

10/31, 1988

CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION FFA

Fall State Executive Committee Meeting
Sacramento, California
California Farm Bureau Federation Board Room
October 31 - November 1, 1988
10:00 a.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

A meeting of the State Executive Committee of the California Association of Future Farmers of America was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by State President Roland Fumasi at the California Farm Bureau Federation Board Room in Sacramento, California on October 31, 1988.

The following members were present: Fumasi, Joshua F. W. Cook, State Vice President; Kristi A. Sowells, State Treasurer; Joel W. Gonzales, State Reporter; John J. Grice, State Sentinel; Kathy M. Almond, Past State President; Matt Bell, Southwestern Region President; Rusty Bechtold, Southern Region President; Diana Barbosa, South Coast Region President; Jenny Thomas, San Joaquin Region President; Ed Vaca, Superior Region President; Stacey Hicks, Central Region President; Mr. Tom Munter, State Assistant Advisor; and Mr. Mark Linder, California Farm Bureau Representative.

II. WELCOME

Mr. Mark Linder welcomed the group to the State Farm Bureau building. He discussed the recently published report regarding Agriculture In The Classroom as well as agriculture literacy. He also provided information about the Young Farmers and Ranchers program and encouraged the group to take advantage of its opportunities. Young Farmers and Ranchers leaflets were distributed and questions were answered.

Mr. Linder left at 10:16.

III. CONSIDERATION OF TOPICS

1. Approval of Spring Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Sowells/Barbosa moved/seconded to accept the minutes of the Spring Executive Committee Meeting as mailed. Motion passed by voice vote.

2. Approval of 1988 State Leadership Conference Minutes

Minutes were unavailable at this time and will be dealt with at the next meeting.

3. Proposed amendments to the National Constitution

Cook read each of the 19 proposed amendments to the National FFA Constitution as well as the rationale behind the amendments.

Sowells/Hicks moved/seconded that California delegates vote in favor of proposed amendment #1. Debate followed. Motion passed, seven in favor and four opposed. (This motion was later reconsidered and amended to insert the words "we recommend" between "that" and "California".)

Holly Crawford, North Coast Region President, joined the meeting at 10:35.

Thomas/Bell moved/seconded that California delegates vote in favor of National Constitutional amendment #2. Debate followed. Motion passed by voice vote. (This motion was also later reconsidered and amended to insert the words "we recommend" between "that" and "California".)

Gonzales/Sowells moved/seconded that California delegates vote in favor of National Constitutional amendment #3. Motion passed by voice vote. (This motion was later reconsidered and amended to insert the words "we recommend" between "that" and "California".)

Hicks/Cook moved/seconded to recommend a "do not pass" on National Constitutional amendment #4. Discussion followed.

Bell/Bechtold moved/seconded to amend the motion by striking out the words "recommend a do not pass" and inserting the words "vote against".

Point of order was called regarding the amendment. Point of order was ruled out of order by the chair.

Bell moved to withdraw the amendment. Seeing no objections, the amendment was withdrawn.

Cook/Thomas moved/seconded Previous Question. Previous Question passed with twelve in favor and zero against.

The main motion failed with a standing vote of four in favor and eight against.

Fumasi informed the group that action had to be taken on the proposed amendment and that another motion would be in order.

Gonzales/Thomas moved/seconded to recommend a "yes" vote on National Constitutional amendment #4. Motion passed by voice vote.

Cook/Sowells moved/seconded to reconsider National Constitutional amendments #1, #2, and #3. The motion to reconsider passed by voice vote.

Thomas/Barbosa moved/seconded to amend National Constitutional amendments #1, #2, and #3 by inserting the words "we recommend" between the words "that" and "California". The amendment passed by voice vote.

The vote on National Constitutional amendments #1, #2, and #3 as amended passed by voice vote.

Bell/Barbosa moved/seconded that delegates from California vote in favor of National Constitutional amendment #5. The motion passed by voice vote.

Hicks/Thomas moved/seconded to recommend a "do pass" vote on National Constitutional amendment #6. Debate followed.

Barbosa/Hicks moved/seconded Previous Question. Previous Question passed with nine in favor and three opposed.

Main motion passed by a voice vote.

Thomas/Hicks moved/seconded to recommend a "do not pass" on amendment #7. Debate followed.

Bechtold/Bell moved/seconded Previous Question. Previous Question passed, nine in favor and three against.

Main motion passed by voice vote.

Cook recommended to the group that National Constitutional amendments #8, #9, and #11 be dealt with as a combined package.

Thomas/Grice moved/seconded that the State Executive Committee recommend a "do pass" on amendments #8, #9, and #11. Debate followed. Motion passed by voice vote.

Grice/Bell moved/seconded to recommend a "yes" vote on National Constitutional amendment #10. Debate followed. Motion passed by voice vote.

Cook/Thomas moved/seconded to reconsider National Constitutional amendment #6. The motion to reconsider failed, six in favor and six opposed.

Point of order regarding the vote was called. The chair ruled the point out of order.

Thomas/Gonzales moved/seconded that the State Executive Committee recommend a "do pass" on amendment #12. Motion passed by voice vote.

Gonzales/Cook moved/seconded to recommend a "yes" vote on National Constitutional amendment #13. Debate followed. Motion passed by voice vote.

Barbosa/Vaca moved/seconded to recommend a "yes" vote on National Constitutional amendment #14. Debate followed.

Bechtold/Hicks moved/seconded Previous Question. Previous Question passed with nine in favor and three opposed.

Main motion passed by voice vote.

Cook recommended to the group the National Constitutional amendment items #15, 16, and 19 be dealt with as a combined package.

Bell/Sowells moved/seconded to recommend a "do pass" on National Constitutional amendments #15, #16, and #19. Debate followed.

Hicks/Thomas moved/seconded to amend the motion by deleting the word "recommend" and inserting in its place the word "vote". Debate followed.

Gonzales/Bechtold moved/seconded to Previous Question on all pending matters. Previous Question on all pending matters passed with eleven in favor and one opposed.

Vote on the amendment to the main motion passed by voice vote.

Vote on the main motion as amended passed by voice vote.

Vaca/Cook moved/seconded to recommend a "do pass" on National Constitutional amendment #17. Debate followed. Motion failed by voice vote.

Bell/Sowells moved/seconded to recommend a "do not pass" on amendment #17. Motion passed by voice vote.

Gonzales/Grice moved/seconded to recommend a "yes" vote on National Constitutional amendment #18. Debate followed. Motion passed by voice vote.

4. National Convention Trip

Mr. Munter informed the group that a huge turnout from California was expected at the National Convention. He also explained that either a regional President or regional representative should be available while on the convention trip for bed checks, bus loading, etc.

5. National FFA Convention Committee Work

Almond stated that she would be serving as co-chairperson of the National Contests Committee. If anyone had any concerns, Almond encouraged them to contact her.

Fumasi stated that he was serving on the National Leadership Conference for State Officers Committee.

Cook was unsure, at the time, of his committee assignments.

Wendi L. Adams, State Secretary, was not present to explain her committee assignments.

6. New and Reinstated Chapters

Mr. Munter stated that the following chapters were either newly chartered or reinstated:

New chapters: Auburn-Chana, Wheatland
Reinstated: Oxnard, New Cuyama

Barbosa/Thomas moved/seconded to approve the reinstated chapters as well as the newly chartered chapters. Motion passed by voice vote.

7. Chapter Suspensions

Mr. Munter stated that the following chapters were not represented at the State Leadership Conference and that no letter explaining their absence was received; however, phone contact had been made. The chapters are: Crescent City-Del Norte, Vacaville, Modesto-Beyer, and Clarksburg-Delta.

Sowells/Thomas moved/seconded to place the chapters on probation requesting a letter explaining their absence in writing and providing evidence that the chapter will be represented at the next State Leadership Conference. The motion passed by voice vote.

Mr. Munter provided letters (if one had been received) and background information to the group regarding the reasons why the following chapters were not represented at the State Leadership Conference. After reading each letter and reviewing the reasons why the chapter was not in attendance, the State Executive Committee took the following actions:

Cook/Bell moved/seconded to reinstate the Dixon FFA Chapter. Motion passed by voice vote.

Crawford/Thomas moved/seconded to reinstate the Covelo-Round Valley FFA Chapter. Motion passed by voice vote.

Bechtold/Grice moved/seconded to reinstate the San Bernardino FFA Chapter. Motion passed by voice vote.

Sowells/Gonzales moved/seconded to reinstate the Fairfield FFA Chapter. Motion passed by voice vote.

Barbosa/Thomas moved/seconded to drop the Fremont-Newark ROP Chapter charter. Motion passed by voice vote.

Cook/Grice moved/seconded that the Napa-Vintage FFA Chapter be placed on probation until such documentation can be provided stating that they will attend the State Conference in coming years and that the State Assistant Advisor draft a letter addressing the points brought up in the letter received from John Pearson, Napa-Vintage FFA Advisor. Motion passed by voice vote.

Barbosa/Vaca moved/seconded to reinstate the Pleasanton-Foothill FFA Chapter. Motion passed by voice vote.

Gonzales/Sowells moved/seconded to reinstate the Lodi-Tokay FFA Chapter. Motion passed by voice vote.

Vaca/Bechtold moved/seconded to reinstate the Newman-Orestimba FFA Chapter. Motion passed by voice vote.

Crawford/Thomas moved/seconded to reinstate the Woodlake FFA Chapter. Motion passed by voice vote.

Vaca/Bell moved/seconded to drop the Beaumont FFA Chapter charter. Motion passed by voice vote.

Sowells/Gonzales moved/seconded to reinstate the El Centro FFA Chapter. Motion passed by voice vote.

Barbosa/Bechtold moved/seconded to reinstate Hemet Jr. High FFA Chapter. Motion passed by voice vote.

Sowells/Gonzales moved/seconded to suspend the LaPuente-Nogales FFA Chapter. Motion passed by voice vote.

Cook/Barbosa moved/seconded to suspend the Los Angeles-Roosevelt FFA Chapter. Motion passed by voice vote.

Hicks/Gonzales moved/seconded to reinstate the Rowland Heights FFA Chapter. Motion passed by voice vote.

Gonzales/Crawford moved/seconded to reinstate the Yermo-Silver Valley FFA Chapter. Motion passed by voice vote.

Cook/Bechtold moved/seconded to reinstate the San Fernando FFA Chapter. Motion passed by voice vote.

Gonzales/Hicks moved/seconded to suspend the Torrance-Southern California ROP FFA Chapter. Motion passed by voice vote.

8. New Chapter Award Application

Grice spoke and presented the new "Three For One" Combined Chapter Award Application. Mr. Munter answered questions regarding the new check-off system for the application.

Barbosa/Thomas moved/seconded to accept the new Chapter Award Application as is.

Cook/Crawford moved/seconded to amend the motion by adding at the end "and commend the Assistant State FFA Advisor for developing the combined chapter award application".

The amendment passed by a voice vote.

The main motion as amended passed by a voice vote.

9. New Proficiency Award Application

Mr. Munter introduced the new State Proficiency Award application. He also gave background information pertaining to the application's revision.

Gonzales/Thomas moved/seconded to direct the Assistant State Advisor to revise the new proficiency award application, taking into account the feedback from teachers, and that the application go into affect this school year. Discussion followed.

Grice/Bechtold moved/seconded to Previous Question. Previous Question passed with ten in the affirmative and two opposed.

The main motion passed by voice vote.

Mr. Munter left at 3:05 p.m.

Due to Mr. Munter leaving early, items #10, #11, #12, and #13 were passed up until he returned.

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10. Proficiency Award Interviews

Sowells informed the committee about the new procedure for selecting State Proficiency Award winners. An interview will be held in conjunction with the State Leadership Conference. The top three finalists in each area will be interviewed and selected by a panel, which will include a representative from the sponsoring company or corporation. Questions regarding the new procedure were answered by Sowells.

11. State Advisor Remarks

Warren Reed commended the committee on its job serving FFA and encouraged the group to continue. He also discussed several issues regarding the following:

- the recently published report concerning agriculture education
- the recently held video conference and its relation to the California Association of Future Farmers of America
- The National Council on Vocational and Technical Education Study Report
- the National Conference on Agriscience

12. State Star Award Programs

Gonzales informed the committee that the delegates from the 1988 State Leadership Conference had referred the possibility of establishing a program that would recognize a State Star Greenhand, a State Star Chapter Farmer, and a State Star Chapter to this year's committee.

Almond added some background information regarding the position of last year's State Executive Committee.

Gonzales/Barbosa moved/seconded to form an ad-hoc committee of three, appointed by the chair, to research the matter and report back at the mid-Winter Executive Committee Meeting.

The motion passed by voice vote.

Sowells (chair, Thomas, and Barbosa were appointed to the committee.

13. Program of Work Recognition

Cook discussed the possibility of establishing a program that would recognize the chapter with the best Program of Work in California.

The ad-hoc committee (listed above) accepted responsibility for researching this item and will report back at the next meeting.

14. Regional Reports

Each of the seven Regional Presidents reported on the activities of their respective regions. Items included: regional newsletters, officer team meetings, regional leadership conferences, budgets, goals for the year, etc.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:07 p.m.

2ND DAY

The meeting reconvened, with everyone in attendance, at 8:33 a.m. on November 1, 1988.

Mr. Warren Reed, State FFA Advisor, was also present

Topics for consideration were continued.

15. Fall Leadership Conferences

Grice reported that the Fall Leadership Conferences were successful and only two remained. He mentioned what some of the workshops dealt with as well as the skits and other programs.

Bell and Bechtold reported on the Southern and Southwestern Regions' combined one-day leadership conference. Bell stated that it was one of the best and most attended conferences held in recent years.

Mr. Munter stated that the theme pins had arrived and were being sent out to conference participants who hadn't received them.

Barbosa added that the South Coast Region was considering a one-day leadership conference instead of the current two-day conference but that the idea was still undecided.

16. State Newsletter

Gonzales reported that two issues of the Golden Harvest had been published and distributed. He also passed out the due dates for the remaining issues.

Mr. Munter asked the group to comment on the style of the Golden Harvest newspaper versus the old style of the New Seed publication. Open discussion and suggestions followed.

17. State Conference Attendance Recognition

Sowells reported on the possibility of recognizing chapters who have good State Conference attendance. The chair allowed for open discussion and an exchange of ideas on the matter.

Gonzales/Bechtold moved/seconded that the committee go on record as being opposed to establishing a state conference attendance recognition program. Discussion followed.

Crawford/Ricks moved/seconded to Previous Question. Previous Question passed with nine in favor and three opposed.

The main motion passed by a voice vote.

18. Made For Excellence Conferences

Made For Excellence conference dates were announced by Mr. Munter. The dates are as follows: Northern Conference (Sacramento) - January 21-11, 1989; Southern Conference (location not yet determined) - January 27-28, 1989.

19. Association Goals

Fumasi reviewed the association goals set forth by the 1988-89 State Officer team. Fumasi added that a copy would be sent out to all members of the State Executive Committee.

20. Increased Chapter Membership (added agenda item)

Thomas/Vaca moved/seconded that the State Executive Committee form a program to encourage increased membership within the local chapter. Discussion followed.

Bell/Gonzales moved/seconded to refer the matter to a committee of three, appointed by the chair, to research the matter and report back at the mid-Winter meeting. Discussion followed.

The referral passed by a voice vote.

Bell (chair), Cook, and Hicks were appointed to the committee.

21. State FFA Officer Reports

A. Membership

Sowells stated that last year's closing membership was 28,804 and that this year's membership has increased.

B. State FFA Foundation

Fumasi reported on the Foundation meetings. Items included dates of their meetings, activities, the Foundation sponsors, as well as background information concerning the Foundation's importance to the State FFA Association. He also encouraged those who were attending the National Convention to thank Mr. Jim VanMaren for his service on the Foundation Board.

Thomas expressed the possibility of having Regional Presidents assist the Foundation in getting sponsors for awards.

Ken Harris joined the committee meeting at 9:55 a.m.

Harris spoke about the process for getting a list of possible supporters of the FFA and will distribute the list to Sectional Coordinators.

Bell suggested including an article in the Golden Harvest to inform members about the Foundation's role in the operations of the State FFA Association.

Munter expressed the importance of encouraging members to write thank-you's to the Foundation upon receiving Foundation-sponsored plaques, pins, certificates, etc.

C. Chapter Visitation Program

Cook reported on the number of visits which had been made, the ones that remained, and the four programs that had been developed for the visits.

D. Arizona State Convention

Fumasi shared with the committee some of the different activities conducted during the Arizona State FFA Convention. He added that he judged the state public speaking finals and that Arizona was very welcoming and excited to have him present.

E. CATA Conference

Fumasi stated that he and Cook attended the CATA conference during the summer and spoke on behalf of the California FFA Association.

F. Farm Bureau Institute

Cook reported that he attended the Farm Bureau Institute and spoke on behalf of the FFA. He added that the group was honored to have him present and presented him with several gifts.

G. State President's Conference

Fumasi reported that he, Cook, and Mr. Munter attended the State President's Conference in Washington, D.C. He also mentioned the different workshops that they attended as well as some of the issues that were discussed.

H. National Leadership Conference for State Officers

Gonzales reported on the NLCSO which was held in Portland, Oregon. He explained how the conference works and the different activities that the California State Officers participated in.

I. State Officer Training Workshop

Sowells reported on the training sessions for the State Officer team held at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo for two weeks during the summer. She mentioned the different workshops which were conducted and some of the skills which were developed.

J. State Fair

Gonzales reported on the activities that the State Officers participated in at the California State Fair which included such things as interviewing participants and judging projects for the outstanding exhibitor competition, coordinating contests for exhibitors, and distributing awards during judging classes.

Cook added that Ms. Jean Landeen be commended for her guidance during the state fair.

R. State Staff Meeting

Fumasi reported on the State Staff Meeting. He stated that he was present to share with the staff, the activities of the State Officer Team as well as upcoming events.

L. Cooperative Center Reception

Mr. Munter reported on the recent ribbon cutting ceremony to open the new Cooperative Center at U.C. Davis. He added background information on the Cooperative Center's function.

M. State Grange Convention

Fumasi reported on the State Grange Convention. He added that Dennis Albiani, Past State Vice President, spoke to the group. Fumasi shared with the group some of the aims and purposes of the Grange as well as their relationship to the State FFA Association.

N. Ag In The Classroom

Sowells reported on the California Farm Bureau sponsored AITC Conference. She added that she and Fumasi made several presentations highlighting the FFA's Food For America program.

O. National Ag Video Conference

Fumasi reported on the National Ag Video Conference attended by Adams, Cook, and Gonzales. The Conference was centered around the report which was released, as well as the proposed amendments to the National FFA Constitution. The video conference participants had a change to discuss ways to improve Ag In The Classroom.

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

A. Star Administrator

An open discussion regarding the current system of recognizing Star Administrators was held.

Cook/Grice moved/seconded that the number of administrators that can be submitted from each region and that can be recognized from each region be changed from three to four. Debate followed.

Main motion passed by a voice vote.

Mr. Munter explained the procedure for filing expense claims for expenses incurred by members during the State Executive Committee Meeting.

SEEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 11:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Joel W. Gonzales, Reporter
California Association FFA