

**Minutes
National FFA Board of Directors
and National FFA Officers
Louisville, Kentucky
October 25, 2004**

Present for the Meeting

Board of Directors:

Larry D. Case, Chairperson of the Board and Coordinator, Agricultural & Rural Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C.

Kent Boggs, U.S. Department of Education Representative; State FFA Executive Secretary, Oklahoma Department of Career & Technical Education, Stillwater, Oklahoma.

Steven R. Habstreit, U.S. Department of Education Representative; Associate Professor, Agricultural Education, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Oklahoma.

Linda A. Rist, U.S. Department of Education Representative; Instructor – Agricultural Education/FFA Advisor, West Central High School, Hartford, South Dakota

Nancy J. Trivette, State Supervisor, Program Leader, Agricultural Education, New Jersey Department of Agriculture, Trenton, New Jersey.

Elaine Lewis, U.S. Department of Education Representative; Instructor – Agricultural Education, Yelm High School, Yelm, Washington.

William Deimler, State Supervisor; Specialist, Agricultural Education, Utah State Office of Education, Salt Lake City, Utah.

James Woodard, State Supervisor, State Director of Agricultural Education, State Department of Education, Atlanta, Georgia.

Dale Gruis, State Supervisor, Agricultural Education Consultant, Iowa Department of Education, Des Moines, Iowa.

Officers of the Board of Directors:

Larry D. Case, National FFA Advisor and CEO; Coordinator, Agricultural & Rural Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C.

C. Coleman Harris, National FFA Executive Secretary; Education Program Specialist, Agriculture, Division of Vocational-Technical Education, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C.

Marion Fletcher, National FFA Treasurer; Supervisor for Agricultural Education, State Department of Education, Little Rock, AR

Board of National FFA Officers:

Javier Moreno, National FFA President, University Park, Pennsylvania

Christy Windham, National FFA Vice President, Southern Region, Laurel, Mississippi

Stacia Christine Berry, National FFA Secretary, Cheyenne, Wyoming

Amy Rasmussen, National FFA Vice President, Central Region, Mead, Nebraska
Anne Knapke, National FFA Vice President, Eastern Region, Oxford, Ohio
Casey Hogan, National FFA Vice President, Western Region, Stephenville, Texas

Others present for all or portions of the meeting:

National FFA Staff

Doug Loudenslager, Chief Operating Officer
Dale Crabtree, Convention Manager
Kevin Keith, LPS Specialist
Bill Stagg, Division Director, Communication
Kent Schescke, Division Director, Development & Partnerships

National FFA Alumni Representatives

Dale Beaty, President
Pam Jumper, Past President
Sonny Deke, Vice President

Other Guests

Noelle Rist, FFA member, South Dakota, daughter of Board member Linda Rist

Call to Order

Javier Moreno, National FFA President, called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

Reflections

Stacia Berry, National FFA Secretary delivered brief reflections.

Request for Approval

Kevin Keith reviewed the policy regarding the consideration of National Proficiency Award Winners unable to attend the convention. No action was necessary by the board, as none of the students in question had requested dispensation.

MOTION: Moved by Christy Windham (Kent Boggs), seconded by Casey Hogan (Linda Rist) and carried to approve the minutes of the July 2004 National FFA Board Meeting.

Treasurer's Report

National Treasurer, Marion Fletcher, reviewed the preliminary audit, which will be in final form for board action at the January 2005 board meeting. No action was necessary. (*Attachment #1*) Mr. Fletcher further reviewed the current financial position of the organization as of August 31, 2004 (*Attachment #2*)

MOTION: Moved by Amy Rasmussen (James Woodard), seconded by Stacia Berry (Steve Harbstreit) and carried to approve the treasurer's report.

Convention Report

Dale Crabtree, Convention Manager, provided the board an update on the convention. Highlights included:

- Salute of the National FFA Officers.
- Three (3) opening sessions; each to include reflections by the National Officers. Pre-registration for these sessions (11,500 Session 1-A, 10,000 Session 1-B, 12,000 Session 1-C). Seating capacity 15,500.
- Convention Pre-Registration 38, 497, up by 500 over last year. Of this number - 24,943 students and 3,549 advisors.
- All special events sold out.

Casey Hogan asked for a round of applause for the FFA staff that has prepared for this the 77th National FFA Convention.

Approval of Awards

All awards recommended since the July FFA board meeting have been approved by the Governing Committee.

National FFA Officer Report

The officers reviewed their report and recommendations with the board. Their recommendations were very well developed and understood by board and staff present. There was a discussion of diversity in the organization and the communications of diversity in FFA publications. (*Attachment #3*)

National Advisor Case thanked the officer team for their report and ask for input from the board.

MOTION: Moved by Nancy J. Trivette, seconded by Buddy Deimler and carried to commend the National FFA Officers Javier Moreno, Stacia Berry, Anne Knapke, Amy Rasmussen, Casey Hogan and Christy Windham for their year of service and for sharing their views, thoughts and recommendations for the future of FFA.

Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee (James Woodard, Chair; Nancy J. Trivette, Kent Boggs, Dale Gruis and Javier Moreno) met earlier in the day to review in more detail financial matters of the organization.

MOTION: Moved by Anne Knapke (Kent Boggs), seconded by Stacia Berry (Steve Harbstreit) and carried to authorize a discretionary pension contribution in January 2005 to qualified employees based on a pool of 5.5% of the total salaries paid in calendar year 2004, not to exceed \$253,000. (*Attachment #4*)

MOTION: Moved by Christy Windham (Linda Rist), seconded by Stacia Berry (Dale Gruis) and carried to provide \$37,000 in funds from capital reserves to purchase

office furniture and labor as required to add eight offices and relocate fourteen offices in order to provide the necessary space for additional staff. (*Attachment #5*)

MOTION: Moved by Amy Rasmussen (Steve Harbstreit), seconded by Anne Knapke (Nancy J. Trivette) and carried to provide funds in amount of \$383,000 from capital reserves to fund the licensing, development, configuration, integration and implementation of an online convention registration software system. (*Attachment #6*)

Overview of Legal Matters – No report

Report from the National FFA Alumni Association

Dale Beaty, National FFA Alumni President, updated the board on Alumni as follows:

- Thanked the National FFA Board, Larry Case, Coleman Harris, Doug Loudenslager and all FFA Staff for their support.
- Reported on an excellent Alumni State Leader's Conference – several states sending representatives for the first time. Thanked Larry Case for speaking at the conference.
- Highlighted Alumni activities for Thursday and Friday including the silent and live auction.
- In the coming year, the Alumni would like to discuss the Memorandum of Understanding between the National FFA Organization and the National FFA Alumni Association.

President Moreno and Chairman Case saluted the Alumni for their support, encouragement and investment in FFA and FFA members at all levels but especially at the school/community level.

Report by Doug Loudenslager

FFA's new COO thanked the board and saluted the National FFA Officers and then reported on items as follows:

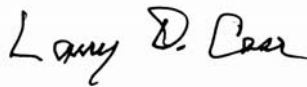
- The National FFA Organization received top honors at the 2004 BKD Indiana Excellence Awards. FFA received the Gold Award in the category of Not-for-Profit and Government and was named the overall winner for 2004 for the electronic membership project which replaced the previous manual membership roster with the new Excel online process. (*Attachment #7*)
- The developer of the shopping complex next to the FFA property in Indianapolis will be providing \$25,000 for a rolling gate/fencing. The plan is to have this in place by the end of the year. Most construction at this site will be complete by January 15, 2005.
- Anna Melodia will not be at the convention for health reasons.
- It was suggested that the FFA Board and Officers participate in a visioning process to set strategic direction for FFA as a critical component of Agricultural

Education. More specifically the thrust of this session would be to define where Ag Ed and FFA are today and to project where it should be in five, ten, fifteen years from now. It was suggested that the consultants to the board would strengthen this process. There was agreement and the date was set for Wednesday, January 19, 2005 with arrivals in Washington D.C. on Tuesday afternoon, January 18, 2005. This activity will be a part of the January National FFA Board Meeting. An outside consultant will likely facilitate.

Board Member Schedule at Convention

Coleman Harris reviewed the schedule.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.



Larry D. Case



C. Coleman Harris