Meeting Minutes of  
National Board of Directors and National Officers  
of the National FFA Organization  
July 17-20, 1999  
Indianapolis, Indiana

Saturday, July 17, 1999
The long range planning meeting for the National FFA Board of Directors and the national officers was held at the National FFA Center in Indianapolis.  Attachment 1

Sunday, July 18, 1999
A special board session for committee and task force reports was held at the National FFA Center in Indianapolis, Indiana from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Reports included the selection of a recommended audit firm, financial investment company, Evaluation Committee report on Leadership, Personal Growth and Career Success, Technology and Information Committee report, convention housing and the 1999-2000 Budget.

Monday, July 19, 1999
Committee meetings were held at the National FFA Center in Indianapolis from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. This session included the following meetings: Finance; Policy, Constitution and Bylaws, both Standing Committees; three Special Committees – American FFA Degree, Honorary Degree and DSC, H.O. Sargent Awards Selection.

The meeting of the Board of Directors and National Officers of the National FFA Organization was called to order at 1:00 p.m., by the National FFA president, Lisa Ahrens. Following is a listing of all who were present.

Board of Directors:
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; Assistant Director of Academic Programs, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC
Vicki Lantz, U.S. Department of Education Representative; Instructor – Agricultural Education, Big Spring High School, Newville, PA
Ronald L. Reische, Principal Consultant, Agricultural Education, Illinois State Board of Education, Springfield, IL
Nick Siddle, U.S. Department of Education Representative; Instructor - Agricultural Education, Sheridan High School, Sheridan, WY

Officers of the Board of Directors:

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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:
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

Consultants:
James Connors, Assistant Professor, Agricultural Education, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID
Mike Cox, NAAE Representative & Instructor - Agricultural Education, Pulaski County High School, Dublin, VA
Mac Hodges, Vice President, National FFA Alumni Association, Washington, NC
David Howell, AAAE Representative & Professor and Coordinator, Adult and Occupational Education Program, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH
Linda Rist, NAAE Representative; Instructor – Agricultural Education, West Central High School, Hartford, SD
Linda Story, Past President, FFA Alumni Association, Livermore, KY
Robert Terry, AAAE Representative & Associate Professor, Agricultural Education, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK
Gene Vail, Southern Region Vice President, National FFA Alumni Association, Stuttgart, AR
Russell Watson, NAAE Representative, Instructor - Agricultural Education, Warren County High School, McMinnville, TN

Others present for all or portions of the meeting:
FFA, Foundation and the Agricultural Education National Headquarters staff participated throughout the week.
Cindy Fannon, State FFA Executive Secretary, Virginia FFA Association, Blacksburg, VA

1. Reflections - led by Andy Armbruster.

2. Review of Board Operating Procedures
Chairperson Case had previously explained parliamentary procedure to the board in January and to the new board members at their orientation.

3. Overview of National Officer Activities

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The national officers reviewed highlights of their activities thus far as they serve the FFA members across the country. The national officers were commended for a job well done and a round of applause followed.

**MOTION:** Moved by Karen Hutchison, seconded by Barbara Kirby and carried to accept the report of the National FFA officers and commend them on a job well done.

4. **Seating of Newly Elected Officers and Consultants**
Chairperson Case introduced and welcomed Tommy Gladden, Steve Gratz and Vicki Lantz as new FFA Board members and Gene Vail and Mac Hodges, new National FFA Alumni consultants. All were welcomed with a round of applause.

5. **Reports & Remarks - Board Consultants & Agricultural Education Related Groups**

   - FFA Alumni Association — Mac Hodges, Linda Story
   - NAAE — Mike Cox
   - AAAE — Jim Connors
   - NASAE — no report
   - PAS — Kim Perry, report provided in Tab 13
   - The Council — Ernie Gill
   - NYFEA — no report

All expressed appreciation at being a part of the group.

7. **Review of and Adjustments to Agenda**
No major changes were made to the agenda.

8. **Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION:** Moved by James Garner (Ernie Gill), seconded by Abby Dougherty (Karen Hutchison) and carried as amended to approve the January 24-26, 1999 minutes.

9. **Appointment of a Committee to Select a Nominee to the National Awards & CDE Advisory Board from the National FFA Organization Board of Directors**
Karen Hutchison and Ernie Gill agreed to serve and will recommend an appointment on Tuesday, July 20, 1999.

10. **Report of National FFA Treasurer**
Marion Fletcher reviewed the current financial report. He thanked Sue Springirth for her hard work.

**MOTION:** Moved by Jose Santiago (Ron Reische), seconded by Emily Buxton (Tommy Gladden) and carried to accept the report of the national FFA treasurer.

11. **Report from Awards Selection**

Tommy Gladden, Chair of the American FFA Degree, Star Farmer and Stars in Agribusiness, presented the committee report. Mr. Gladden thanked the committee members for their hard work.

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MOTION: Moved by Andy Armbruster (Karen Hutchison), seconded by Jose Santiago (Ernie Gill) and carried to accept for the American FFA Degree; 2,311 of the 2,343 applications received for consideration this year. Further, that the National FFA staff conduct the American FFA Degree appeal process and present a report to the Governing Committee of the Board of Directors for consideration for receipt of the degree, as per board policy.

MOTION: Moved by Abby Dougherty (Vicki Lantz), seconded by Andy Armbruster (Nick Siddle) and carried to accept the four finalists Star Farmers: Kyle D. Bailey, IN; Charles Hale, OK; Jay Harris, IL; Jeff Weber (TX) and four finalists Stars in Agribusiness: Brad Baumgardt MN; Justin Jon Jordahl, IA; Erika Jo Kenner, ND; Michael L. Springer, KS for 1999.

Vicki Lantz, Chairperson, presented the report for the Honorary Teacher, Honorary Other and VIP selections. Ms. Lantz thanked the committee members for their hard work.

MOTION: Moved by Jose Santiago (Nick Siddle), seconded by James Garner (Ron Reische) and carried to bestow nine VIP Awards - Dr. Clifton Brake, AR; Duane Acker, IA; A. Charles Fisher, IN; Leon Schumacher, MO; John Watkins, OH; Dr. Roscoe Vaughn, VA; Ken Milholland, WA; Cecil Underwood, WV; Merle Bodmer, WI - at the 1999 National FFA Convention.

MOTION: Moved by Andy Armbruster (Karen Hutchison), seconded by Emily Buxton (Ernie Gill) and carried to bestow 63 Honorary American FFA Degrees - Other, as listed, at the 1999 National FFA Convention. Attachment 2

Denied applications are to be returned and asked to clarify the applicant’s accomplishments as related to agricultural education and FFA on the national level. Governing Committee action will be required to approve the potentially 30 resubmitted applications.

MOTION: Moved by Jose Santiago (Karen Hutchison), seconded by James Garner (Ernie Gill) and carried to bestow 61 Honorary American FFA Degrees - Teachers, as listed, at the 1999 National FFA Convention. Attachment 3

Ron Reische, Chairperson, presented the report for the DSC and H.O. Sargent selections. Mr. Reische thanked the committee members for their hard work.

MOTION: Moved by James Garner (Steve Gratz), seconded by Abby Dougherty (Barbara Kirby) and carried to bestow three DSC Awards to Farm Progress Companies, IL - Allan Johnson; Dow AgroSciences, IN - A. Charles Fischer; W.K. Kellogg representative, MI - Dr. Richard Foster at the 1999 National FFA Convention.

MOTION: Moved by Andy Armbruster (Vicki Lantz), seconded by Jose Santiago (Karen Hutchison) and carried to accept four candidates – Angela Rose Guidry, Triton High School, IN; Amanda Dahlhoff, Murray County Central High School, MN; Jessica Skinner, South Rowan High School, NC; Grace Page, Dyer County High School, TN - in the member category of the H.O. Sargent Award.

MOTION: Moved by Emily Buxton (Tommy Gladden), seconded by Abby Dougherty (Vicki Lantz) and carried to accept three candidates – Dr. James Knight, University of
Arizona, Eva Griffin, Malone High School (parent educator), FL; David Frazier, Snyder High School, TX - for national level recognition in the non-member H.O. Sargent Award category.

12. Program Development and Direction
Bernie Staller summarized the procedure for Program Development and Direction presentations. Team Leaders were directed to focus on major accomplishments, major issues and any funding request(s) which should be brought to the board.

a. Gene Starr presented the report for the National FFA Alumni Association. No board motions were presented.

b. Sue Springirth presented the report for the Finance, Technology and Human Resources Team. No board motions were presented.

c. Dennis Shafer presented the report for the Ventures Team. No board motions were presented.

d. Janet Lewis and Jimmy Long provided the report for the Distribution Resources Team. No board motions were presented.

e. Scott Stump presented the report for the National FFA Convention. No board motions were presented.

f. Bill Stagg presented the report for the Communications Resources Team. No board motions were presented.

g. Dean Folkers presented the report for the Partner Development Team. He shared the team’s activities. No board motions were presented.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, July 20, 1999
The meeting reconvened at 9:00 a.m. at the National FFA Center.

Program Development and Direction Team Leader Reports (continued from Monday)

h. Kevin Keith presented the report for the Teacher Services Team.

MOTION: Moved by James Garner (Tommy Gladden), seconded by Jose Santiago (Vicki Lantz) and carried to accept the following individuals as new CDE Superintendents: Ms. Linda Story, Job Interview – July 1999; Dr. Richard Beard, Agricultural Mechanics – January 2000; Dr. Craig Edward, Poultry – January 2000.

MOTION: Moved by Andy Armbruster (Karen Hutchison), seconded by Abby Dougherty (Ernie Gill) and carried to approve development of community outreach activities, not to exceed $100,000 per year and seek National FFA Foundation sponsor program funding.

i. David Doerfert presented an overview of the Student Services Team. The following are the motions brought before the board.

MOTION: Moved by Emily Buxton (Barbara Kirby), seconded by Jose Santiago (Ron Reische) and carried to allow FFA members to receive scholarships to attend American Management Association (AMA) leadership conferences and request special project funding through the National FFA Foundation, effective for the summer 2000 time period.

MOTION: Moved by Abby Dougherty (Nick Siddle), seconded by Andy Armbruster (Ernie Gill) and carried to appoint Robert Torres of New Mexico State University as Adult Consultant to the National FFA Officer Selection Process.

MOTION: Moved by Andy Armbruster (Barbara Kirby), seconded by Abby Dougherty (Ernie Gill) and carried to appoint Karen Hutchison as Board Superintendent of the National FFA Officer Selection Process.

j. Tammy Meyer presented the National FFA Foundation report.

MOTION: Moved by the Andy Armbruster (Tommy Gladden), seconded by Jose Santiago (Karen Hutchison) and carried to allow the National FFA Foundation and Organization to pilot test, for one year, the use of co-branded merchandise for fundraising.

MOTION: Moved by the James Garner (Nick Siddle), seconded by Andy Armbruster (Ernie Gill) and carried to grant use of the FFA emblem on the Chad Little NASCAR, sponsored by John Deere, for the 1999-2000 racing season.

MOTION: Moved by the Abby Dougherty (Karen Hutchison), seconded by Andy Armbruster (Vicki Lantz) and carried to accept the reports of the National FFA Organization teams.
13. Special Committee Report — FFA Organization & Evaluation
Ron Reische, Chairperson, presented the report for the Evaluation Committee. Mr. Reische thanked the committee members for their hard work.

MOTION: Moved by Abby Dougherty (Karen Hutchison), seconded by Jose Santiago (Vicki Lantz) and carried to accept the report of the Evaluation Task Force as it relates to the refinement of the three broad areas of mission (leadership, personal growth and career success) and approve the process and budget to gain input from the field.

MOTION: Moved by James Garner (Ernie Gill), seconded by Andy Armbruster (Karen Hutchison) and carried to appoint Vicki Lantz to the CDE Awards Committee.

14. Standing Committee Report — Policy, Constitution and Bylaws
Barbara Kirby, Chairperson, presented the report for the Policy, Constitution and Bylaws Committee. Ms. Kirby thanked the Policy Committee for their contributions.

MOTION: Moved by Abby Dougherty (Ron Reische), seconded by Andy Armbruster (Tommy Gladden) and carried to accept the National FFA Organization Employee Handbook, as revised.

MOTION: Moved by Emily Buxton (Nick Siddle), seconded by Jose Santiago (Ernie Gill) and carried to add a policy as follows to Section I. Activities, I. American FFA Degree, 01. Operations, Item d. A State Association may request that an American FFA Degree be awarded to a recipient member in a year after the Degree is earned, if said member has indeed maintained his/her membership and is unable to attend the convention in the year in which the degree is earned for good cause. (National Staff will develop procedures to support this new policy). Examples of "good cause" include ill health, injury, military service or approved voluntary service. The request must be made by June 30 in the year the state is proposing that said member receive the degree and the request will be considered by the policy committee of the Board of Directors (on occasion the policy committee may wish to leverage the approval of the entire board) at their regularly scheduled summer board meeting.

MOTION: Moved by James Garner (Tommy Gladden), seconded Andy Armbruster (Karen Hutchison) and carried to add a policy as follows to Section I. Activities, H. Proficiency, Section 01., Eligibility, Item e. A student who is selected to attend the International Travel Seminar program and who is elected or appointed by a state association or the National FFA Organization to a leadership role and must participate in an FFA event which directly conflicts with this seminar may request in writing to have their experience delayed one year. NOTE: Procedurally, the request for approval to delay seminar participation until the next year must be received before the National FFA board meeting held immediately after the seminar for which the student could not attend due to a qualifying conflict, i.e., a conflict for the 1999 seminar would be received for consideration prior to the July 1999 Board meeting and the student would be requesting to participate in the 2000 seminar. Once such a delay is granted, the student will follow the normal deadline procedures for the remaining participants for that year.

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MOTION: Moved by Abby Dougherty (Ron Reische), seconded by Andy Armbruster (Vicki Lantz) and carried to establish a Research Committee as a special committee of the National FFA Board of Directors to include a USDE representative from AAAE, a staff member of the National FFA Organization and three AAAE agriculture teacher educator consultants to the National FFA Board of Directors.

MOTION: Moved by Jose Santiago (Tommy Gladden), seconded by Emily Buxton (Nick Siddle) and carried to create a task force to examine language barriers as they relate to the delivery of FFA member services and provide an update report at the January Board meeting. The final report should be available by January 2001.

MOTION: Moved by James Garner, seconded by Emily Buxton to delete Agricultural Mechanical and Technical Support Proficiency Area and replace it with: a) Agricultural Mechanics – Design and Fabrication; b) Agricultural Repair and Maintenance; and c) Agricultural Mechanics Energy Systems, and request special project funding of the National FFA Foundation. Moved by Andy Armbruster (Karen Hutchison), seconded by Emily Buxton (Ernie Gill) to amend by inserting Mechanics after “Agricultural” in item b. Original Motion carried as amended, therefore, item b. becomes Agricultural Mechanics Repair and Maintenance.

MOTION: Moved by Jose Santiago (Nick Siddle), seconded by James Garner (Vicki Lantz) and carried to split the current Agricultural Sales and/or Service proficiency award category into the following: a) Agricultural Sales and b) Agricultural Services, and request special project funding of the National FFA Foundation.

MOTION: Moved by Abby Dougherty (Ron Reische), seconded by Jose Santiago (Steve Gratz) and carried to add a new proficiency award category entitled "Diversified Agricultural Production", and request special project funding of the National FFA Foundation.

MOTION: Moved by James Garner (Karen Hutchison), seconded by Emily Buxton (Tommy Gladden) and carried to eliminate the proficiency category of "Soil and/or Water Management" and alter the category of Environmental Science to encompass the bulk of those SAEs formerly part of Soil and Water Management which would be titled, "Environmental Science and Natural Resources Management". (Note: soil/water structure construction/maintenance-based SAEs currently included in Soil and Water Management would be included in either of two of the new Agricultural Mechanics Based categories - Design/Fabrication and Repair/Maintenance).

MOTION: Moved by Jose Santiago (Steve Gratz), seconded by Abby Dougherty (Ernie Gill) and carried to merge the current proficiency categories of Oil Crop Production and Fiber Crop Production into one category entitled "Fiber and/or Oil Crop Production", and request special project funding of the National FFA Foundation.

MOTION: Moved by Emily Buxton (Ernie Gill), seconded by James Garner (Karen Hutchison) and carried to change Forest Management category to "Forest Management and Products".

MOTION: Moved by James Garner (Ron Reische), seconded by Abby Dougherty (Karen Hutchison) and carried to split "Fruit and/or Vegetable Production" proficiency award...
into two categories entitled: a) Fruit Production and b) Vegetable Production, and request special project funding of the National FFA Foundation.

**MOTION:** Moved by Jose Santiago (Ernie Gill), seconded by Emily Buxton (Steve Gratz) and carried to combine Cereal Grain Production and Feed Grain Production into one category entitled, "Grain Production".

**MOTION:** Moved by Andy Armbruster (Tommy Gladden), seconded by Abby Dougherty (Nick Siddle) and carried to alter the current category entitled "Small Animal Care" to "Small Animal Production and Care". (Note: this will encompass applicants who either produce or manage small animals and no longer splits the producers into "Specialty Animal" and the care givers to "Small Animal Care". Many members are both caregivers and producers and had to split their programs to apply.)

**MOTION:** Moved by Jose Santiago (Karen Hutchison), seconded by James Garner (Vicki Lantz) and carried to alter the current category titled "Wildlife Management" to "Wildlife Production and Management". (Note: this will encompass applicants who either produce or manage wildlife and no longer splits the producers into Specialty Animal and the managers to Wildlife Management". Many members are both managers and producers and had to split their programs to apply.)

**MOTION:** Moved by Abby Dougherty (), seconded by Jose Santiago () to add a new proficiency award category entitled, “Agricultural Education and Leadership”, and request special project funding of the National FFA Foundation. (Note: this category would be for members interested in positions in agricultural education or positions of agricultural leadership. Proposed definition: Agricultural Education and Leadership – typically includes members who are gaining agriculturally related experiences with the goal of entering agricultural education or leadership careers. Agricultural Education or extension department assistants, PALS leaders, mentors, agricultural literacy instructors, Food for America instructors, managers/leaders of organizations, Partners for a Safer Community leaders/instructors, youth tutors, and youth camp leaders would be possible examples of SAE experiences that may be included in this proficiency award areas.) After further discussion, it was moved by Andy Armbruster (Karen Hutchison), seconded by Jose Santiago (Ernie Gill) and carried to refer to a committee comprised of board members, teacher educators and FFA staff members to evaluate an Agricultural Educational and Leadership Award, to determine what award area it should be established in and to report back to the National FFA Board of Directors.

**MOTION:** Moved by James Garner (Nick Siddle), seconded by Abby Dougherty (Tommy Gladden) and carried to allow all states to be eligible, at a minimum, for one $100 cash award in each proficiency award area sponsored and offered at the national level. (states with memberships in excess of 15,000 will still be eligible for an additional $75 per category where they have selected runner-up award applicants). NOTE: This is currently addressed in FFA procedure, rather than policy, however approval/support from the board for this type of change is considered paramount to such a shift in the procedure.
MOTION: Moved by Andy Armbruster (Ron Reische), seconded by Emily Buxton (Tommy Gladden) and carried to accept that two International trip participants, Christie Flechsenhar and Hector Mathis be allowed to attend the Costa Rica trip in 2000 versus 1999 due to prior state officer commitments.

MOTION: Moved by Andy Armbruster (Vicki Lantz), seconded by Emily Buxton (Ernie Gill) and carried to approve that proficiency awards that may eliminate potential participants only be implemented unless necessary funding is secured.

15. Standing Committee Report — Finance
Karen Hutchison, Chairperson, presented the report for the Finance Committee.
Ms. Hutchison thanked the committee members for their hard work.

MOTION: Moved by Jose Santiago (Ernie Gill), seconded by James Garner (Nick Siddle) and carried to approve funding up to $95,000 for conduct of a comprehensive planning study of National FFA information management systems and technology needs. The study will lead to the assessment, planning, implementation and maintenance of integrated information and data management systems for the organization. The study will be administered by the Chief Operating Officer and designated staff project managers.
A consulting firm will be hired to facilitate the planning process.

MOTION: Moved by Emily Buxton (Tommy Gladden), seconded by Abby Dougherty (Ron Reische) and carried to approve the 1999-2000 FFA Organization operating budget including any changes mandated at the board meeting.

MOTION: Moved by Andy Armbruster (Vicki Lantz), seconded by Jose Santiago (Ron Reische) and carried to appoint Olive L.L.P. as FFA auditor of record effective for the 1998-1999 fiscal year.

MOTION: Moved by Abby Dougherty (Steve Gratz), seconded by Emily Buxton (Tommy Gladden) and carried to submit to the delegates for consideration at the 1999 National FFA Convention that 2000-2001 dues be set at $5.00 per member per year.

MOTION: Moved by Jose Santiago (Nick Siddle), seconded by Andy Armbruster (Tommy Gladden) and carried to provide $37,927 from capital reserves to fund technology needs as follows: three computers, Distribution Resources call center, $6,465; Macola software enhancements, $20,000; video conferencing enhancements, $6,500; dial in server (for network access outside building), $2,000; audio conferencing equipment, $2,962.

MOTION: Moved by Andy Armbruster (Ron Reische), seconded by James Garner (Tommy Gladden) and carried to accept the employee benefit plan and make any appropriate changes to policy. Attachment 4

MOTION: Moved by Abby Dougherty (Steve Gratz), seconded by Emily Buxton (Nick Siddle) and carried to hire Oxford Financial Advisors Corporation as the FFA Organization investment manager.

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MOTION: Moved by Jose Santiago (Barbara Kirby), seconded by Emily Buxton (Tommy Gladden) and carried to approve the National FFA Organization Investment policy. 
Attachment 5

MOTION: Moved by Abby Dougherty (Vicki Lantz), seconded by Jose Santiago (Barbara Kirby) and carried to refer the PAS resolution to staff under the direction of Dr. Larry Case to more clearly discuss issues and ideas, as well as propose plans to address this resolution.

MOTION: Moved by Andy Armbruster (Ron Reische), seconded by Abby Dougherty (Tommy Gladden) and carried to restructure the National FFA Organization into four units. Request staff to develop position descriptions and costs implicated by the October 1999 board meeting.  
Attachment 6

16. Administrative and Legal Matters
Bernie Staller gave an update on administrative and legal issues. No legal issues are pending.

17. Upcoming Meetings
The next National FFA Organization Board of Directors meeting will be held on January 23-25, 2000 and the National FFA Foundation Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 26, 2000 in Alexandria, VA.

18. Recognize Retiring Board Members, Consultants and Trustees
Remarks were given by Linda Rist, Jim Connors, Linda Story and Mike Cox.

MOTION: Moved by Andy Armbruster (Karen Hutchison), seconded by Jose Santiago (Ernie Gill) and carried for a commendation on a job well done of the retiring board members and consultants.

19. Adjournment
There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

20. Executive Session with Senior Management
No motions in the Executive Session of the Board.

C. Coleman Harris, Secretary                             Larry D. Case, Chairperson