

AGRICULTURAL VOCATIONAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Sacramento CA

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 25-26, 1982

Members present October 25:

Laura Tower, Chairperson  
Kenneth Aoyama  
David Austin  
Jack Chappell  
Mark Linder  
Joe Martinez  
Tracy Schortman

Members absent:

Joe Camarillo  
Jan Eberly  
Patrick Emery  
Jack Richardson  
John Thurman  
Robert Trigg  
Marden Wilber

Staff present:

Jerry Biggs  
Pat Langlin  
Genevieve Marsden  
Don Wilson

Others present

Judy Culbertson, California Farm Bureau Federation, Sacramento  
Ken Harris, California Agricultural Teachers Association, Sacramento

The October 25th meeting was held in the Board Room, California Farm Bureau Federation, 1601 Exposition Boulevard, Sacramento. It was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Chairperson Laura Tower.

Consumer Outreach

Mrs. Tower asked Mr. Wilson to start the discussion on this topic. He referred to Senate Bill 187 which states this Committee is charged with making recommendations which shall include "a *Consumer Education Outreach strategy regarding the importance of agriculture in California.*" Mr. Linder asked why this was included in the bill, and Mr. Wilson replied the authors of the bill believe agriculture is the most important industry in the state and it is of central importance to the economy and the people of California. This portion of Senate Bill 187 must be addressed by the

Committee and a plan developed for integrating it in the public schools for grades K-12. Mrs. Langlin asked if the Farm Bureau could do this. Mr. Wilson indicated the Department of Education and the Farm Bureau might want to work on this as a cooperative effort. Mr. Linder expressed belief that this is minor; that Vocational Education is more important. There was a discussion about what other agencies may have developed on this subject. Mr. Martinez believes the Committee should come up with some guidelines, and then the Department of Education could appoint an individual to coordinate this with a representative from industry.

It was suggested that perhaps a committee composed of a person from each of the units (Agricultural Education, Adult Education, Secondary Education, and Elementary Education) could work with the State Grange and Farm Bureau to come up with a program on Consumer Outreach Education. Mark Linder said he is already working with Jack Parks in the Department of Education's Instructional Services.

#### Farm Bureau's Agricultural Education Project

Mark Linder and his Assistant, Judy Culbertson, distributed packets of materials the California Farm Bureau Federation has developed. Then they presented a slide program dealing with their "Farm Day" activities. Mr. Linder said their organization has designed this program to give students in grades four and five an opportunity to gain first hand knowledge about agriculture. So far the program has been presented in the San Francisco Bay Area, and plans are being made to expand this to other urban areas such as San Diego and Los Angeles. The Farm Bureau has also provided one-day field trips for students and workshops for teachers in connection with their Agricultural Education program. Their efforts have been received enthusiastically, and they have had excellent television coverage of it.

A discussion was held on advisory committees and communities getting involved in developing "consumer outreach" programs in their own localities, possibly for different grade levels such as 2-5; 6-8; and 9-12. Mark Linder asked if the Committee might want to consider recommending the Farm Bureau's program. Joe Martinez believes this would be a good idea. They have a good program, and consideration should be given to it rather than having others duplicate their efforts. He also believes that this should be a part of the fifth year teacher preparation program for all teachers, not just Ag Teachers. There was further discussion on ways to get local involvement in community outreach endeavors.

The meeting recessed at 8:30 p.m. and reconvened at 8:55 p.m.

#### Fresno Unified School District's School Farm

Mrs. Tower saw an article in the CALIFORNIA FARMER on this program and asked Jerry Biggs to report on it since Joe Camarillo was not able to attend the meeting. Mr. Biggs said the district is strongly committed to increasing the awareness of students to agriculture at all levels - elementary, junior high, and high school. They have three full time teachers. Three years ago VEA money became available to them, and they used it to develop school farm facilities for their vocational agriculture program. Mr. Biggs also

stated he has received many requests from high school principals for information that can be used in General Agriculture classes. He does not have much available and usually sends them "Food for America." Mr. Biggs indicated that if the Committee wishes more information on the Fresno program, it might be possible to have the Director come to Sacramento to talk to the group. Mrs. Tower said she thought it might be another source of information on Consumer Outreach. Mr. Biggs said they are in need of information; that they are not a source of information at this time.

There was some discussion on the possibility of getting the FFA and the Assistant State FFA Advisor involved in Consumer Outreach. There was also some discussion about the appropriateness of this and getting the vo-ag teachers heavily involved since they are already extremely busy with regularly scheduled vo-ag activities. Mrs. Langlin believes that industry should handle this and that vo-ag teachers should not be asked to do something industry is already doing well. Mr. Linder agreed and said they have used 4-H and FFA members in portions of their programs because the agriculture teachers have not had time. He again indicated that if the Farm Bureau received support for their activities, it would go a long way toward encouraging them to continue their efforts.

There was discussion concerning the appropriateness of the Committee "endorsing" particular programs at this time. The group is to report to the Legislature and the State Board of Education. If they endorse or recommend particular programs at this time, they might receive a flood of similar requests for endorsements, and the Committee does not have the time or facilities to do this.

Following discussion of what should be included in recommendations for a "consumer education outreach strategy", Laura Tower and Tracy Schortman volunteered to take suggestions and draft recommendations for the Committee to review on October 26.

Mrs. Tower thanked Mr. Linder and the Farm Bureau for making their meeting room facilities available again, and the meeting recessed at 9:50 p.m.

Reconvene - Tuesday, October 26, 1982

The meeting reconvened at 8:10 a.m., in Room 166-A, State Education Building, 721 Capitol Mall, Sacramento.

Members present:

Laura Tower, Chairperson  
David Austin  
Jack Chappell  
Jan Eberly  
Patrick Emery  
Mark Linder  
Joe Martinez  
Tracy Schortman  
Robert Trigg  
Marden Wilber

Members absent:

Kenneth Aoyama  
Joe Camarillo  
Jack Richardson  
John Thurman

Staff present:

Jerry Biggs  
Pat Langlin  
Genevieve Marsden  
Don Wilson

Others present:

Ken Harris, California Agricultural Teachers Association, Sacramento

Adoption of Minutes, September 27-28, 1982

These minutes were discussed. Several questions were asked by Committee members who had not been able to attend.

ACTION: It was moved by Tracy Schortman, seconded by Mark Linder that the Minutes of the September 27-28, 1982 meeting be adopted as written.

The motion passed.

Committee Business

No items were brought up, and the group went to the next topic.

## Staff Reports

Mr. Wilson gave an update on the Regional Supervisor situation. Warren Reed and Sandy Beck are being allowed to finish their September and October commitments. Effective November 1, the five remaining Regional Supervisors will spend full time on Agricultural Education.

A discussion followed on the difficulties which will arise by having only five Regional Supervisors to cover the seven FFA and CATA regions. Mr. Chappell reported that a Regional CATA Meeting was held last Saturday in the San Joaquin Region, and the vo-ag teachers were deeply concerned that all of the work is to be handled by only five people. Jan Eberly also indicated concern about five people handling seven FFA regions. Mrs. Langlin said she and Don Wilson are still working with the Regional Coordinators on this problem.

Pat Langlin said she and her staff are working with the ROP people, trying to come up with the information the Committee has requested on funding. She said her staff has developed forms to collect the information, and they believe if the information is collected before January 1, the ROP people will not have to supply it again to satisfy the provisions of the Johnston bill.

## Consumer Outreach

The group again considered this subject and the statements which had been drafted by Laura Tower and Tracy Schortman on October 25. Several suggestions were made including having the regional supervisors and state supervisor come up with outreach segments that could be portions of each local department's program; having adult and Young Farmer support; having the Committee continue to work on and refine a statement; having the Committee endorse the Farm Bureau program; deleting this from Committee consideration because it is just one more piece of work someone else will have to do; sending a letter to the Farm Bureau encouraging them to continue with their activities in agricultural education.

ACTION: It was moved by David Austin, seconded by Jack Chappell that the Chairperson send a letter to the Farm Bureau encouraging their continued support and expansion of their agricultural education activities.

The motion passed.

The Committee decided to come back to the group's Consumer Outreach statement later in the meeting.

## Staff Projection on FTE

Mr. Wilson stated that each Regional Supervisor had reported to him on the total number of vocational agriculture teachers in each region. The total is 621 teachers for Agricultural Education, grades 9-12, in the seven regions, with a total of 532.34 full time equivalent teachers. The largest

number of teachers working outside of Agricultural Education is to be found in the Southwestern Region (primarily in the Los Angeles Unified School District). The 1982-83 projections will be about the same for the total number of teachers, but the FTE will probably drop to 500.

By applying the proposed standard of 60 students for each teacher (500 X 60), you come up with about 30,000 students.

With 11.6 to 13.2 ADAs generated for each full time teaching assignment, you arrive at twenty-two to twenty-four million dollars, resulting in a need for ten to twelve million additional dollars. As stated earlier, some of this is already in VEA and ROP funding which might be diverted to Agricultural Education. After further discussion, the Committee asked Jerry Biggs to come up with a written statement which the group could review. (See Attachment 1.)

### Order of Standards

Mrs. Tower brought this subject up. The other members of the Committee did not express opinions about their current placement. Mr. Wilson said the numbers did not indicate priority. There was no further discussion on this, and the meeting recessed at 9:35 a.m. The meeting reconvened at 10:10 a.m.

Mark Linder distributed copies of their letter on resources available to teachers. This is still in draft form. A final one will be available shortly.

### Implementation plan

Mr. Wilson excerpted material from the Biggs Committee Report and mailed it to the members of the Committee on October 6, 1982. The group had been requested to review it and come to the meeting with suggestions for improving it or coming up with another method of putting a quality Vocational Agricultural Education program in the school system.

Discussion followed on private schools providing agricultural education. It was pointed out that several private and parochial schools do offer vocational agriculture courses; however, by Federal regulations, they are prevented from participating in the Future Farmers of America and obtaining Federal Vocational Education Funds. Some of them might be eligible for ROP funding, but none can meet VEA requirements.

Patrick Emery objected to all of the rationale or justification statements in the materials presented in the Biggs Committee Report. He said he would not want to cope with all of those statements and details. He believes the Committee should merely list the requirements. Mr. Wilson indicated that past experience with Department of Education administrators made rationale and justification statements necessary.

In the discussion on state staffing for the Vocational Education Unit, Mr. Chappell again stated that seven regional supervisors, and specific guidelines on their responsibilities, are necessary. Mrs. Langlin said this

involves additional funding, and none is available. A discussion followed on the matter of one full-time supervisor for each 50 agricultural education programs. Mr. Trigg objected and said this would open the door for all other subject areas to demand this even if the financial picture gets worse. Mr. Biggs indicated that most of the other states have even smaller supervisory areas than this. Jack Chappell said the Committee is charged with developing a quality vocational agriculture program, which means that adequate supervision is required. It was again pointed out that the Committee is to come up with a quality program for the whole State in connection with the State's number one industry. Mrs. Langlin objected to having the State Supervisor of Agricultural Education report directly to the State Director of Vocational Education. She said that Mr. Wilson does not always get all of the information and materials made available to the other Program Managers through their Vocational Education Administrator. There was considerable discussion on this point.

The discussion again centered on seven regional supervisors. Mr. Chappell believes the Committee must recommend seven, and Mr. Harris agreed, indicating that having only five will cost more money than would be spent on seven. Mrs. Tower said Senate Bill 187 states the Unit shall be comprised of an "appropriate" number of full-time employees. Mr. Emery and Mrs. Langlin said the Committee could recommend any number. Mr. Wilson gave some information on the past history of Agricultural Education staffing and the filling of positions in the other subject matter areas.

Mr. Austin asked about the cost of seven vs. five supervisors and their geographic locations. Mr. Wilson said the Department, over the years, had tried both central and geographic locations. It is cheaper, especially now with rising prices of gasoline, lodging, etc., to have the regional supervisors located close to the school sites they supervise. Jack Chappell agreed, saying that it is going to cost more to have only five supervisors because their areas will be much larger, and they will be required to travel a lot more to cover their regions.

There was much discussion about the delivery system proposed by the Biggs Committee. The group decided to call it an "implementation plan" and delete the rationale or explanations. The question of funding arose again. The Committee agreed on the "Proposed Implementation Plan for Agricultural Education in California". (See Attachment 2.)

#### Curriculum Recommendations

There was some discussion about the curriculum materials presentation made by Jean Landeen to the Committee at its May 24, 1982 meeting. Jack Chappell said that vocational agriculture teachers were heavily involved and had excellent input in the development of these materials.

**ACTION:** It was moved by Jack Chappell, seconded by Joe Martinez that the Agricultural Education in California program be based on these Curriculum Guidelines and that the present review and update process be continued.

The motion passed.

It was pointed out that presently there is no money available for curriculum guidelines development in General Education in Agriculture. Several of the Committee members believe such guidelines should be developed by the State Supervisor of Agricultural Education in cooperation with agricultural industry representatives.

### Observers Reports

When asked for his report, Ken Harris said he hoped the Committee would continue to be concerned about Vocational Education in Agriculture and not worry about other subject matter areas.

### Adult Education Standards

Several of the Committee members feel they should not be involved with this topic in spite of a request from Senator Nielsen for them to come up with recommendations. Mr. Emery and Mr. Linder moved to delete all reference to it in the Committee's report. The motion failed. Mr. Martinez indicated he liked the Biggs Committee's Standard No. 15 - Adult Education and believes it should be put back in the standards. Ms. Schortman made a motion that Adult Education be included in the report after Consumer Outreach and indicate that it be operated on the local level. There was a discussion about using the Minimum Compliance Criteria as Guidelines.

ACTION: It was moved by Tracy Schortman, seconded by Joe Martinez that Adult Education be covered by a statement in the Committee's report, after it deals with Consumer Outreach, and that Minimum Guidelines be included. (See Attachment 3.)

The motion passed.

### Miscellaneous Recommendations

Several members of the Committee indicated they should be giving some thought to recommendations they might make on future legislation if the State Board of Education shelves their report.

### Preparation for the Final Report and Recommendations

Laura Tower, Tracy Schortman, and Don Wilson will meet on Wednesday, November 3, 1982 to work on a draft of the Committee's final report. Any of the other members who will be in the area on that date are invited to participate. They will meet in the Cafeteria, Second Floor of the State Education Building, 721 Capitol Mall, Sacramento.

### Next Meeting of the Committee and Agenda

The next meeting of the total Committee will be held on Tuesday, November 30, 1982, in Room 166-B of the State Education Building, 721 Capitol Mall, Sacramento, starting at 8:00 a.m., adjourning at 5:00 p.m.

The agenda will include:

- Staff Reports on the ROP/C Funding
- Committee's reaction to the first draft of the report

Mrs. Tower requested the Committee members to send suggestions to her for additional items.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.