

PYFA Board Meeting Minutes

February 12th, 2013

The Pennsylvania Young Farmers held its final Board Meeting of the year on **February 12th, 2013** at the Best Western and Country Cupboard in Lewisburg, PA. It was held the first day of the Annual Winter Conference.

Those present were: Bob Corman, Carol Corman, Jeff McClellan, Betsy Huber, Caleb Wright, Bill Zollers, Doyle Paul, Nathan Jamison, Tim Rhoads, Ed Zug, Debbie Zug, and Cliff Day.

President Jeff McClellan **called the meeting to order** at 8:12 a.m.

Doyle Paul led the Board in an **Opening Prayer**.

There was a motion (Bob Corman/Tim Rhoads) to **approve the minutes** with the following changes:

1. Northern to North Central
2. Change Kicking Out
3. Ensure that last names are in there
4. Carol Leydig donated the quilt.

The vote was unanimous to approve the minutes.

The **Treasurer Report** was provided by Ed Zug. In the Checking, there was \$8822.99, and in the Money Market there was \$28261.54. Doyle Paul requested a copy of the invoice for Penn State to help with expenditures for the program booklet for the winter conference. A motion (Bob Corman/Bill Zollers) to approve and file for audit was handled. The motion carried.

Deb Zug provided a **Membership Report**. There is \$24,832.00 in the Money Market Account. The dues packet for Brockway was mailed back. Debbie will send it to the home address for Jim Berry. Deb has a tub of material for the new Membership Chair to take back with them. All the necessary reports are in the Conference Book. Doyle Paul and Cliff Day discussed whether they felt confident that their lists were up to date or not for Advisors.

For **Public Relations** report from Britney Marsh was not present, but sent an email for a report. The one spokesperson contestant had cancelled. Britney will be to the meeting after picking up the plaques this afternoon. Discussion was held by the group if the Organization was to still go to Weis and buy groceries. President Jeff McClellan appointed Deb Zug, Betsy Huber, and Tim Rhoads to go on behalf of the board to buy groceries. Britney contacted the store. After discussions with the store, Britney will go at noon and buy groceries for an individual. A plaque will be presented to corporate Weis at a banquet if they are in attendance. If not, Britney will present the plaque at the store.

Cliff Day gave a **report for PDE**. There will be no CTSO banquet. Most of the CTSOs are getting \$6,000 from PDE. Groups like the FFA, their money is designated by Cliff Day or another individual. Ed Zug helps

to put together the money for the PYFA. If there is money left over after Ed's requests, Cliff would like to work on a special project for the PYFA with an individual from the Young Farmers.

Bob Corman has a project to work on; a manual for the Local Officers and members. Several years ago, Michael Shultz was working on a Masters Project on updating the current manual, but it was never finished. The manual is about 12 years out of date, and this could be an electronic manual and a good resource for our left over funding. Doyle Paul felt these were great resources to provide information to the new chapters. Cliff Day's hard work is extremely appreciated.

Doyle Paul reported for **Penn State**. He thanked Betsy Huber, Executive Secretary, for the improvements to the PYFA Website. When he went to speak to the Student Teachers on January 9th, the professors had them go to the website. The website is used for a lot of information. The students were inquisitive about the PYFA. There are districts in the state that need a partial agriculture teacher, someone who is not full-time. Doyle discussed funds that were available for starting a PYFA program through PDE. Students were a little confused with the difference between the PYFA and PFB Outstanding Young Farmer Recognition. He was happy for the chance to talk to the seniors. There are 14 students out student teaching. He is unsure how many will teach after graduation, but some have already applied for positions in other states. PA's certification is considered premier in other states and our graduates are highly sought after. Last Thursday and into Friday there was the record book Contest. Teachers and Student Teachers volunteered to score books. It was a good time to mix and mingle with the group. Results will be up on PA FFA website shortly. This was another great year for SAE's in the state. Student Teachers are supervised twice during their experience along with weekly journals. University Supervisors are to be apt to what they are doing and journaling. They ask questions and seek advice. The good thing that Doyle can say is that no Student Teacher is really bogged down with disciplinary problems. Students are very respectful. Impressed with how ST are using their preparation at the University in the field. The university is still expecting about 20 student teachers next year. Cliff Day has been contacted by Dr. Foster from Penn State about joining into online meetings to answer questions about CDEs.

Regional VP Reports:

- Western: Nathan Jamison brought greetings from the West. Berlin Brothers Valley and Rockwood have been participating in their usual meetings. Participation has been good. The Meyersdale Chapter is still in limbo about getting involvement going. There is interest from a few members and the Advisor, yet participation in getting the ball rolling is slow. There is the interest, but are looking for suggestions. Bob Corman suggested having meals involved with the meetings. They hope to maybe use the Pesticide Meeting as a gauge to see if there is interest from the locals. Tim Rhoads suggested having a signup sheet for those interested at that meeting. Aside from that, everything is going well. Jeff McClellan offered the board as support if Meyersdale needed anything.
- Eastern: Bill Zollers reported that Hannah Wentworth's and his report is in the program booklet. The Kutztown Sweetheart dinner was on Thursday, when the group left the Winter Conference. Bill Zollers reported about Clean and Green in Berks County. A while ago, some members went to talk with individuals and legislators to help get the acre value where it is now. They are

planning on going to PDA to discuss this again since it is to be brought up in the state again. If anybody is interested, it will be March 1st at PDA. Individuals from Berks County are going. Clean and Green is not a law, but is a regulation. PDA is in charge of presenting the formula to counties and put it out there every year. The group hopes to see if they can go to have it more standardized across the state to benefit farmers. Bill feels it should be an interesting discussion.

- North Central: Carol Corman is continuing her regular visits. The Educational Speaker for the Regional Meeting will be talking about the mounted police. Keynote Speaker for the event will be Boots Hetherington, Special Assistant to the Governor of Agriculture. The meeting is March 21st hosted by the Penns Valley Chapter at New Hope Lutheran Church in Spring Mills at 7:00 p.m.

There was no **FFA report** since all officers were in Harrisburg with Mr. Brammer.

Under **Old Business**, Ed Zug had nothing to report for the Management Committee. Jeff McClellan thanked Betsy Huber for the update to the website. She reported that the bill has yet to come in. Bob Corman said that it was money well spent. It is a lot more usable now. Deb Zug mentioned that there were difficulties with SOLANCO's applications. A question was raised if there was a way to make the applications able to typed on a computer and emailed. Caleb Wright asked if the board would like to have the minutes made available on the website. The board decided that approved minutes were to be sent to Betsy Huber, the Executive Secretary, to be uploaded to the website.

Under **New Business**, Tim Rhoads reported that the Proclamation will be in Wednesday night at the Banquet. Representative Fred Keller will be presenting. Bob Corman provided Nomination updates. All spots were full except for President Elect. The number of available candidates is not increasing at all, so finding a candidate is hard to do. This will soon be an issue for the delegates and members. They will have to help find an individual to step forward. Britney Marsh has shown interest in serving again as Public Relations chair. Bob Pardoe arrived to the meeting. He provided the Official Welcome to the Winter Conference from the Mifflinburg and Lewisburg Young Farmers to the board. Anything the board may need, he said to see them. Tours start at 11:30 that day, followed by lunch and then more tours.

Betsy Huber had a few questions. She did a radio interview with Dave Williams who does Farm Radio, yesterday. He would like to have a few members do a report after the conference on the radio. There was discussion by the board about who to send. That will be determined throughout the conference. Betsy questioned what she should be forwarding through emails to the board. The group also needs a new PA State Council of Farm Organizations representative. That will be on the agenda for Program of Work discussion in March. There is a problem in some counties that hoop houses are being determined as commercial structures garnering more regulations. There is to be legislation proposed in the coming weeks saying they are not temporary structures, but for an agricultural use. The board should be on the lookout for more information about that.

The board recessed for an **Executive Session** discussing Board Policy at 9:37 and reconvened for continuation of the regular meeting at 9:54.

The meeting was **adjourned** by President Jeff McClellan at 9:55 am.