

**CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION FFA**  
**STATE FFA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
**FFA ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**ADULT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**MINUTES**

The meeting of the State FFA Executive Committee, State Adult Board of Directors and the State FFA Advisory Committee was called to order by President Nicolina Prestininzi at 9:02 a.m. on September 30, 2003 at the Farm Bureau Office Building in Sacramento, California. Present were Colette Rose, State Vice President; Erica Flores, State Secretary; Lindsay Walsh, State Treasure; Megan Brownell, State Reporter; Thomas Bottoms, State Sentinel; Nicolina Prestininzi, State President; Lisa Hammerich, North Coast Region President; Megan Jacobsen, San Joaquin Region President; Taraleigh Hoer, Superior Region President; Brian Fiorini, Central Region President; Katy Teixeira, South Coast Region President; Ashley Smith, Southern Region President; Jeff Alves, National Officer Candidate; Bryan Dodson, Past State President; Charles Parker, Assistant State Advisor; Bob Heuval, State Advisor; Rosco Vaughn, Teacher Educator at Fresno State; Angie Miles, FFA Financial Services Director; Steve DeRose, Arroyo Grande; Rick Neugebauer, McArthur-Fall River; Kristi Mattes, Fresno-Central; Rosemary Vernon, Capital Campaign Director; Donelle McCallister, Kelseyville; Heather Thomas, Colusa; Jim Drew, Grass Valley-Nevada Union; Hugh Mooney, Galt; Larry Wright, Rio Vista; Stan Rose, Santa Maria-Righetti; Lloyd Doster, Littlerock; David Caetano, Tulare Union; Dick Piersma, Hilmar; Tony Miller, La Habra; Louie Brown, Past State Officer; and Denise Skidmore, Agricultural Education Advisory Committee..

The meeting began with a welcome from Nicolina Prstininzi, State FFA President, and a short mixer conducted by State Sentinel, Thomas Bottoms.

**FFA Advisor Committee Minutes**

Tony Miller, Southern Region, moved and it was seconded to accept the minutes from the June, 2003 State Advisory Committee meeting. Motion passed by a voice vote.

**State FFA Executive Committee Minutes**

Thomas Bottoms, State Sentinel, moved and it was seconded to accept the minutes from the Spring Executive Committee meeting. Motion passed by a voice vote.

**State Leadership Conference Minutes**

Ashley Smith, Southern Region President, moved and it was seconded to accept the minutes from the 75<sup>th</sup> State FFA Convention. Motion passed by a voice vote.

**State Advisor Report**

Mr. Heuval gave a report highlighting key points within the FFA and Department of Education. He commended the State FFA Officers for their outstanding performance under adverse conditions and shared the AB8 funding split for next year. According to current figures, the FFA

should receive over \$220,000 of the available funds. Mr. Heuvel shared updates on the reorganization, potential fiscal challenges, and the standards development project.

### **San Joaquin Region FFA Report**

Megan Jacobsen, San Joaquin Region President, gave a quick update on the region activities, regional officer experiences, and highlighted upcoming events. The region theme for the year is “San Joaquin FFA...Where Ordinary Ends and Extraordinary Begins”

### **National Convention Report**

Thomas Bottoms, State Sentinel, presented the report on National Convention. There are over 400 members going to national convention as part of the California sponsored trip. California has various individuals competing in Proficiency’s as well as career development events. California has 48 official delegates who will be taking part in the business sessions at the convention.

### **Board of Directors Report**

Mr. Piersma, Chairman of the Board, presented the Board of Directors Report. He discussed the increase in surplus of the budget and commended the past state officers for their service to the members in California.

### **FFA Center**

Rosemary Vernon presented a brief report on the progress of the FFA center. The Capital Campaign Committee is continuing to identify potential sponsors. Options include Federal Appropriations Bill, business, past members, and a number of foundations.

### **National Convention Delegate Training**

On September 29, 2003 the national convention delegates had their delegate training. During the training the delegates discussed the seven issues they will be facing at the convention as well as the one proposed amendment. After some lengthy debates, the delegates developed a position for California. The issues are as follows:

1. Size of National FFA Officer Team  
The delegates recommended that California oppose this issue.
2. Selection of the National FFA Officer Nominating Committee  
The delegates recommended that California oppose this issue.
3. Participation in National CDE’s by Middle School FFA Members  
The delegates recommended that California take a no stance on this issue.
4. Expansion and Diversification of National CDE’s  
The delegates recommended that California take a no stance on this issue.
5. Review Criteria for Collegiate FFA Membership  
The delegates recommended that California support this issue.
6. Increase Public Awareness of FFA

The delegates recommended that California support this issue.

7. Review the Letters “FFA” – What Do They Stand For?

The delegates recommended that California oppose this issue.

On the proposed amendment to change the current national region alignments, the California Delegates at the 75<sup>th</sup> State Conference voted to support the proposal. The National Convention Delegates confirmed this support.

### **Superior Region FFA Report**

Taraleigh Hoer, Superior Region President, provided an update on the happenings within the Superior Region. The theme for the year is “Breaking New Ground and Harvesting Dreams.”

### **Chapter Status Report**

Ashley Smith, Southern Region President, moved and it was seconded to suspend the charters from Burney, Chino Hills-Ayala, La Puente Valley ROP, Miranda-South Fork, Riverside-Arlington, Woodland-Douglas, and Woodland-Lee. Motion passed by a voice vote.

Megan Brownell, State Reporter, moved and it was seconded to place Bakersfield-ROC, Bell, Fremont-School for the Deaf, Gardena, Harbor City-Narbonne, San Fernando, and Van Nuys-Grant on probation with the stipulation that they must have two voting delegates at the 76<sup>th</sup> State Leadership Conference. Motion passed by a voice vote.

### **South Coast Region FFA Report**

The South Coast Report was presented by Katy Teixeira, Regional President. Katy shared what the South Coast has been doing and what is in their future plans. The 2003-04 theme is “FFA...The Treasure We Seek.”

### **FFA Advisory Committee Report**

David Caetano, Chairman, gave a quick update on the Advisory Committee. He also wanted to commend the officers for scheduling a meeting where all of the various groups can get together and develop uniform positions.

### **State Officer Reports**

Reports were given highlighting the state officers involvement in various activities. Reports were presented in conjunction with a power point presentation.

Blast-Off Training – Erica Flores, State Secretary

CATA Conference – Colette Rose, State Vice President

NLCSSO – Nicolina Prestininzi, State President

ROLC – Lindsay Walsh, State Treasurer

State Fair – Erica Flores, State Secretary

COLC – Thomas Bottoms, State Sentinel

SOLS – Megan Brownell, State Reporter

Camp Sylvester – Lindsay Walsh, State Treasurer

Dodger Game – Thomas Bottoms, State Sentinel

SPC – Colette Rose, State Vice President

The officers shared their team goals and objects with the committee. In addition, the The 75<sup>th</sup> State FFA Convention Review Tape was played for everyone and information about the purchase of the tape was brought up. The tape will be part of the Road Shows and will cost \$10 per department. In addition to the conference review, the tape will also include each of the State Officer Retiring Addresses, the state officer candidate speeches and the presentation by Superintendent of Public Instruction, Jack O'Connell.

### **Central Region FFA Report**

Brian Fiorini, Central Region President, provided details of the growth undertaken by the current Regional Officers. Brian also shared their plans for the upcoming COLC to be held at Beyer High School. The region theme is "The Foundation For A Better Tomorrow."

Committee recessed for lunch at 11:00 a.m. and reconvened at 12:00 noon.

### **North Coast Region FFA Report**

Lisa Hammerich, Regional President, took a few moments to share with the group the happenings in the North Coast Region. Lisa shared "Staking New Claims on Success" at the theme for the region.

### **New Horizons Report**

Megan Brownell, State Reporter, presented a report on the California Insert in the New Horizons. The insert has 16 pages of articles, news briefs, award recipients and chapter scoop. Megan asked the regional presidents to remind their reporters to look at upcoming deadlines and submit articles in a timely fashion.

### **National Officer Candidate**

Jeff Alves, Past State Officer, was introduced as the 2003 National Officer Candidate from California. Jeff shared with the group what he has been doing and his challenge for the next few weeks.

### **Southern Region FFA Report**

Ashley Smith, Southern President, gave a brief update on what is going on in the Southern Region. Ashley also shared the regional theme "Discover the Magic."

### **Leadership Continuum Report**

Mr. Parker passed out a list of skills along with a listing of the conferences which make up the Leadership Continuum. He asked that the FFA Advisory Committee members share the form with their teachers in the hopes of obtaining feedback on what skills should be addressed at various conferences. The information is to be forwarded to Mr. Parker by the Advisory Committee members following their Fall Regional Meetings.

### **State Speaking Finals**

Mr. Mooney raised the question regarding potential changes to the finals for the various speaking events. Concern was raised that at the CATA Conference, teachers presented options which were not included in the recommendation from State Staff. Following some discussion, it was

recommended that the FFA Advisory Committee members take to their Fall Regional Meetings the speaking finals question.

Current Proposal by State Staff – To announce the 3-6 place winners on Thursday evening with the top two in Creed, Prepared, and Extemp to compete on stage during one of the conference sessions. Creed would compete on Sunday with Prepared and Extemp competing on Monday. Judges would include State Legislators and Award Sponsors. Other possible suggestions included: having only the state winner speak on stage; having a finals stage, implementing only one finals event, creed, for this year. Advisory Committee members are to compile results and forward them to Mr. Parker following their regional meetings.

Other issues raised were: top students are already stressed with nominating committee, applying for state office, etc.; quality of judges if we are using legislators; and control of the crowd during sessions.

Colette Rose, State Vice President, moved and it was seconded that the State Staff re-evaluate the recommendation on the finals speaking proposal.

### **Expense Claims**

Mr. Parker shared the expense claim process and agreed to forward an electronic copy to all Regional Presidents.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:25 p.m.