

**Meeting Minutes of  
National Board of Directors and National Officers  
of the National FFA Organization**

**Louisville, Kentucky**

**October 25, 1999**

A special meeting of the National FFA Organization Board of Directors and the National FFA Officers was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Larry D. Case, Chairperson, in the Executive West hotel in Louisville, Kentucky. All members of the Board were present.

**Board of Directors :**

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

**Ernie Gill**, Program Manager, Agricultural Education, Colorado Community College & Occupational Education System, Denver, CO

**Tommy Gladden**, State FFA Advisor, Clemson University, Clemson, SC

**Steve Gratz**, U.S. Department of Education Representative; Supervisor, Agricultural Education, State Department of Education, Columbus, OH

**Karen Hutchison**, Education Associate, Agricultural Occupations, State Department of Public Instruction, Dover, DE

**Barbara Kirby**, U.S. Department of Education Representative; Associate Professor, Agricultural and Extension Education, North Carolina State University, NC

**Vicki Lantz**, U.S. Department of Education Representative; Instructor – Agricultural Education, Big Spring High School, Newville, PA

**Ron Reische**, Principal Consultant, Agricultural Education, Secondary Education, Illinois State Board of Education, Springfield, IL

**Nick Siddle**, U.S. Department of Education Representative; Instructor – Agricultural Education, Sheridan Junior/Senior High School, Sheridan, WY

**Officers of the Board of Directors :**

**Larry D. Case**, National Advisor and CEO; and 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; and 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 :**

**Lisa Ahrens**, National FFA President, Osage, IA

**Abby Dougherty**, National FFA Secretary, Greenwood, IN

**Andy Armbruster**, National FFA Vice President, Central Region, Kiowa, KS

**Emily Buxton**, National FFA Vice President, Eastern Region, Warsaw, OH

**Jose Santiago**, National FFA Vice President, Southern Region, Camuy, PR

**James Garner**, National FFA Vice President, Western Region, Hanford, CA

Draft November 5, 1999

**Others present for all or portions of the meeting:**

**Bernie Staller**, Chief Operating Officer, National FFA Organization and National FFA Foundation, Indianapolis, IN

**Scott Stump**, Convention Manager/Communications Consultant, Communications Resources Team, National FFA Organization, Alexandria, VA

**Dean Folkers**, Team Leader, Teacher Services, National FFA Organization, Indianapolis, IN

**Bill Stagg**, Team Leader, Communication Resources, National FFA Organization, Indianapolis, IN

1. Reflections

Reflections was led by Andy Armbruster.

2. Adjustments to the Agenda – A little shuffling was required, but no new topics were added.

3. Approval Of Minutes

MOTION: **Moved by** James Garner (Ernie Gill), seconded by Jose Santiago (Karen Hutchison) and **carried** to approve the minutes of the July 18-20, 1999 National FFA Board of Directors meeting.

The 1999 National FFA Organization governing committee conference call minutes dated August 20, September 9, October 8 and 15 were provided. The October 15 governing committee minutes were adjusted as follows.

MOTION: **Moved by** Ernie Gill, seconded by Karen Hutchison **and carried** to withdraw the motion from the October 15 conference call regarding the conflicts for proficiency and star award finalist interviews.

MOTION: **Moved by** Andy Armbruster (Ron Reische), seconded by Abby Dougherty (Tommy Gladden) **and carried** to divide the motion and to accept that the award finalists (Proficiency and Star Awards) – Jay Harris (IL), Tiffany Anderson (SD), Marshall Baker (NM), Jennifer Herman (IL), Kami Joy (NM), Kelvin Heiman (WI), Joey Knight (AL) and Fabian Beltran (NM) – who will be attending the National FFA Convention but have conflicts in attending the interview session, be allowed to compete based on their application only and that no substitute would be permitted to speak on the applicant's behalf. Becki Riches (WA) would be allowed to compete although unable to attend convention due to a court case involving her testimony. One exception this year would be to allow a spokesperson to participate in the interview process on behalf of a recently deceased FFA member, Nora Berndt (IN), to answer any questions regarding her SAE.

MOTION: **Moved by** Andy Armbruster (Karen Hutchison), seconded by Abby Dougherty (Barbara Kirby) **and carried** to allow Carla Channel (FL) and Kevin Shoemaker (OH) to compete for the recognition of national winner for their particular proficiency category on the basis that they would not be attending the National FFA Convention due to school conflicts.

Dean Folkers indicated that 810 teams will be competing within the 22 Career Development Events in 1999.

4. Restructuring the Center Operations into Four Units

Bernie Staller explained that the level of the position descriptions for the four new positions would be increased as far as years of experience and level of education.

MOTION: **Moved by** Emily Buxton (Karen Hutchison), seconded by Jose Santiago (Barbara Kirby) **and carried** to approve the position descriptions for the four new positions. (Attachment 1)

5. Election of a Council Board Member for the FFA Board to replace Ernie Gill, effective 1/00.

Postponed to the January Board meeting.

6. Update on the 72<sup>nd</sup> National FFA Convention

Scott Stump provided the report for the 72<sup>nd</sup> National FFA Convention. He mentioned that there are many positive aspects to the first year in Louisville. The fireworks show will be on Wednesday evening. Pre-registered attendees were 25,000 and the concerts are doing well. The housing process was reviewed and in January a finalized plan will be phased in to accommodate as many states as possible in relation to proximity to the convention center; housing deposits are due April 1.

7. Approval of Awards/Degrees to Sponsors and Others

No action needed.

8. Reports from the 1998-99 National FFA Officers

The national officers provided a report that shared what their mission for the year entailed, which is "through sincerity, integrity, faith and love, we will serve others as a team, making our *Signature of Success* a touched life." (Attachment 2)

MOTION: **Moved by** Karen Hutchison, seconded by Vicki Lantz **and carried** to accept the 1998-99 National FFA Officer team's final report and to recognize and commend the team for an outstanding job well done.

9. Finance Committee Report

Karen Hutchison presented the Finance Committee Report.

10. Final Approval of the National Officer Nominating Committee

MOTION: **Moved by** Andy Armbruster (Steve Gratz), seconded by Jose Santiago (Ron Reische) **and carried** to accept the list of the national officer nominating committee. (Attachment 3)

11. Treasurer's Report

Marion Fletcher, National FFA Treasurer, provided comments and answered questions regarding the Fiscal Year End Financial Report.

MOTION: **Moved by** Emily Buxton (Karen Hutchison), seconded by James Garner (Tommy Gladden) **and carried** to accept the Treasurer's Report.

12. Overview of Legal Matters

Bernie indicated that two issues are pending. Trademark issues involving an internet site and a company using the initials FFA, which stands for Free For All and an anti-biotechnology group which are calling themselves "future farmers."

13. January Board Meeting Announcement

The next board meeting will be held January 22-25, 2000 in Alexandria, VA with a board and national officer retreat beginning Saturday, January 15 at 1:00p.m.

14. Update on Advertising

Larry Case shared with the board that a meeting was held on October 21 in Indianapolis relative to FFA's sale of knives and the advertising issues regarding guns and knives. Karen Hutchison was in attendance and shared that the meeting was structured so that some recommendations for advertising and sponsorships would be developed for guidelines when working with our organization. The advertisers are marketing the ads because they believe in our FFA members and that they will work accordingly to promote safety and responsibility issues. A meeting was also held with Arista Records and separately, with NRA, to discuss advertising in New Horizons. The board of directors will need to meet for a half day prior to the January board meeting to determine what content is wanted and appropriate for the magazine.

15. Closing

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

---

C. Coleman Harris  
Secretary

---

Larry D. Case  
Chairperson