

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION
STATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 1985

FARM BUREAU BUILDING
1601 EXPOSITION BOULEVARD

The meeting of the California Agricultural Vocational Education Advisory Committee was called to order at 10:15 a.m. on Friday, March 29, 1985 at the Boardroom in the Farm Bureau Building, 1601 Exposition Blvd., President Larry Rathbun presided.

Introductions were made and roll was taken showing the following members present:

Ms. Tracy Schortman
Steve Olson
Joe Martinez
Mark Linder

Jack Chappell
Joe Nunez
Mrs. Laura Tower
Bob Dempel

Also present were:

Don Wilson
Warren Reed

Sandy Beck
Ken Harris

Mr. & Mrs. Emile La Salle were present after 1:00 p.m..

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as mailed.

A discussion of general information concerning vocational education was held. Laura Tower reported on hearings conducted during February & March. It seems apparent (Laura said) that teachers have a great deal of interest in vocational education and wish to talk about vocational education with someone.

It was felt that a letter from Dr. Rathbun to the agriculture Six Pac should be sent to express our concern over what is happening in Vocational Education and particularly in agricultural education.

Larry reported on letters he had written concerning joint funding for preservice. There is no strong indication on what funding will be available. Larry is still trying to get a committment from CC people.

A discussion was held on the Deans of Agriculture meeting and our desire to get support concerning college entrance requirements. Bob Dempel did visit with Charles Hess of U.C. Davis. He said he was supportive. Dr. Rathbun reported that he had visited with the agriculture Liason Committee.

The committee appears not to be in a working relationship with the group from which they emanate. Larry had an opportunity to visit with the entire group. A motion did come from the group to write a letter expressing a concern on the college entrance requirements. The letter should go out before Easter.

Mark Linder reported on the Farm Bureau Work on agricultural education. The program has been in place since 1980. The program was initiated in San Francisco. Since that time the program has moved out into other districts including the rural areas. Mark handed out a prepared packet and presented a short movie and video on their program. The program is growing and getting a great deal of support. This program does fit the "Outreach" portion of the original 187 report and the bill which legislated the committee.

Don Wilson gave an update on staffing. There has been no change or resolution of the problem of secretarial help. Don reported that he had turned in a request to take terminal vacation prior to retiring. The vacation was granted. Don requested that the position be filled by giving an examination (promotion from staff) they have tentatively agreed to this and are starting to put the paper together.

A discussion was held to update the group on the State Plan Federal Supplement Hearing. Jack Chappell reported that most of the input in the Fresno hearing favored standards and that of these were Ag-people. The hearing was well organized. The LA hearing also was well organized and Larry Rathbun reported that a great many of the people spoke in favor of standards. The Sacramento hearing also was positive. About 1/3 of the testimony was negative to standards many spoke in favor. The State Board presented a paper which purported to serve legal notice that standards were probably not legal.

Ken Harris gave a report on legislation that affects Ag. Vocational Ed. AB 541 (Jones) pertaining to the Field Act and excluding certain buildings from the act. There are a number of legislators who have co-authored the bill. It will be heard on April 9th. It was agreed that Larry Rathbun would write a letter of support to the author of the bill.

The second bill discussed was SB 1214 (Nielson) which will be out of legislative council today (Friday, March 29th). It has changed from its first reading with author amendments. Larry will write a letter in support.

The next item of business concerned a report by Emile La Salle on the subject of "FFA integral to instruction". Emile discussed the problem which exists in the Atascadero District. That district at one time held to a policy that FFA was extra curricular and not integral to the instruction program. A discussion was held concerning what might be action that could be taken by the Agricultural Education State Advisory Council.

Laura Tower moved that this item be moved to the agenda of the next meeting and that a committee be appointed to prepare material for the committee, including a letter that might be mailed to all local advisory committers of local programs. Tracy Schortman seconded the motion. The motion passed. It was suggested that we look into the incentive grant program to see if we could mandate local compliance to the accepted ideas of FFA integral to instruction. This idea was resolved after an explanation of the present process.

Mark Linder reported on the Life Lab Curriculum. He reported that the Curriculum was changed to reflect the concerns of this committee. Life lab has introduced a bill asking for state funds of \$250,000.

The next meeting will be held at San Luis Obispo on June 26th at the State Ag Teacher Conference.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m..