

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA

Washington, D. C.
January 27-28, 1955

January 27, 1955

The meeting of the Board of Directors of the FFA was called to order at 9:00 a.m. in Room G-747 A, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare Building, by Dr. W. T. Spanton, Chairman. Those present included: Mr. John Bunten, State Supervisor Agricultural Education, Carson City, Nevada; Mr. H. E. Wood, State Supervisor Agricultural Education, Tallahassee, Florida; Mr. Cola D. Watson, State Supervisor Agricultural Education, Montpelier, Vermont; Mr. Harold E. Urton, State Supervisor Agricultural Education, Pierre, South Dakota; Mr. E. J. Johnson; Mr. H. N. Hansucker; Mr. R. E. Naugher; and Dr. A. W. Tenney, National FFA Executive Secretary, all of the Office of Education; and Dr. Dowell J. Howard, National FFA Treasurer, Richmond, Virginia. In addition to the members of the Board, the following members attended portions of the meeting: Mr. H. B. Swanson, Mr. John Farrar, Mr. W. N. Elam, Mr. Percy Kirk, Mr. W. Lyle Mowlds, Mr. A. L. Teachey, and Mr. George R. Cochran. The National Board of Student Officers was also present.

It was moved by Mr. Urton, seconded by Mr. Bunten and carried that the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting be dispensed with, since all of those present had received mimeographed copies of the minutes.

Dr. Spanton stated that he and Dr. Howard had some correspondence concerning Mrs. Coiner's salary. Dr. Howard felt that Mrs. Coiner should receive an increase in salary. It was the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers that Mrs. Coiner's salary be increased to the base of a GS-5 (\$3410.), that she be allowed the same within grade increases as Government employees holding that grade, and that she be held to the same leave regulations as Government employees. They further recommended that this increase be retroactive to January 1, 1955, and that if Government salaries were increased during the year, her salary also be increased.

It was moved by Mr. Urton, seconded by Mr. Hansucker and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers concerning Mrs. Coiner's salary.

Copies of the Statement of Revenue and Expenditures of the FFA for a six-month period from July 1, 1954 to December 31, 1955, were distributed by Dr. Howard. The statement was reviewed in detail.

It was moved by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Urton and carried that Dr. Howard's report be accepted.

Mr. Naugher felt that some policy should be set as to who could sit in on the Board meetings. He stated there was such a close working relationship between the FFA and the Foundation that he, for one, would like to see all of the eight State Supervisors attend both the Board of Directors and Board of Trustees meetings. After some discussion it was decided that non-members of the Board of Directors could sit in on the meetings provided they did not in any way monopolize the time of the meeting. Unless they are called upon for their opinions, they are to be called out of order by the Chairman.

Mr. Bunten outlined a letter he had received from Mr. Bert Brown, State Supervisor Agricultural Education, Olympia, Washington. In his letter Mr. Brown gave his thoughts on the Criteria for awarding the Honorary American Farmer Degree to teachers of vocational agriculture. He spoke mostly of the point value on various items in this Criteria, and some changes he and others in his State would like to see made. Mr. Brown also raised some questions on the new Chapter Award Program.

Mr. Bunten felt that in view of Mr. Brown's letter and perhaps other suggestions that have been submitted, the score card for the Criteria for awarding the Honorary American Farmer Degree to teachers of vocational agriculture, again be reviewed by the staff of the Agricultural Education Branch in light of possible changes, and that this be brought up again at the meeting in July.

Mr. Naugher reminded the members that at the last meeting it was recommended the score card be continued for another year with the exception of striking out the requirement that a teacher must have previously received the Honorary State Farmer Degree or the regular State Farmer Degree.

Dr. Tenney suggested that the Criteria and the Chapter Award Program be discussed at the various Regional Conferences. It was, therefore, agreed that these two award programs be discussed at the Regional Conferences and that recommendations from the various States be taken up at the next meeting.

Mr. Watson said that he had polled the States in the North Atlantic Region for their opinions on actions taken by the Board, actions that had been started, and any other matters they felt should be brought up. One of the questions he asked was, "Do you have any suggestions for revising the Criteria for awarding the Honorary American Farmer Degree to teachers of vocational agriculture?" Of the States that replied there were a few comments but their answer was "No".

Mr. Urton had polled the Central Region on various items. The Kentucky Association wanted the Official Secretary Book revised as soon as possible.

Mr. Urton pointed out one error in the National Chapter Award Program. One of the mandatory items in the Requirements for the Superior

Chapter Award is, "All members in the chapter (at least one member per family) subscribe to the National FFA Magazine". He said it had been agreed this would be made optional and not a mandatory item. It was the feeling of the group this was certainly bad policy and was agreed it would be made an optional item.

Mr. Watson continued his report on the poll he had made in the North Atlantic Region. He said he had asked the supervisors their opinions on the advisability of attempting to get the Federal Charter amended. All of the supervisors were in favor of going ahead with this amendment, which would protect the use of the FFA emblem. They, of course, would like to see some policies set which would give approval to State associations to use the emblem for certain items.

The supervisors in the North Atlantic Region were in favor of the action taken by the Board which discontinued the awarding of the Honorary American Farmer Degree to State staff members who had served as superintendents of the livestock judging contests. They felt, however, this could be worked into a criteria for awarding the degree to Supervisors, Teacher Trainers and other staff members.

One State in that region recommended the judging contest committee consider land judging. New Jersey had made the suggestion that some action be taken that an FFA boy must serve a probationary period before he is allowed to wear the Official FFA Jacket. Pennsylvania felt the quota for receiving the American Farmer Degree should be increased. They had 26 boys qualify in 1954 and only ten were able to apply.

A discussion had been previously held during the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation concerning the setting up of Criteria for awarding the Honorary American Farmer Degree to Supervisors, Teacher Trainers, and other staff members. It was suggested at that time to defer action on this. Dr. Tenney suggested that this criteria be presented to the supervisors at the Regional Conferences and a report be made at the next meeting.

The suggestion which was received from the New Jersey Association was reviewed. It was felt that FFA members serving a probationary period before being allowed to wear the official jacket was something that should be left up to each local chapter. The chapter advisor should instill in the boys pride in the jacket. It was, therefore, moved by Mr. Wood, seconded by Dr. Tenney and carried that the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers be accepted, namely that it would not be feasible for the national organization to set a policy on this.

Mr. Perry and Congressman Jennings, both from Virginia, appeared before the Board. It had been proposed by Mr. Perry that the national FFA organization purchase the home farm of the late Henry C. Groseclose at Ceres, Virginia, as a memorial. The home and farm to be used for housing and on-the-farm training for underprivileged boys throughout the Nation interested in agriculture. The boys would attend the high

school at Ceres for a period of approximately four years. This school has facilities for accommodating at least 100 additional students without causing serious overcrowding.

Mr. Perry thought the home and farm, which consists of 157 acres, could be purchased for approximately \$25,000. It would, however, require a considerable sum of money to build dormitories and other buildings for accommodating boys.

Mr. Hansucker asked what the reaction of the Virginia FFA Association was to this memorial, and would it not be better if that association make the first move in this matter. Mr. Perry said they would prefer having the national support first but that there were a number of people in the State of Virginia interested in such a memorial. Mr. Wood said if such a situation occurred in Florida, he believed the Florida Association would take the initiative in setting up a program whereby all other State Associations could participate. If Virginia would take the initiative in setting up plans, he believed it then might become a national FFA activity.

After further discussion on this, it was decided that before any action was taken the attitude of the Virginia Association on the Henry C. Groseclose Memorial be obtained and that it also be discussed at the Regional Conferences. A report on this to be made at the July meeting of the Board of Directors.

The next item of business to come before the board was a letter received from Mr. R. E. Bass, State Supervisor Agricultural Education, Richmond, Virginia. In his letter Mr. Bass proposed a new method of selecting judges for the National Public Speaking Contest. He suggested that the teacher of vocational agriculture of the FFA boy who placed second in each of the four regional contests be designated to serve as judges in the national contest. He also thought this could be carried out on the regional level.

Billy Gunter asked what method was used at the present time in selecting these judges. Dr. Tenney explained that it was the practice each year to make up a list of from eight to ten outstanding citizens and submit their names to the Boards at the meeting in July for further recommendations and suggestions. Usually a group of eight or ten were approved and from that group the three judges were selected.

It was the belief of the group that in many cases it is not the teacher who takes the real load of training a boy for this contest. It was also felt that this would mean additional expense to the national organization, and that also if this proposal were accepted there would be a judge representing each of the four regions, which could influence their opinions.

It was, therefore, moved by Mr. Bunten, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, that Mr. Bass' proposal not be accepted.

Mr. Urton said that one teacher in the Central Region was anxious to see the score card for the Public Speaking Contest revised. He wanted it made a straight oratorical contest and the value of questions eliminated.

Mr. Urton called to the groups attention Paragraph 5, under General Policies in "Official Policies Regarding the Use and Authorization for Use of the Name and Emblem of the FFA". This paragraph reads as follows:

"The 'National name and emblem' shall not be used by or associated in any manner with any organization or business when such use or association might reflect unfavorably on the national organization or its members. This prohibition applies particularly to any firm or individual engaging in the manufacture, sale or distribution of alcoholic beverages or tobacco products."

It was felt the last sentence of this paragraph was unfair and that the first part of the paragraph amply covered the situation. It was moved by Mr. Wood, seconded by Mr. Bunten and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely that we strike out the last sentence of this paragraph.

Mr. Bunten said he had been asked why in the Announcement and Rules of the National Public Speaking Contest under "Time Limit", there was the following sentence: "Deductions will be made of 40 points per minute or part thereof for speeches under eight minutes in length." Dr. Tenney explained that about two years ago the delegates at the national convention took action authorizing that the Public Speaking Rules be changed and that sentence be inserted. In other words, there is a minimum of eight minutes and a maximum of ten minutes on the speeches

In the discussion that followed Mr. Hansucker said he could not see why there should be a minimum. A maximum he thought was good but on the local level having the minimum hinders some boys. It was felt that on the local level this was not too important since each instructor ran his contest the way he wanted. Mr. Bunten thought that any boy limiting himself to a four or five minute speech would penalize himself.

It was moved by Dr. Tenney, seconded by Mr. Watson and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers namely that the sentence, "Deductions will be made of 40 points per minute or part thereof for speeches under eight minutes in length", be left in the rules of the National Public Speaking Contest.

Mr. Wood asked whether accident and health insurance was taken out on the national officers while they were travelling on official FFA business throughout the year. After some discussion it was moved by Mr. Naugher, seconded by Mr. Urton and carried that the Board of Directors

accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, that accident and health insurance be taken out on the national officers throughout the year.

A discussion was held concerning the supervision of the band and chorus members while they are at the national convention. Mr. Urton commented that there was no supervision whatsoever for these boys especially at the hotels. Dr. Tenney stated that this past year one man had stayed with the band members but he had difficulty in finding someone to help with the chorus. Mr. Urton said he did not think someone should be asked to go to Kansas City at their own expense to help supervise these boys. He was in favor of the national organization paying the expenses of two men for each group. These men should be at the hotels to supervise and advise the boys. Mr. Wood said that the behaviour of boys attending the convention was discussed at the Vocational Agricultural Teachers meeting in San Francisco. It was recommended there that this be taken up at each State conference of agricultural teachers and that the States try to take some action toward assuming responsibility toward behaviour of the groups.

It was moved by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Hansucker and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely that four men be obtained (two for each unit) to supervise band and chorus members especially at the hotels, and that if necessary some money be set aside to pay the expenses of these four men to the convention.

Mr. Edward J. Hawkins, Manager of the Future Farmers Supply Service, appeared before the group and made a report on the bids received from various jewelry manufacturing on all official FFA jewelry. Six companies had been given the privilege of bidding on this jewelry but, however, only three companies actually bid. Mr. Hawkins said that in his specifications he had asked that the company who received authorization to manufacture the jewelry keep a one-year supply of jewelry on hand at all times that the Supply Service could draw on for stock. The L. G. Balfour Company who has been manufacturing jewelry for the FFA, already has on hand about a nine-month supply of most items. Mr. Hawkins explained that the jewelry could either all be handled through the Supply Service or that items needing special attention could be ordered direct from the authorized company. Mr. Watson thought that if the Supply Service only handled part of the stock it would be confusing to local chapters. Mr. Hawkins requested that the Board take some action now as to whether the Supply Service should handle all or just a portion of the stock.

It was moved by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Watson and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers that the Supply Service handle all jewelry items.

After further discussion and on the basis of comparative bids submitted by the various companies, Mr. Hawkins recommended that the Board accept the bid submitted by the L. G. Balfour Company to manufacture official FFA jewelry for a period of three years.

It was moved by Mr. Buntin, seconded by Mr. Hansucker and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers that the Supply Service negotiate a three-year contract with Balfour, and that Mr. Hawkins be permitted to renegotiate when there appears to be any discrepancies in prices that seem to need adjustment.

Mr. Hawkins then told the group that for the first year of this contract he thought the Supply Service should maintain the same prices now in effect and see how things work out. He felt that some prices could be cut after that time.

Mr. Hawkins then showed the small "FFA" lapel pin, which had been submitted by Balfour. It was moved by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Buntin and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers that this lapel pin be adopted as an official item of jewelry.

Mr. Lano Barron, Editor of The National FUTURE FARMER Magazine appeared before the group and made a financial report on the Magazine for the first half of the fiscal year, July 1, 1954 to June 30, 1955.

Mr. Barron then proposed that the present restriction of confining advertising to not more than 50 per cent of the space in any given issue be eliminated.

It was moved by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Buntin and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers that Mr. Barron's proposal be accepted, with the understanding that the Magazine staff try at all times if possible to conform with this 50 per cent.

Mr. Barron then recommended that the ceilings for pay for editorial material be determined by the magazine staff as the need arises. He explained that while the staff has bought most material at rates below the present ceilings, more elasticity of the pay scale would permit the occasional use of material from top sources. This, he said, would not necessitate an increase in the amount budgeted for this item.

It was moved by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Wood and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers that Mr. Barron's recommendation be accepted since it would be of benefit to the Magazine.

Mr. Barron had one additional proposal and this was that six issues of the Magazine per year be published beginning with January 1, 1956. He stated that subscribers are constantly asking for a monthly Magazine; and he believed advertising could be increased to take care of six issues per year. Mr. Barron was asked how six issues per year would effect the general quality of the Magazine. He stated it would show a gradual improvement and that material wouldn't get out of date so quickly. A minimum of 48-pages would be as small as the Magazine would ever be. Mr. Urton asked what the publication dates would be. Mr. Barron gave the following publication dates but stated some adjustments could be made:

January 20 for the February, March issue; March 20 for the April, May issue; May 20 for the June, July issue; July 20 for the August, September issue; September 20 for the October, November issue; November 20 for the December, January issue.

It was moved by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Bunten and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers that six issues per year be published of The National FUTURE FARMER, beginning with January 1, 1956.

Mr. Barron then asked the Board what they thought of the possibility of the Magazine handling a calendar such as is now being produced by the Osborne Company. He stated that the calendar would be a very nice companion to the magazine, would work as an advertising medium and would also be one means of keeping a lower subscription rate.

It was moved by Mr. Urton, seconded by Mr. Hansucker and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers that Mr. Barron have the right to look into the magazine taking over the calendar and a report be made of this at the July meeting.

A discussion was held of the possibility of placing the magazine on planes and trains. Mr. Barron said that a trial run was made on Capital Airlines with two issues. They were happy to accept it without their board action and when he checked with them about passengers' use of the magazine he had a very enthusiastic reply. He said Capital has 110 flights and it would cost about \$250. to place the magazine on all flights. This would take care of the cost of permanent covers for the magazine. Dr. Tenney asked if it wouldn't be more advisable to wait until the magazine went to six issues before attempting to place it on trains or planes. Mr. Barron agreed with this and said that at the beginning he would like to start with Capital Air Lines since they are located in Washington. The cost of the covers would be paid out of the magazine's promotional budget.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

January 28, 1955

The meeting was called to order in Room G-747 A by Chairman Spanton at 9:00 a.m., all members of the Board being present.

Miss Elizabeth Copeland, President of the Custom Cal Company, Atlanta, Georgia, appeared before the Board. Miss Copeland was seeking authorization from the Board to use the name and emblem of the organization on a FFA fund raising calendar. Miss Copeland explained that for several years her company has been serving FFA chapters with a cooperative advertising calendar known as a "Vocational Agriculture" calendar. Now, however, many chapters are requesting the FFA name and emblem be used.

She distributed to the group a general outline of the program and proposal from the Custom Cal Company. She also displayed several rough drawings for the proposed fund raising calendar. The Custom Cal Company proposal briefly was as follows:

"They proposed to contribute a royalty to the national organization equal to 10 per cent of their gross business on every calendar produced with the FFA name and emblem, and would offer to State associations 10 per cent of such gross business in the respective States. The calendar would start at various months depending on when purchased and would run for a 12-month period. They would submit to the national office semi-annually a report showing gross business on the calendars, and would make royalty payments to the national office and State associations at the same time. They requested exclusive use of the FFA name and emblem on the fund raising calendar for a period of ten years. This calendar should be the official chapter fund raising calendar for the FFA."

After Miss Copeland left, her proposal was discussed further by the Board. It was moved by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Bunten and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers that the proposal submitted by Miss Copeland be accepted with the following changes: The national organization should receive a royalty equal to five per cent of the gross business on all calendars bearing the FFA name and emblem, and the State Associations are to receive 15 per cent of such gross business in the respective States. The Custom Cal Company is to be given authorization for the use of the FFA name and emblem on the fund raising calendar for a period of three years rather than ten years. The organization, however, reserves the right to cancel this authorization at any time if the company does not live up to the proposal.

It was also agreed by the Board that even though the FFA name and emblem will be used on these calendars, the words "vocational agriculture" should still appear on them. It was also the understanding of the group that the national office would approve all designs of calendars which are produced for use of local chapters.

Mr. Lano Barron again appeared before the Board and commented briefly on problems that had been faced by the magazine in contracting with advertising agencies to sell advertising. Such representatives, he reported, charge 15 per cent of the advertising revenue for their services. He stated that he believes the National FUTURE FARMER is now in a position to assume all the responsibility of selling advertising, and asked that the Board give approval to the employment of another man on the magazine staff to work on advertising sales, with the idea that contracts with advertising representatives will not be renewed when they expire.

It was moved by Mr. Urton, seconded by Mr. Hansucker and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely that authorization be given Mr. Barron to proceed with the employment of another man to work on advertising sales for the magazine, and to terminate contracts with advertising representatives as the need arises.

Mr. Hawkins again appeared before the Board. He stated that he would like a decision from the Board as to whether or not the Christmas cards should be handled as a permanent item at the Supply Service, or should they be put in as a special item each fall. It was the belief of the Board that the Christmas cards should be a special item each fall.

Mr. Hawkins had previously been authorized to look into the matter of developing cardboard station markers. He displayed a station marker which had been developed for sale by the Supply Service. He stated these could be sold for \$3.50 per set or single at 75 cents each.

It was moved by Mr. Bunten, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, that the cardboard station markers be placed in stock at the Supply Service.

Mr. Hawkins had also been previously authorized to investigate the possibilities of a new lightweight jacket for FFA members and to obtain samples of such jackets. He displayed two jackets—one with lining and the other without. These jackets were made of Army twill, which is slightly more expensive than corduroy, lighter in weight but very little if any cooler. This material had been thoroughly tested for durability. It was the feeling of the group that no action was necessary on this. There have not been enough requests for the lightweight jacket and many boys are now wearing the official sport shirt when it becomes too warm for the jacket.

Mr. Hawkins said he had received letters from many chapters wanting to know when the Supply Service was going to stock Burwood station markers similar to the Sentinel plaque and Ear of Corn. He showed art work which had been made up by the Burwood Company on the additional official stations. These were for the President, Vice President, Treasurer and Reporter. He stated these markers could be sold in a kit or single.

It was moved by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Urton and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers that authorization be given Mr. Hawkins to go ahead with these official station markers and that they be advertised for sale in the next catalogue.

Mr. Hawkins then showed a drawing of a plaque, which would be made of Burwood and would be similar to the Honorary Chapter Farmer Plaque. He said he had received requests for such a plaque to be used

for Outstanding State Farmers. This plaque would have space on it where "Outstanding State Farmer" could be printed. It could also be used for many other awards. The Supply Service could supply this plaque lettered and delivered for about \$1.95.

It was moved by Mr. Watson, seconded by Dr. Tenney and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely that Mr. Hawkins be given authorization to stock this plaque at the Supply Service.

Mr. Hawkins then showed a membership plaque, in which some of the boys had shown some interest. This plaque would have on it the FFA Motto and a space for the boy's name. No action was taken on this plaque.

Dr. Tenney then showed a flag and flag base which had been developed by Mr. Joe Jarvis. Mr. Jarvis was requesting authorization to manufacture this flag and base for sale to local chapters, through the Supply Service, as the official marker for the reporter's station. Since this was not in keeping with the other station markers, it was the feeling of the group that permission not be granted.

Mr. Johnson showed a cap which Mr. Bruce Force of the Osborne Company wished to have adopted as an official FFA cap. The Osborne Company wanted to handle this cap in the same manner they handle the official calendar.

It was moved by Mr. Urton, seconded by Mr. Johnson and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers that this cap not be adopted.

Dr. Spanton read a letter he had received from a shoe firm, who wished to make up FFA shoes. It was moved by Mr. Urton, seconded by Mr. Watson and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers that FFA shoes not be adopted.

Dr. Spanton read a letter which Mr. George Couper, Special Supervisor of Agricultural Education in San Luis Obispo, California, had written to one of the teachers in California. This teacher had asked Mr. Couper about obtaining the large size chenille emblem and letters. Mr. Couper had suggested he contact Dr. Spanton concerning this. It was agreed by the Board that the chenille emblem and letters not be stocked and sold by the Supply Service.

Dr. Tenney then showed a certificate which had been developed for use of Standard and Superior Awards in the National Chapter Award Program, explaining this was to be a ten-year certificate. The Board approved this certificate, however, they felt it should be a five-year certificate. Dr. Tenney then showed the Standard Chapter seal and Superior Chapter seal. These were also approved by the Board.

The next item of business was the FFA Building plans. A motion had been passed at the October meeting that Mr. Barron, Mr. Hawkins, and the Board of Directors proceed with securing detailed specifications and bids for presentation to the Board for consideration at this meeting.

Dr. Spanton said when estimates were gotten on this it was found it would cost between \$4,000. and \$6,000. for plans and specifications. He had polled the Board about this and felt it was best to wait until this meeting so it could be further discussed.

Mr. Hawkins reported that the space situation at the Supply Service had reached its capacity particularly in the warehouse. Something he said would have to be done immediately and it was going to be necessary for him to make such improvements in the old buildings that would give the necessary space and protection. The problem, he felt, was whether or not it would be advisable to spend a certain amount of money to improve the present buildings or think in terms of a new building. He thought plans for a new building had gotten a little out of hand to the point where it would be a major investment. Estimates, he said, had been gotten from three companies on the first section of the building, ranging from \$45,000. to \$80,000.

Dr. Tenney thought the problem was a financial one. He was opposed to the discontinuance of grants to the States from the Supply Service and suggested a lower percentage of grant be given to the States, and that \$20,000 be set aside for the building. Next year the same thing could be done, until about the end of 1956 when there would be enough money to pay for the buildings and still keep the FFA in a sound financial condition.

Mr. Naugher asked how much it would cost to repair the old buildings during that time. Mr. Hawkins stated that his expenses on maintenance have been running about \$4,000. each year. There were not too many extensive repairs to be made inside the buildings but it would cost about \$3,000. or \$4,000. to add on the additional storage space.

Mr. Urton asked what was the object of a two-story building rather than the one-story. Mr. Hawkins said the two-story building would be cheaper. Mr. Johnson added that the FFA building would have to be in harmony with other buildings in that area. In a two-story building, heating and air conditioning is easier and the cost of construction is less. He stated he had spoken to supervisors in three States about this matter and all of them were of the opinion the FFA should construct this building at an early date. They felt that the safety factor was low under present conditions and the cost of insurance high on these old buildings. The States he visited would like to see the construction of a complete unit.

Mr. Watson had written supervisors in his region, asking if they would be in favor of the discontinuance of the grants from the Supply Service and using that money for the building. He received favorable

replies from most of the States. Some of them felt the Supply Service should continue with a small grant so that this practice would not be abandoned. Mr. Watson indicated he would favor continuing a small grant to the States and setting aside some money for building purposes..

Mr. Urton reminded the group of the motion passed in July concerning the grants. This motion was as follows:

"It was moved by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Urton and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely that a grant to the States from the FFA Supply Service be continued this year in the amount of two per cent of the gross sales with an additional one per cent to be placed in a reserve fund; that the States be advised that this grant will be discontinued next year and the money put into a building fund."

Dr. Spanton said that since it seemed to be the consensus of the group that there would be a new building some day, why not go ahead and get the detailed plans and specifications and have them ready for the July meeting. In the meantime, bids could be gotten and further plans could be taken up at that time.

After considerable discussion, it was moved by Mr. Urton, seconded by Mr. Bunten and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely that Mr. Hawkins be given authorization to make the necessary additions to the old buildings for storage, and that detailed plans and specifications for the new building be ready by the July meeting of the Board.

The next item of business was FFA salaries. Mr. Hawkins' salary was reviewed. Mr. Bunten said he would like to see Mr. Hawkins placed in the GS-12 bracket (\$7040.). It was moved by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Bunten and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers that Mr. Hawkins' salary be raised to the base of a GS-12, retroactive to January 1, 1955, that he receive within grade increases the same as Federal employees, and that he follow the same leave regulations.

The salary of Mr. Harry Andrews, Assistant Manager at the Supply Service, was reviewed. It was moved by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Urton and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely that Mr. Andrews' salary be raised to the base of a GS-8 (\$4620.), retroactive to January 1, 1955, and that he receive within grade increases the same as Federal employees.

Mr. Farrar's salary was then reviewed. It was moved by Mr. Urton, seconded by Mr. Hansucker and carried, that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, that Mr. Farrar's salary be raised to the base of a GS-12 (\$7040.) retroactive to January 1, 1955.

The next item of business was the requirement of pictures with the American Farmer Degree applications. Mr. Urton had previously reported that one State in the Central Region favored the discontinuance of pictures with the application. Mr. Urton now reported that a number of other supervisors had expressed the same ideas. Dr. Tenney said the reason this was first done, was that "Progressive Farmer" wanted the pictures for their stories.

It was moved by Mr. Urton, seconded by Mr. Naugher and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely that the practice of requesting pictures be submitted with the American Farmer Degree applications be discontinued, and that this be left up to each State if they wanted to submit pictures.

Mr. Farrar then made a report on the retirement plan for FFA employees. He stated that if time were available a representative of an insurance company offering the plan could be called upon to discuss it and answer any questions. However, since time was not available for this, Mr. Farrar wanted to know whether this program should be dropped or whether he should investigate it further. He said the program he had looked into would supplement Social Security and would provide a retirement plan similar to the Federal retirement system. Mr. Farrar only had a detailed proposal from one insurance company.

The members of the Board were all in agreement that a retirement program should be adopted. It was suggested that Mr. Farrar be instructed to get similar proposals from other companies and report back at the July meeting.

The requirements for the State Farmer Degree were discussed. The convention delegates had passed a motion that the Board of Student Officers and Board of Directors study the matter of qualifications for the State Farmer Degree. It was agreed that this should be taken up at the July meeting.

Mr. Farrar was called upon to explain the request received from "Keep America Beautiful" for the FFA to endorse their program. He stated the organization was set up about two years ago for the purpose of promoting an anti-litter campaign of highways. They have received support from other organizations and had asked the FFA to serve on their advisory committee. In connection with State activities they are setting up State committees. They would like the national office to write to the State associations suggesting they cooperate with the Keep America Beautiful program on the State and local level.

It was moved by Mr. Watson, seconded by Mr. Urton and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely that the FFA endorse the Keep America Beautiful program.

Medical care for the band and chorus members was discussed. Mr. Johnson said that each year he worked with the Red Cross and they keep a room open in the Auditorium to take care of the boys at all times. Mr. Urton felt the boys should be informed there is some one who can take care of them if necessary. If the hotels where these boys are staying do not have resident physicians there should be a doctor on call. Dr. Spanton said the two hotel where the band and chorus stops should be checked to see if they have resident physicians. The men who are supervising the boys at the hotels should be put in a position to advise the boys where they can obtain medical care if there is no doctor in the hotel. It was requested that Mr. Johnson make arrangements for the supervision of medical care for the boys.

Mr. Urton brought up the subject of supervision in the Municipal Auditorium while the convention sessions are in progress. He felt that the Kansas City police force should be contacted and they be requested to have a few patrolmen check the corridors of the Auditorium while the program is in progress. Mr. Hansucker thought that the ushers this past year had done a fine job in keeping order in the Auditorium. Mr. Dunten said it was difficult to select boys to take over usher jobs when you arrive in Kansas City. He thought it would be worthwhile to have about twenty ushers. A state association could be put in charge of it. This could be put on a rotation basis with a different State handling it each year. That way it would be organized before the boys come into Kansas City. Mr. Bunten also felt it penalized a boy to have him serve as an usher for three days, and that a different group should be assigned each day. It was agreed this would be discussed further at the July meeting and plans would then be made.

Dr. Tenney gave a suggested list of speakers for the coming national convention, explaining that they would all not speak at the convention but this was just a list to work from. He suggested the following individuals: President Eisenhower; Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare Oveta Culp Hobby; Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson; former President Harry S. Truman; and Henry Ford. The list was approved by the Board.

The next item of business was a proposal for a school for delegates on Monday afternoon before the Public Speaking Contest. It was explained that the Officer-Delegate Luncheon was originally planned to give the delegates instructions and some briefing on the convention by the national officers. However, there was not much time for this. Dr. Tenney stated that usually there was only about 70 per cent of the delegates at this luncheon. Mr. Urton said the delegates don't come in time for the luncheon because nothing starts until the next day. Dr. Tenney stated that in the past the luncheon was used as an ice breaker. The delegates get acquainted with the national officers and have a chance to get on their feet. The national parliamentarian gives brief instructions on parliamentary procedure and the president instructs delegates on procedures in conducting the convention.

The national officers were asked to express their opinions on the luncheon and school for instructing delegates. Jay Wright didn't believe the luncheon should be discontinued but thought after it was over everyone could be asked to leave the room with the exception of the national officers and official delegates. Instructions could then be given. Bobby Futrelle thought the delegates could be instructed on things that would be taken up during the convention. The delegates would then have time to think the business over. Billy Gunter thought the idea of a school was a good one and thought that officers and delegates could meet for about an hour immediately after the luncheon. Lowell Gisselbeck said it could be made clear that the delegates are not to go on the tours.

It was moved by Mr. Urton, seconded by Mr. Bunten and carried that the Board of Directors accept the recommendation of the Board of Student Officers, namely that the officer-delegate luncheon should proceed as in the past but that an executive session immediately following the luncheon be held, consisting of the national officers, official delegates and national parliamentarian, to go into procedures that will be followed during the convention. The National Executive Secretary is to notify the States in advance of this and prepare an itemized list that should be given to the delegates.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

A. W. Tenney

A. W. Tenney, Secretary

W. T. Spanton

W. T. Spanton, Chairman