

ND FFA Association Board of Directors Minutes
November 15, 2023 – 10:00 am CST
State Capitol – Fort Union Room

1. Call Meeting to Order
Fideldy–Doll called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.
2. Roll Call
Fideldy–Doll conducted roll call. The following members and others were present:

Members Present

Nikki Fideldy–Doll, State Advisor
Jeremy Carkuff, District 1
Amanda Huettl, District 2
Missy Hansen, District 6
Bill Zingg, District 7
David Leier, District 8

Ty MacDonald, FFA President
Jack Stoppleworth, FFA Secretary
Ian Dukart, FFA Vice President
Anna Hauge, FFA Treasurer
Annaliese Rauschenberger, FFA Reporter
Ireland Watterud, FFA Parliamentarian

Others Present

Rebecca Duben, ND FFA Association
Breanna Mueller, ND FFA Association (via Teams)

Beth Allen, Jeff Bjugstad and JoDee Free joined the meeting at 10:10 am CST. Callahan Lemar and Ryan Stoppleworth were absent.

3. Review 2023 – 2024 Chapter Program of Activities
The board reviewed the 2023–2024 chapter program of activities. There were 85 submitted POAs. The board approved 36 POAs and denied 49.

It was moved by Free, seconded by Watterud, to set a new deadline for denied POAs to January 15th and missing POAs to November 20th. If missing POAs are not submitted by these deadlines the chapter will be placed on probation and unable to participate in FFA events. State staff will work with chapters to communicate new deadlines and concerns with their POA.

For future reference, it was suggested snapshots be taken of the POA submission list at various times throughout the process, specifically now, on November 20th and January 15.

It was also suggested that school administration be included in correspondence regarding chapter POAs and if placed on probation.
4. The Board recessed for lunch until 1 p.m.
5. Fideldy–Doll called the meeting back to order at 1 p.m. All board members were present except Stoppleworth. Lemar joined the meeting via Teams.

6. Secretary's Minutes 08.06.23

It was approved by Leier, seconded by Zingg, to approve the 08.06.23 minutes as presented. Motion passed.

7. Treasurer's Report

Fidely-Doll reported that as of 11.6.23 the FFA Association's checking account had \$348,041.00; Edwards Jones account had \$243,074.60; and there were a couple chapters that had bills past 90 days. She reminded members that those chapters that had outstanding bills past 90 days would be unable to participate in any FFA events until paid.

Fidely-Doll reviewed the 2022-2023 category report, PAS report, and the budget reports for 2023 Land Judging, Range Judging and Leadership Conference.

It was approved by Allen, seconded by Watterud, to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Motion passed.

8. State Officer Report

MacDonald shared that in September the officers attended the Fall Leadership Conference in Bismarck at the Event Center. He said that it was a busy conference with just over 900 members registered and 81 advisors. Also in September, Dukart attended the state Range Judging competition in Mandan. The officer team spent a week at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN, in October. The state officers got the opportunity to serve on five delegate committees and discuss ways to improve the organization, which were formed into recommendations voted on by all delegates at the convention and then passed onto the National FFA Board of Directors for consideration. Finally, we look forward to attending District and State Leadership in December

The FFA state officers have begun our initiative of visiting 25% of chapters in the state. As of October 25, we have completed nine chapter visits and have spoken to over 500 students. We encourage chapters to fill out the request form to have an officer visit during school or at an FFA meeting. Chapters can also start thinking about National FFA Week and submitting requests for officers to visit them as well. Those requests are filled on a first come, first serve basis.

9. FFA Foundation Report

Allen reported that the Foundation will be having their Gala in Fargo this weekend. Numbers are down from last year. There are a lot of amazing items up for grabs on the silent and live auctions. The Foundation recently received a \$20,000 DEI pipeline grant from Alliance Pipeline. The Foundation board will be brainstorming on how to use these funds. Feel free to share any suggestions you may have. Allen informed the board of her plans to retire within the next three years and the need for extra help at the foundation. The board decided to move forward with hiring a new executive director. Allen will stay on to assist with the financial records and training of the new executive director. Finally, Allen said that the FFA Foundation was one of 25 entities to receive money from a benefactor who passed away. The Foundation was awarded \$70,000.

10. Standing Committee Reports

Fidely-Doll said that to stay in compliance with open meeting laws each committee will need to provide public notice prior to the meeting and draft minutes in accordance with law. Please provide the committee agenda and minutes to Ms. Duben.

- a. Written Applications & SAE
The committee did not meet.
 - b. CDE
Leier provided a CDE committee report on the proposed tool list created for agricultural technology and mechanical systems and suggested changes to the following CDEs: intermediate agricultural technology mechanics, floriculture, agriculture communications, environmental and natural resources, meats evaluation and technology, milk quality and products, dairy cattle handler activity, dairy cattle evaluation, parliamentary procedures, and conduct of chapter meetings.
 - c. Finance; ND FFA Membership Dues Proposal
Fidely-Doll said that nationals recently proposed a fourth chapter fee model that combines the first three models. At National Convention, the delegates did give some recommendations. These recommendations will go back to the National Board to continue to work on. The national fees would be in addition to the state fees.
 - d. Events/Activities
The committee did not meet.
 - e. Policy
The committee did not meet.
11. Unfinished Business
The board had no unfinished business.
 12. New Business
 - a. Standing Committees
 - i. Written Applications & SAE
The committee had no new business.
 - ii. CDE
It was moved by Leier, seconded by Huettl, to approve the agricultural technology and mechanical systems tool list as presented. Motion passed.

The board asked for additional clarification on the intermediate agricultural mechanics example project. Leier said that he will take concerns back to the committee for further discussion. He will bring back to the board at the March meeting.

It was moved by Leier to approve the floriculture recommendations as presented with the approved list. After board discussion, Leier requested to withdraw the motion. Fidely-Doll seconded the withdrawal. Motion passed.

It was moved by Free, seconded by Watterud, to accept the floriculture recommendation as presented with the following tools: a floral cutters and clippers, ribbon sheers and wire cutters. Motion passed.

Floriculture CDE chairs would be in charge of finding judges for the event.

It was moved by Leier, seconded by Carkuff, to approve the Environmental and Natural Resources recommendations as presented. Motion passed.

It was moved by Huettl, seconded by Bjugstad, to refer the meats evaluation and technology recommendations back to the CDE committee with the power to act and report back at the next regularly scheduled board meeting. Motion passed.

It was moved by Huettl, seconded by Watterud, to accept the milk quality and products recommendation as presented. Discussion was had by the board. Fidely-Doll said that she would look into adding a check box in the State Convention registration for student dining food allergies and CDE food allergies. It was moved by Carkuff, seconded by Leier, to withdraw the motion on the table. Motion passed.

It was moved by Leier, seconded by Stoppleworth, to approve the dairy cattle handler activity recommendations as presented. Superintendents will be in charge of finding judges for this event. Motion passed.

It was moved by Leier, seconded by Watterud, to approve the dairy cattle evaluation recommendations as presented. Board members questioned if these recommendations needed to be included in the handbook. Motion failed.

The board recommended that the CDE committee do further work on the conduct of chapter meetings and report back at the next regular scheduled board meeting.

iii. Finance

The committee had no new business.

iv. Events/Activities

The committee had no new business.

v. Policy

The committee had no new business.

b. POA Report

Fidely-Doll said that 85 applications were submitted.

c. 2023 Land Judging Report

Fidely-Doll said that we are working on the locations for next year's event. She said that a scantron will be created for Land Judging. There was discussion on whether Land and Range Judging could be held back-to-back. Multiple members felt this would not be physically possible because there are kids that do both events.

d. 2023 FFA Leadership Conference Report

Fidely-Doll reported that the leadership conference had great attendance, the day ran smooth and the t-shirts at the dance were a great addition. The ND FFA Foundation Shop was also a hit and will continue to be present at future FFA events.

Fidely-Doll addressed the feedback regarding the Blue and Gold Conferences and if it was time to look at hiring a different speaker for both conferences. The board felt this wasn't a bad idea to explore. Fidely-Doll said that she would set up a call with Rhett Laubach to discuss possible speaking options.

e. National Convention Report

Fidely-Doll said that there were 474 people that attended from North Dakota and 55 chapters represented. Results from the convention are on social media.

f. FFA Camp

Lemer reported that there were 46 campers for 2023, which was an increase from past years. She reviewed the results of the camp survey and recommendations for improvements. Overall, the camp was a success. The 2024 camp dates are August 8 – 10. The estimated registration cost would be \$200. Allen said that the Foundation donation will be \$2,500 for 2024. Fidely-Doll asked Lemer to get her a contract from Westley Acres to pay the down payment. She said the FFA Camp Committee no longer has the power to act and recommended the committee put together a budget proposal and bring back to the March board meeting for review and approval. Also recommended Lemer and her sit down and determine when applications need to open for camp counselors.

g. District Leadership

Fidely-Doll said that registration closes on Monday, November 20. She encouraged districts to do prejudging of the employment skills materials and/or get extra judges the day of the event because this is one of the events that takes the longest. District 1, 6 and 8 will do prejudging. Materials will be sent to them in advance of the event. State LDE Day

State LDE is scheduled for December 12 at the Bismarck Event Center. Judges sign up is open. Fidely-Doll encouraged members to share with people in their community. Materials and registration is due by noon on December 8.

h. New Chapters

Hankinson and Drake-Anamoose have been chartered as new chapters.

Fidely-Doll said that we have two chapters on probation, New England and Divide County. They lost state funding because they did not properly submit the needed items into BRP by the deadline. Because of our FFA constitution changes, chapters need to be state approved

to keep their charter. A letter has been sent informing them of next steps and when they have to reapply to keep their charter.

i. Other

Fideldy-Doll shared that state staff will be attending multiple FairEntry trainings to better understand the State Fair FFA registration process. The ND State Fair Board meet today. Because of the meeting conflict, Fideldy-Doll asked Cameron Young to attend and give the ND FFA Association report.

Fideldy-Doll discussed her concerns regarding staff overload and asked members to solicit feedback from their district regarding future district leadership events.

It was moved by Huettl, seconded by Allen, that all chapter advisors attending District Leadership bring a printed copy of their registered students prepared public speaking manuscript and employment skills cover letter and resume. The state office will continue to print out the employment skills applications which needs to be submitted by November 20. If materials are not brought to the event, the student would be scratched. Motion passed.

The policy committee will review the handbook and bring recommendation reflecting these changes to the March board meeting.

Fideldy-Doll said that she needs a committee of people to handle the livestock event at Winter CDEs. Leier and Hansen volunteered to chair event.

13. Next Meeting

The next board meeting will be held via Microsoft Teams on March 21 from 1 – 3 pm CST. Committee work will need to be done prior to this meeting.

14. Announcements

No announcements.

15. Adjourn

It was moved by Zing, seconded by Dukart, to adjourn the Board of Directors meeting. Meeting adjourned at 4:18 pm CST.