**Minutes from the Minnesota FFA Board Meeting**

**March 13, 2014**

**6:00 P.M.**

**Minnesota Department of Education - Roseville, MN**

President Mallory Pagel Advisor Mr. Joel Larsen

Vice President Stuart Schumacher Executive Secretary Mr. Jim Ertl

Secretary Brooke Wente Region I Representative Ms. Rita Olson

Treasurer Dylan Antoff Region II Representative Ms. Gretchen Schleper

Reporter Brandon Roiger Region III Representative Mr. John Roberts

Sentinel Heidie Sloot Region IV Representative Ms. Katie Miron

Region I President Maddi Fraser Region V Representative Ms. Lavyne Rada

Region II Vice President Austin Schmitt Region VI Representative Ms. Deb Martin

Region III President Sarah Lachowitzer Region VII Representative Ms. Pam Koenen

Substitute Vice President Brady Wulf Region VIII Representative Ms. Nikkole Beucler

Region IV Vice President Kyla Mauk Leadership Development Coordinator Interim

Region V President Dalton Kampsen Mr. Wyatt DeJong

Region VI Secretary Suzanne Pagel CDE Coordinator Mr. Dennis Bjorklund

Region VII President Erin Larson Ms. Whitney Rupprecht

Region VIII President Valerie Earlie

On March 13 2013, President Pagel called the board meeting of the Minnesota FFA Association to order at 6:10 pm at the Minnesota Department of Education located in Roseville, MN.

Region VII President Larson gave and invocation. Introductions were conducted led by Region V President Kampsen.

Secretary Wente reported the minutes of the November meeting. Sentinel Sloot moved to approve the secretary’s minutes. Treasurer Antoff seconded. Region I Representative Olson moved to sustain, Region V Representative Rada seconded. The motion was sustained.

Executive Secretary shared the bills not yet paid. Those include, Ag Policy Boot Camp hotel and food fees (5000), printing (1000), and banquet (547). All these are to be reimbursed by the Minnesota FFA Foundation. Other bills include, Matt Addington Photography (1200), insurance policy for non-state fair dates (2800) – this bill is split three ways between Minnesota FFA Alumni and Minnesota FFA Foundation. In June there will be training for the adult board to do board training and a soft audit will also occur at this time. Possible dates include a time during POWER, which is on June 10, 11, and 12. It will need to be determined if it is necessary to have the accountant there. Advisor Larsen prefers to hold this training in the cities, so it will occur after June 12th.

Treasure Antoff presented the Treasurer’s report. Reporter Roiger moved to pay the bills until the convention board meeting in April. Treasurer Antoff seconded. It was voted on and passed. Region I Representative Olson sustained and Region V Representative Rada seconded. The motion was sustained. Treasurer Antoff will need to find a time to build an association budget for convention.

Executive Secretary Ertl and Reporter Roiger shared correspondence.

**Leadership Development Coordinator**

Advisor Larsen shared detailed information about the Leadership Development Coordinator position. The salary for this position is unknown, as it will be based upon the level of experience and education that the candidate possesses. The Minnesota FFA Foundation is relied on to help cover the salary of Leadership Development Coordinator along with part of the Executive Secretary Salary. There is a partnership with the University of Minnesota so there is an insurance and life policy for both the Leadership Development Coordinator and Executive Secretary. Serving on the board to select the new Leadership Development Coordinator is two adult board members: Region I Representative Olson and Region VII Representative Koenen, Kristin Harner and Val Aarsvold representing the Minnesota FFA Foundation, representative from the Minnesota FFA Alumni, a representative from the University of Minnesota, Advisor Larsen, Executive Secretary Ertl, and past Leadership Development Coordination Addington.

**Career Development Events**

Dennis Bjorklund reports on Career Development Events, see attached page for update regarding CDEs.

**2014 State FFA Convention**

Sentinel Sloot gave an update about the status of the 2014 State FFA convention. Sentinel Sloot moved to set individual member registration at $17 for state convention. Treasurer Antoff seconded. The motion was voted on and passed. Region VII Representative Koenen moved to sustain the motion and Region I Representative Olson seconded. The motion was sustained. Due to the limited number of applicants for both the state band and choir, tapes have been removed from the application requirement. Registration for state band and choir was open until March 15th. For state office applications, 20 candidates have submitted applications. Advisor Larsen stated that the application will be sent to adult judges to score and then up to 18 candidates will be invited to interview for state office. That invite will be sent out via letter after April 5th. Secretary Wente explained the stage moving at Mariucci Arena, along with the change in the Sunday evening talent show. Sentinel Sloot continued sharing about convention. A delegate session will need to be held at convention so members can approve the amendment to both the constitution and bylaws. The amendment will provide the adult board with different perspective and insight by adding in the school superintendent/principle then adding in an industry representative. It will need to be decided at the next convention-planning meeting on March 20th about the way in which the votes will be tracked. Currently there will be 30 workshops presented at convention the only issue that is being faced is the lack of rooms available but that will be resolved by convention time. At the workshops the member attendance will be recorded so we will be able to track who did and didn’t attend. There is a possibility of having an overall drawing of workshop attendees. The lack of attendance in the past years has discouraged some workshop presenters so they stopped submitting a workshop. The hope is to increase attendance so workshop presenters continue to come back. Region IV was the winner of the region officer challenge issued by the state officers so they will be facilitating a workshop during convention. On Sunday afternoon there will be a Farmland showing hosted by Farm Bureau in the Saint Paul student center. A 40x60 tent might be added to the grassy area. Tables will be set up in the tent. Electricity needs to be accessible in the tent. A talent stage will be set up in the tent as well. MN West and South Central College are the ones who pushed this through; there will be other colleges that will set up in the tent. The goal is to run programs quickly to keep people in their seats the whole time.

**Region Officer Reports**

Regional Officers presented their region reports. They shared about their successes of the winter leadership events. All region officer teams have been slated for next year except for Region IV. Region teams are busy planning for their upcoming banquets.

**National FFA Week**

Reporter Roiger shared about the events that occurred during National FFA Week. State officers visited the commissioners of both the Department of Education and the Department of Agriculture. All officers attended the Sleepy Eye FFA chapter Lock-in. On March 3rd and 4th Ag Policy Bootcamp was held with 30 members. State officers had the opportunity to speak in legislative committees during the conference. The Monday night legislator reception had roughly 22 participants.

**Spring Leadership Meeting Points**

Secretary Wente highlighted some of the main points being covered at the spring board meeting. Those included membership, leadership conferences, chapter service hours, agriculture issues career development event, and market plan career development event. Also the Minnesota FFA Foundation is expected to have Koch Pipeline join as a star partner.

**State Greenhand Leadership Conference**

Reporter Roiger stated that SGLC is being held on June 23-27 at Deep Portage. Registration date is May 1. Camp fee is $175 and there are scholarships available for members through Alliance Safety.

**State Leadership Conference for Chapter Leaders**

Advisor Larsen shared that during camp there are an additional 4-5 agriculture teachers hired as staff. These individuals are preferred to be younger teachers so they have an idea of what camp is like so they can continue to promote it to their students. Reporter Roiger shared the dates for SLCCL session one is July 13-16 and session two dates are July 16-19. Registration date is the same as SGLC, May 1st. Camp fee is $165 and there are scholarships available to members through Alliance Safety.

**POWER 2014**

Executive Secretary Ertl shared that POWER I is being held June 10-12 at Deep Portage in Hackensack. The new region officer teams along with the region advisors are expected to be there.

**POWER II**

Leadership Development Coordinator DeJong stated that Power II is scheduled for November 21st at Camp Friendship in Annandale.

**Washington Leadership Conference**

Executive Secretary Ertl explained that currently there are 19 paid members for WLC. There are a total of 34 members that registered for this conference. There are still 11 spots open. Some of the members who have received scholarships still haven’t registered for the conference. Registration will close soon as airplane tickets need to be purchased by April 10th.

**360 Remix Conference**

Leadership Development Coordinator DeJong shared that the 360 Remix Conference was being held on March 14 and would be facilitated by Treasurer Antoff and Secretary Wente.

**Membership Report 2013-2014**

Executive Secretary Ertl stated that 9,781 members is the current Minnesota FFA membership. There is a chance that the 10,000 mark will be reached yet there still needs to be a large push to gain more members.

**Proficiency Award Applications**

Advisor Larsen said he was very pleased with the number of proficiency applications submitted. In 2013 there were 287 proficiency applications, whereas this year in 2014 there were 328 proficiency applications.

**Minnesota FFA Degree**

Advisor Larsen expected that there would be 329 Minnesota FFA Degrees awarded at convention this year. This is the highest level of degrees awarded over the past 12 years. Last year 291 members received their state degree.

**Honorary State FFA Degree**

President Pagel directed the board to the list of nominees for the honorary state degree. It was agreed upon that the honorary state degree would be deferred till March 14 where a small group of people will select the honorary degree recipients. As a state we can nominate 5 people for the American honorary degree. Teachers make great candidates if they have taught for 10 years or more and if they have 85% member involvement.

**American Degree Application**

Advisor Larsen stated that American Degree applications should be completed by April 15th. Technically the application is not needed till the interview so by April 15th members need to express that they are filling out the application along with where they are located.

**National Chapter Award Application**

Executive Secretary Ertl shared that 28 chapters submitted applications for the national chapter award. All those applications will also be viewed to select the chapter exchange of ideas. The chapter exchange of ideas application will be made available on the website to chapters that didn’t complete the national chapter award.

**Agri Science Fair**

Sentinel Sloot said that the Ronald Peterson Science Fair would be taking place on the University Minnesota Campus on March 20th.

**Minnesota State Fair**

Region VII Representative Koenen stated that they decided against testing for PEDV because it’s very expensive. The PEDV only has a real impact for piglets and gilts. By eliminating central weigh ins they may solve part of the issue. The Board of Animal Health knows that Minnesota is one of the last state fairs so they have a pretty good idea of what to expect by fair time. The state fair wants 4-H, open class, and FFA exhibits at the fair because they help educate. Executive Secretary Ertl also added that there might be some changes to the CHS Miracle of Birth Center. One change might be bringing in pigs on a quicker rotation so every four days.

**Minnesota FFA Alumni**

Treasurer Antoff shared that the Minnesota FFA Alumni Conference was held at Cascade Meadow Wetlands & Environmental Science Center located in Rochester. The Minnesota FFA Alumni will run the stop and shop at convention. They will sponsor the following: the Turkey-to-Go lunch on Sunday afternoon of convention, the past state officer reception, and the Monday afternoon food pack.

**Minnesota FFA Foundation**

Executive Secretary Ertl shared that FFA Day with the Twins will be on July 27th and the foundation golf tournament will be July 24th.

**National Officer Candidates**

Advisor Larsen said that by April 15th he needs a letter saying from those that want to be considered as a candidate for national office. There is a group that has been working on selecting the Minnesota candidate for a period of about five years. The two dates for interviews are May 12th and May 29th. The first round is more informal with a dinner and casual conversation, whereas the 2nd round is more formal with three rounds of interviews.

**Minnesota FFA Leadership**

Leadership Development Coordinator DeJong gave an update. One goal is to help improve communication about what is available to FFA members. Before convention the officers are going to compile and create videos that showcase the different leadership events. Some of the conferences opportunities for post high school members are the Go Africa and new century farmer conference that need to be more advertised to members. The state officer nominating committee has been selected and they went through a vigorous training on Friday March 14th. State officers are striving to make convention more engaging for members so it’s a more interactive experience. State officer prep days are coming up. One will be held on the St. Paul campus on March 29th and the second will be on April 5th in Sauk Centre. He also shared that he is working actively with the Minnesota FFA Alumni to pinpoint specific alumni chapters that need more guidance.

**Blast Off Training**

Executive Secretary Ertl shared that the Blast Off training for 2014-2015 state officer team will be happening on May 15 – May 19th.

**Concluding Announcements**

FFA Day at the Capital is March 27th and it will begin in the Department of Agriculture, which opens right at 8. Attendees cannot park in the ramp, only ground parking is available. The CHS Miracle of Birth Center interviews will take place at convention. Returning barny applications are always accepted. These applications are due April 1. On March 27th at 1:30 in the McNamara Alumni Center there is a reception celebrating Norman Borlaug’s birthday. In 2014, Region III and Region VIII will have new board representatives. Leadership Development Coordinator DeJong requests that everyone fill up the Kare 11 comment page with the benefits of FFA and such in order to encourage them to film at state convention.

Erin Region VII President Larson moved to adjourn the meeting, Sentinel Sloot seconded. Motion was voted on and passed. Meeting was adjourned at 8:35.

**Minnesota FFA CDE Coordinator Convention Update March 13, 2014**

1. **Room Changes** – No major changes, still locking in some rooms for CDEs workshop rooms almost complete.
2. **Registration** – Opens Monday, March 17, 2014. The workshops are listed some rooms TBD. Remember to sign students up for workshops they will attend so we don’t leave empty spaces at the workshops.
3. **Courtesy Corps** **-** Please consider having students participate in the Courtesy Corps Events. One free registration for every three courtesy corps participants (Limit 2 per chapter).
4. **Agricultural Issues**
	1. Eight teams have preregistered. KMS, Marshall, PEM, Chatfield, Hutchinson, Morris Area, Battle Lake, Maple River
	2. Portfolios need to be postmarked by April 5, 2014
	3. Since the presentations are part of the scoring, we will be looking closer at the pre-convention presentations. In order to receive full credit, teams must make five presentations and document those in their materials.
	4. Teams with less than five presentations will be allowed to compete, but would not get the 2 points for each presentation given.
5. **Market Plan**
	1. Eight teams preregistered. Worthington, KMS, HLWW, Chatfield, Dassel-Cokato, Hutchinson, Grand Rapids, Detroit Lakes. Written plans must be postmarked by April 5, 2014 or they will lose spot to someone on waiting list.
	2. Three teams on waiting list: Morris Area, Staples, Ulen-Hitterdahl
6. **Agricultural Sales**
	1. Team members can identify related/complimentary products and their suggestive selling strategies in the planning and presentation phase
	2. They are to sell the listed products in the sales portion
	3. The dog food to be sold will be provided at the State Event
7. **Forestry** -. Wood ID will be multiple choice.
8. **Dairy Foods CDE** – The scantron form will have 3 cheeses listed that we do not have in our event. Students will be instructed to not use those cheeses. They are the last three on the list, Feta, Romano, & Havarti. The scantron is posted on the internet. The scoring for CMT will now be 0-8 as it states in the rules and milker units will be 0 – 4, so the deductions are subtracted from 4 as most regions have been doing.
9. **Job Interview** – Students will need to set-up an appointment to do the pre-contest interview. The teachers of the students will be contacted, be informed of the times available, and schedule a time for their students when the judge can call the student will they are available to do the telephone interview. I am meeting with the faculty chair on Monday. We may send out application template March 31 and contestants will have a week to complete and mail back with job description, resume, and application letter by April 7. Five copies of each item are needed. Advisor verification should also be included.
10. **Floriculture** – The practicum is corsages. Use tape and wire no glue. We have a judge from Kohler-Dramm
11. **Parliamentary Procedure Teams** will be scheduled for their competition times. They may take the exam on Sunday (Ruttan Hall 143) from 1:30 to 4:30 or Monday CECC 55 from 11:45-1:15.The entire team should take the exam at the same time.
12. **Poultry** – Please have the students read the “Use of Animals in Research” material and sign the form. Bring the forms with to registration.
13. **Agricultural Mechanics** – Safety forms necessary for the State Event are for arc welding. Forms can be mailed or emailed to Dennis Bjorklund- bjork045@umn.edu or brought to registration. Forms are posted on the CDE Booklet Website. Performance skills have been reduced in building construction, and drainage, irrigation, and conservation. John Deere 569 Large Round Baler Operators Manual is on website.
14. **Livestock** - The livestock team activity will be swine.
15. **Dairy Cattle -** An example of the Team Activity for the Dairy CDE can be found in the CDE Rules Booklet.
16. **Crops** – Practicums are Pesticide, Fertilizer, and Varietal Trials the crops are Corn and Oats
17. **Public Speaking-** materials must be sent in by April 5th. Public Speaking contestants need to send four copies of their speech.
18. **Forms** - We have forms for requests for special needs. All forms listed can also be found at **http://cde.ffa.umn.edu/Web/2013forms.htm.**
19. **Choir & Band -** Members registered for choir or band will be automatically signed up for pizza for the Tuesday noon meal. Chapter will be billed, but do not request pizza for them.
20. **Meals for Convention**
	1. Block & Bridle BBQ Feed Monday 10:30 am – 1:30 pm $5.50 preordered ($6.00 walkups)BBQ Pork Sandwich, Chips, Bar & Water/soda
	2. Pizza Feed – Agricultural Education Club Mariucci Arena Tuesday 10:45 am – 12:30 pm $5.00 Two slices pizza & soda
	3. Continuing Education & Conference Center Monday 11:00 am – 2:00 pm Beef $6.25 pre-order ($6.15 plus tax for walkup) Hamburger, Cheeseburger, or Beef Hot Dog with toppings, Chips and soft drink.
	4. Bailey Hall Pre-Order & walkup options available Prices are $9:00 for Monday lunch
	5. Saint Paul Student Center – Terrace Café Food Court 7 AM to 6:30 PM
	6. Java City in St. Paul Student Center offers gourmet coffee; espresso drinks and smoothies, freshly baked pastries and a selection of grab & go sandwiches, salads, sushi, and parfaits. Greens to go 11:00AM – 2:00 PM Create your own salad selection or choose from one of our weekly specialties.
21. **CDE Judges –** 40 of 56 lined up. Short 7 parliamentary judges
22. **Student Chairs –** Short 7 student chairs
23. **Workshops-** Just have a few to confirm and most rooms set.
24. **U of MN Invitationals-** Fall Invite is October 7, 2014.

Winter Invite is December 11, 2014