

## Pennsylvania FFA Board of Directors

### Minutes – December 15, 2017

The meeting was called to order by President Moyer at 1pm, December 15, 2017, with opening ceremonies, performed by the FFA State Officers. In attendance were:

Nathan Moyer, Thomas Gabel, Taylor Halbleib, Brody Coolidge, Philip Winklosky, Justin Kurtz, Kelsey Stewart, Sherisa Nailor, Joanna McKelvey, Ayla Miller, Doug Brown, Mark Anderson, Libby Baker-Mikesell, Dianna Jarema, Kevin Curry, Sarah Sparks, Andrea Isenberg, Kelly Bier, Annette Gray, Ron Frederick, Cliff Wallace and Mike Brammer.

Nailor provided a brief welcome and an update on Mrs. Brammer.

*Gabel/Halbleib moved to accept the minutes as printed. Motion passed. Miller/McKelvey moved to concur. Motion passed.*

Brammer provided a financial report. President Moyer announced it would be filed for audit.

State Officers report presented by Halbleib. (Attached)

Foundation report provided by Sparks.

*Gabel/Kurtz moved to create a special finance committee, made up of members of both the association and foundation boards and staff and that the committee be charged with creating and presenting a joint budget for the association and foundation for "State Support" from the Foundation by the spring meetings. Motion passed. Anderson/Miller moved to concur – Motion passed.*

*Miller/McKelvey moved to refer the item – Committee be charged with creating a scheduled process for "State Support" payouts to the Association from the Foundation (Ex. Monthly, quarterly, program, etc.) Motion passed. Gabel/Winklosky moved to concur. Motion passed.*

Nailor provided an oral report from the PA FFA Alumni. 354 jackets will be presented. Two full and 2 half sponsorships to WLC this year. Celebration of Corduroy was a success.

PSU Report provided by Dr. Curry. Teach Ag Society and Collegiate FFA merged to become the LEAD Society. Currently 11 student teachers are placed. Next year estimated to be 12. Dr. Rice will be leaving for University of KY. New department head Dr. Laszlo Kulcsar.

PAAE presented by President Elect, Dianna Jarema. Report on NAAE convention, Ag Ed Commission, AG Ed Showcases, Region 6/summer conference at Dover. (July 9-12)

#### REGIONAL COORDINATOR UPDATES

Eastern Region - Ron Frederick reported 525 students at regional CDE/LDE's. May 1 for spring events.

Northern Region - Annette Gray reported on her activities.

South Central - Kelly Bier reported LDE's will be held April 24. She will be conducting the state proficiency evaluation event again.

Western Region – Cliff Wallace attended the ag ed showcase at Derry. Regional LDE's will be April 25.

#### COMMITTEES

CDE/LDE Standing Committee – *McKelvey moved to accept recommendation #4 – Page 25, Line 41 VI. b. ii. Major CDE/LDE changes are limited to a set rotation that mirrors the National FFA Organization. A major change is considered any addition or deletion to a competition. Major changes are permitted at the August meeting of the Pennsylvania FFA Board of Directors on the last year of the approved National FFA rules (ie, August 2021, August 2026). Minor changes required to better align state events with National FFA will be considered by the standing committee on a yearly basis. A minor change is considered a change that does not alter the preparation of a competitive event team. Motion Passed. Halbleib/Gabel moved to concur. Motion passed. (SECOND VOTE NEEDED – POLICY)*

SAE Standing Committee – Anderson provided action items. *Moved to accept recommendation 1 - Allow a period of one week following the regional evaluation of Keystone applications for any corrections to be made to “denied” Keystone Degree applications. Corrected applications will be returned to the Regional Coordinators for final approval. Motion failed.*

*Recommendation two – Anderson moved to institute a period of NO CHANGES to the Keystone Degree application or its requirements for three years. (Applications submitted in the fall of 2018, 2019 and 2020). Changes and revisions would then be done only on a three year cycle. Motion passed. Kurtz/Halbleib moved to concur. Motion passed.*

American Degrees will be due March 1.

Phone call from Dr. MeeCee Baker to update the board on the Ag Ed Commission.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CDE Policy for students with IEP’s – Second Vote – *Brown/Anderson moved, Students with IEP’s requesting assistance or accommodations during state CDE/LDE’s must make the request for accommodations at the time of registration. Motion passed. Gabel/Halbleib moved to concur. Motion passed. NOW POLICY.*

Keystone Degree Eligibility Policy – Second Vote – *Halbleib/Gabel moved the following for adoption:*  
*IV.a.i – Keystone Degree Procedures - “Candidates must be at least a Junior in high school and meet all other degree requirements in order to be eligible to apply for the Keystone degree.”*  
*IV.b.2 – Regional Stars Selection (new item i.) - “Candidates must be at least a Senior in high school and have received or be approved to receive their Keystone degree at the time of application.”*  
*EFFECTIVE with the 2019 recipients – Motion passed. Brown/Mckelvey moved to concur – Motion passed. NOW POLICY.*

State Star Selection Committee Policy – Second Vote – *Miller/McKelvey moved the following for adoption:*  
*IV.b.3 – State Star Selection Committee - “The SAE Specialist or the FFA Board designee will oversee a selection committee for each star category to review applications and interview the candidates the morning of the Pennsylvania FFA Association Mid-Winter Convention.” Motion passed. Gabel/Stewart moved to concur – Motion passed. NOW POLICY.*

Accommodations of transgender students – Mr. Wright asked that this be moved to the March Board meeting. No objections noted.

Contracted Nurse for State Events – *Brown/Sparks moved to have a contracted registered nurse at all state conferences and conventions. Sparks/Miller moved to amend by adding, and up to a \$1500 stipend plus expenses and mileage be paid. Amendment passed. Main motion as amended passed. Gabel/Winklosky moved to concur. Motion passed.*

New Charters – *Brown/Sparks moved to accept the new charter applications for Avella and Honesdale chapters. Motion passed. Coolidge/Stewart moved to concur. Motion passed.*

Crisis Management – Brammer asked to move this item to March. No objections noted.

*Brown/Anderson moved to reconsider the vote on the motion - Allow a period of one week following the regional evaluation of Keystone applications for any corrections to be made to “denied” Keystone Degree applications. Corrected applications will be returned to the Regional Coordinators for final approval. Gabel/Moyer moved to allow minor corrections and the committee decide what is major/minor – Amendment failed. Miller called previous question. Passed. Main motion as written above passed. Gabel/Winklosky moved to concur – Motion passed. POLICY – NEEDS A SECOND VOTE.*

## NEW BUSINESS

Chaplains' ceremonial parts – *Stewart/Gabel moved to accept the following – Motion passed. Sparks/Baker-Mikesell moved to concur. Motion passed. Effective immediately.*

### *Opening Ceremonies:*

*The Chaplain is stationed at The Book of Life.*

*The symbol of my office is The Book of Life. It is my duty to offer Spiritual guidance to those who seek direction.*

*OPENING "PRAYER" - May we assume an attitude of reflection in which we are each most comfortable. Pardon our iniquities, we beseech Thee. We thank Thee for the marvelous gift of life, and for the blessings of liberty. We pray that Thou will manifest thyself in this assembly of the FFA. Harmonize and strengthen our efforts. Bless each member, and the group. Amen.*

*CLOSING "PRAYER" - May we assume an attitude of reflection in which we are each most comfortable. May we dedicate our lives to the service of our fellow man, and to the fulfillment of Thy Holy Will. Amen*

2018 Keystones – *Winklosky/Halbleib moved to accept 430 Keystone State Degrees for approval. Motion passed. Sparks/Baker-Mikesell moved to concur. Motion passed.*

2018 Honorary/Special Parent Awards – *Halbleib/Coolidge moved to accept the 2018 Honorary/Special Parent award list. Motion passed. Sparks/McKelvey moved to concur. Motion passed.*

Gabel provided an update on Mid-Winter Convention.

*Miller/McKelvey moved to allocate \$5,000 to hire an FFA Association Summer Assistant for summer of 2018. Starting May 21 and ending Aug 17, 2018. Motion passed. Gabel/Stewart moved to concur. Passed.*

*Miller/McKelvey moved to accept the details and post a job description by January 1, 2018 and refer this matter to a special hiring committee consisting of three members of the board appointed by the chair with power to act and Mike Brammer serving as an ex-officio. Motion passed. Stewart/Gabel moved to concur. Motion passed.*

*The chair appointed Miller as chair with members Jarema and Curry, with Brammer as an ex-officio.*

Budget Committee appointment – The chair appointed the budget committee as McKelvey, chair, members Brown and Nailor with Brammer as ex-officio.

Meeting was adjourned with closing ceremonies at 4:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Mike Brammer*

Mike Brammer  
PA FFA  
Executive Director



**Pennsylvania FFA Board of Directors  
December 15th, 2017  
State Officer Report**

**“INITIATE, CREATE, ILLUMINATE”**

Since the August Board Meeting, the team has shadowed employees of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and toured PA Farm Bureau, New Holland, PA Hardwoods, AgChoice Farm Credit and Penn National Racecourse. We also attended Ag Progress Days, the Eastern Region States Exposition (Big E), Celebration of Corduroy, National Convention, and the Bee Keeper’s Association meeting. In addition, chapter visits are in full swing.

Over the past 5 months, we have;

- Connected with over 7,100 students (More by social media)
- Visited 82 local FFA chapters
- Hosted the Fall Leadership Conference
- Attended 7 county conferences
- Ripped 33 pairs of nylons
- Inclusively traveled over 30,009 miles

We are excited to continue to connect with even more members throughout the rest of our year.

Respectfully submitted,

*Taylor Halbleib*

2017-2018 Pennsylvania FFA State Secretary