Meeting was called to order at 10:07 in the Boardroom at the State FFA Center by Chair Kristi Mattes. Present were: Kristi Mattes, George Green, Randy Mendes, Kevin Woodard, John Moffatt, Josiah Mayfield, Katie Otto, Mike Clifford, Lloyd McCabe, Jim Aschwanden, Ryan Bentz, Sandy Dale, Troy Van Bavel, Carole Lindsey and Matt Patton.

Green asked to add to license plate fees to the end of Aschwanden's report to make it clear.

Kevin Woodard moved to approve the minutes as changed. It was seconded and the motions passed by voice vote.

Aschwanden gave the executive directors report. Jim stated that after meetings with CDFA that the agreement is understood and that the FFA should get the proper amount of vehicle registration fees. This could be a major fundraiser for FFA. This money will be a backfield for AB8 money that we no longer receive.

The CTE Incentive Grant will be available to districts sometime this year. The fear is that some of the money will go to schools that do not have CTE programs at their school. The saving grace is that the 10 quality criteria must be followed.

In terms for the CTE Grants the Central Region and the North Coast. Mark Anglin has been hired by CATA to facilitate the Central Region grant.

Nor Cal Beverage Company has approached CATA to help find quality employees. They want to meet with Ag Teachers in the Central Valley to find out how they can recruit our kids. This is an exciting opportunity for Agriculture Programs in the state.

On the down side, we have a shortage of Ag Teachers and we need to do something about it. We trained about 60 teachers and we need 80.

Katie Otto gave the following reports:

2014/2015 Association Budget Activity - The attendance in all conferences was up significantly. The profit for the year was $194,067.07 and our estimate was $160,000 so we are doing well in terms of staying within the budget. There was a question about the hotel/facility costs for State Conference. There was over a 100% increase. Jim and Katie will look into it and get back to the board.

2014/2015 Regional Budget Activity – Central Region was slightly over budget. Superior also showed a loss. All other regions stayed within their budget

Green moved to approve the 2014/2015 Budgets. It was seconded and the motion passed by voice vote.

2015/2016 Association Budget Activity – Greenhand Conference expenses will be higher due to adding more conferences and the purchase of new equipment and materials. National Convention numbers are way up. ROLC has significantly more expenses due to changing to a new site. Mayfield stated that the three regions that went Kayaking will pay for that out of their regional budgets. It should be about
$3000. There was discussion on the possible need to increase the budget for the hotels and facilities for state leadership conference to reflect the significant increase from last year.

2015/2016 Regional Budget Activity – The Central Region Budget has some significant changes. COLC will go up based on staying at a hotel versus a high school. Added $5000 for Proficiency. Other expenses were adjusted to balance the budget. There is $42000 from Zoetis that will be used. All other regions are showing normal activity.

Clifford moved to approve the 2015/2016 Budget Reports. It was seconded and the motion passed by voice vote.

Otto reported on the FFA Center Renovations – McCarthy Building Company did a great job and came in just over budget.

Mattes gave a report on the FFA/Foundation/CATA Reorganization – The FFA Adult Board of Directors serves the students by managing the Association Budget. There are concerns about how the FFA budget will be affected.

Otto reported on the Sailors Lawsuit – There will be some resolution on this by the end of the week. The good that came out of this is that we reviewed and made changes to some our contracts. There have been several depositions. There was some discussion about the possibility of retaining the services of a law firm.

New Business

Aschwanden reported on FFA Staff Changes – With the resignation of Amy Mathis Jim recommended Katie Otto for that open position but suggested that they open the position and interview other people. After the Foundation interviewed Katie they wanted to hire her right away. This would be a half time position so it would leave a halftime position that would be half of Katie’s current position. The foundation believed that they may get a more qualified person if they were able to make it a full time position. Half would be an FFA position and half would be paid for by the Central Region CTE Grant to assist Mark Anglin. Natile Pacheco was hired and will be housed at the FFA center. The foundation wanted supervision of their employee. They budgeted $20,000 to pay for part of the salary for the executive director. CATA is getting a benefit by not paying $20000 in rent. For this savings the FFA will get in-kind assistance from the executive director. There will be no cost in salaries from the FFA to the executive director. In terms of the FFA board, Jim will not vote as part of this board and does not see himself as part of this board but feels like CATA does need to have representation on this board. Jim does not feel that this reorganization does not adversely affect the students in anyway.

McCabe stated that he need to have someone to oversee the FFA center and CDE employees. Jim would be the best for this position.

There was discussion about who is the director accountable to. There has to be structure to this position and it has to be recorded as such so that all the entities are getting what they need from the director. The fiscal responsibility is the Foundation at $20000, the FFA at $20000 and the CATA at $80000.

Green stated that we need to have a structure in place so that when the current director steps down or when the leadership changes that it is clear what their responsibility is.