within 10 days of the original verification. Appeals will be made to the FFA Board President or designee. (PA FFA Board Policy. Page 6 of the FFA Policy Manual)

2) Applications which are returned to students for corrections must be returned to the regional FFA coordinator with ALL corrections by the designated date. **Students will have one opportunity to make corrections.**

REJECTED AND NO APPEALS POSSIBLE

3) Students will NOT be allowed to make changes in their record books to justify their Keystone application. Record books must show correct entries on pages 16 and S-1 to verify applications. If the verification committee is NOT able to find entries in the record books that verify the \$1000 or 600 hours, the application will be rejected with NO right of appeal that year. Minor discrepancies in the application (as compared to the record book) may be corrected in the application.

4) If the application and record books do not document and verify the completion of 2 years of membership (with additional verification from the state FFA office) the application will be rejected with NO right of appeal.

5) If the application does not document at least 2 years and completion of 360 hours of instruction in agriculture classes (associated academic may not be used towards the 360 hours), the application will be rejected with NO right of appeal.

6) Applicant requirements for FFA participation both at and above the chapter level will be verified using pages L1 and L2 of the current year record book. If these requirements can not be verified, the application will be rejected with NO right of appeal. Corrections may not be made to the record books.

7) All applicants for the Keystone Degree must be listed on the current FFA roster submitted by Nov. 15th.