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

Kansas City, Missouri

November 10, 1997

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 Kansas City Marriott Downtown hotel. All members of the Board were present.

Board of Directors:
Belinda G. Chason, State Supervisor, Agribusiness & Natural Resources Education, Florida Department of Education, Tallahassee, FL
Ernie Gill, Program Manager, Agricultural Education, Colorado Community College & Occupational Education System, Denver, CO
David B. Hopson, (USDE Representative), Program Coordinator, Regional School District #7 (Winsted, Connecticut), Blandford, MA
Karen Hutchison, Education Associate, Agricultural Occupations, State Department of Public Instruction, Dover, DE
Barbara Kirby, (USDE Representative), Associate Professor, Agricultural and Extension Education, North Carolina State University, NC
Les A. Olsen, Education Program Consultant, Technical Education Team, Kansas State Board of Education, Topeka, KS
Edgar A. Watkins, Jr., (USDE Representative), Agricultural Education Teacher, Armwood High School, Seffner, FL
John K. Wilkinson, (USDE Representative), State FFA Executive Secretary, University of Georgia, Athens, GA

Officers of the Board of Directors:
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.
K. Eugene Eulinger, National FFA Treasurer; and District Supervisor, Agricultural Education, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, Jefferson City, MO

Board of National FFA Officers:
Corey Rosenbusch, National FFA President, Glen Rose, TX
Holly Bentley, National FFA Secretary, Sabina, OH
Brad Montgomery, National FFA Vice President, Central Region, McDonald, KS
Ray Starling, National FFA Vice President, Eastern Region, Autryville, NC
Charlie Jones, National FFA Vice President, Southern Region, Billingsley, AL
Rachel Fehringer, National FFA Vice President, Western Region, Peetz, CO
1. Reflections
   The Reflections was led by Ray Starling, National Vice President, Southern Region.

2. Approval Of Minutes

   MOTION: It was moved by Brad Montgomery (Les Olsen), seconded by Rachel Fehringer (Belinda Chason) and carried to approve the minutes of the July 14-16, 1997 National FFA Board of Directors and National FFA Board of Directors conference call minutes dated August 28, 1997 and October 10, 1997. (Attachments 1 and 2)

3. Update on the 70th National FFA Convention

Scott Stump indicated that Bayer and Farmland Industries are sponsoring the KC Welcoming Agriculture Leadership Luncheon. Carol Duval shared some info on the Agriscience Fair, consisting of sponsored scholarships and cash awards. The H.O. Sargent Student Award will be held Friday afternoon. Randy Bernhardt gave the report for the CDEs and explained that 712 teams overall are represented in 1997. (Attachment 3) Jack Pitzer provided the Career Show Report in which 341 exhibitors and 38 state associations in the Hall of States are represented.

Joyce Winterton provided the Partner Development Team Report which included the announcement of the School Officials’ Luncheon; Patricia McNeil, Assistant Secretary, USDE, will be the featured speaker. A VIP Tour will be held after the luncheon. Scott thanked Jan Brown for providing the Advisor’s Planning Guide on the internet, which was heavily utilized. Channel Earth will be airing shows from the Career Show. The Dedication Ceremony will be held on Monday, July 20, 1998 at the new National FFA Center in Indianapolis, Indiana.
4. Proficiency Award Finalists

Kevin Keith explained that the Proficiency Award finalists typically cannot attend the convention and it is questionable whether or not they are allowed to compete at the national level. Kevin shared five situations where students have requested to compete at the national level with a representative from their chapter competing in their place. Another situation is the CDE events versus the Proficiency Awards where a student has to decide to compete in one or the other. It would be a precedent that a substitute be allowed to compete in the place of another chapter member. It is not a viable option at this point in time.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Rachel Fehringer (John Wilkinson), seconded by Ray Starling (David Hopson) and **carried** to approve Marc Henri to compete as a national finalist. (Attachment 4)

**MOTION:** It was moved by Brad Montgomery (Karen Hutchison), seconded by Charlie Jones (Ernie Gill) and **carried** to approve Greg Lapham to compete as a national finalist. (Attachment 5)

**MOTION:** It was moved by Rachel Fehringer (Les Olsen), seconded by Charlie Jones (John Wilkinson) and **carried** to approve Rossly Spencer to compete as a national finalist. (Attachment 6)

**MOTION:** It was moved by Rachel Fehringer (Karen Hutchison), seconded by Brad Montgomery (Les Olsen) and **carried** to approve Santanna Deas to compete as a national finalist. (Attachment 7)

5. Approval of Awards/Degrees to Sponsors and Others

**MOTION:** It was moved by Charlie Jones (Belinda Chason), seconded by Rachel Fehringer (Les Olsen) and **carried** to approve that Patricia McNeil receive the Honorary American FFA Degree.

6. Reports from the 1996-97 National FFA Officers

The national officers provided observations to the Board and thanked them for the experiences throughout the year. The observations included their role with the Board of Directors, inclusion on Board of Directors conference calls, communication and collaboration of agricultural education related organizations, middle grades initiatives, utilization of national officers during National FFA Week, and continued review of the National Officer Selection Process. Discussion ensued regarding the recommendations and how the Board members will handle these issues. The Board Retreat will continue and these issues will be relevant discussion. Possibly a mentoring program for the national officers and an informal social event between the board and the national officers before the board meeting will be important options to consider. (Attachment 8)

**MOTION:** It was moved by Les Olsen, seconded by Belinda Chason and **carried** to accept the 1996-97 National FFA Officer team’s final report and to recognize
and commend the team for an outstanding job well done and re-entry into the “real” world. A standing ovation followed.

7. **CDE Chair – Les Olsen Replacement**

Larry Case recommended that Ernie Gill be named as the Awards and Advisory Committee Chairperson entails a meeting at the National FFA Convention and to set the date for a meeting in January.

8. **National FFA Program Revision**

Randy Bernhardt provided a report regarding revising National FFA programs which includes a timeline to reach completion. (Attachment 9)

9. **IUPUI Agreement**

Bernie Staller provided the IUPUI Agreement and indicated that points 1 and 7 were changed. (Attachment 10)

10. **P.L. 81-740 Policy Committee Report**

Belinda Chason provided an overview of the policy committee report relating to the revision of the public law. Jerr Peters substituted for Barbara Kirby as the teacher educator representative. Ms. Chason shared that the AVA policy committee concerns have been addressed through the FFA Policy Committee recommendations. (Attachment 11)

11. **Treasurer’s Report**

K. Eugene Eulinger, National FFA Treasurer, provided comments and answered questions regarding the audit.

12. **Finance Committee Report**

Les Olsen presented the Finance Committee Report. Bernie Staller answered questions regarding the audit.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Rachel Fehringer (Ernie Gill), seconded by Charlie Jones (Karen Hutchison) and carried to approve from the Capital Reserves, the following items with cost not to exceed $1,036,500. (Attachment 12)

**MOTION:** It was moved by Brad Montgomery (John Wilkinson), seconded by Holly Bentley (Barbara Kirby) and carried to contribute in 1998 an additional amount of $73,242 to the Employee Defined Contribution Retirement Plan to provide total payment to both retirement funds of 6.4% of actual payroll for calendar year 1997. (Attachment 13)

**MOTION:** It was moved by Charlie Jones (Belinda Chason), seconded by Holly Bentley (Ernie Gill) and carried to accept the Treasurer’s and the Finance Committee Report.
13. Overview of Legal Matters

National FFA does not currently have a registered agent within the District of Columbia. The firm representing FFA is looking into the matter and an agent will be identified.

14. January Board Meeting Announcement

The next board meeting will be held January 25-28, 1998 in Alexandria, VA.

15. Closing

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

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C. Coleman Harris          Larry D. Case
Secretary                  Chairperson