

PA Young Farmers Association
Board Meeting
March 28, 2014

The Board of the Pennsylvania Young Farmers Association met Friday, March 28, 2014, at Hoss' Restaurant in Bedford PA. The meeting was called to order by President Nathan Jamison at 9:39 am. Doyle Paul offered the opening prayer. Board members present were:

Nathan Jamison	Linda Krall
Dan Wilkinson	Denise Leydig
Nathan Kreider	Betsy Huber
Debbie Zug	Doyle Paul
Ed Zug	Chris Weller
Jason Rentzel	Also attending- A. Dale Herr
Bob Corman	

As this was Nathan's first meeting, he introduced himself to the group. The minutes of the February 4, 2014 meeting were approved with one correction—under VP Carol Corman's report, the regional meeting had not yet been held at that time.

Treasurer's report was distributed. Ed noted a \$2500 grant from Monsanto for the 2013 Mifflinburg conference was passed through the state account and sent to Mifflinburg. They will use it for a community service project on grain bin safety. Received from the state fair fund was \$3980.11. Bob Corman asked how much was raised by Denise Sanner's wine auction to benefit students' attendance at Ag's Promise. Ed reported \$221 was raised.

Bob reported the audit committee found the treasurer's books "pristine," and he submitted a written report including two recommendations for the record. (attached)

Bob Corman moved, Denise Leydig seconded, to accept the treasurer's report; the motion carried.

Membership report – Denise reported for chair Edith Rhoads, \$15.39 interest was received, with balance in the checking account of \$24,972.27. She distributed a written report of dues received.

Public Relations – Linda Krall reported that there was no participation again this year in the Spokesperson Contest. She asked if future winners should be sent to the National Institute or to Ag's Promise since National sends its communication winners to Ag's Promise. No decision was made. It was suggested that Spokesperson contestants choose their own topic.

Debbie Zug reported the Outstanding Agribusiness Person Contest went very well this year and will continue. She enlisted three judges from the Center at Penn State who drew up a score sheet to be used. She thanked all who helped out with PR at the conference in her absence.

Advisor's Report – Doyle Paul distributed Ag Ed Directories to the board members. There are still good numbers in Agriculture Education at Penn State with almost 100. There are several teaching openings in PA this year for the 17 student teachers who will graduate. The Penn State Center helps the state FFA with their ACES and SLLC conferences and book judging, etc. Employees in the Center are Dr. Ewing, Dr. Foster, Laura Rice, Jonathan Seamons.

PDE Report – Chris Weller – said there are at least six teacher openings so far; some are program expansions which may offer an opportunity for more assistance to Young Farmers programs. The Governor's School for Agriculture has been reinstated this year at Penn State, a 4-week program for approximately 50 students this summer. The National Ag in the Classroom Conference will be held June 23-27 at Hershey. PYFA members are needed to volunteer to help. The Bureau of Career & Technical Education is down to 37 employees now. Chris reported the death of Dr. Sam Curtis, department chair of

Ag Ed at Penn State 1980- 90. Gary Weimer will continue as Rockwoods YF advisor.

Executive Secretary report – Betsy Huber reported the Council of Farm Organizations meeting and Cornucopia reception are re-scheduled for March 31. She attended Ag's Promise and the FFA Legislative breakfast and listened in on a conference call with USDA Secretary Vilsack on new Farm Bill programs. She is preparing for the Spring newsletter.

Vice Presidents' Reports:

South Central – Jason Rentzel said their Gettysburg YF/FFA banquet is scheduled for April 26. He reported the PYFA conference went well financially.

Western – Denise Leydig said their YF/FFA banquet was last weekend with 28 young farmers attending. She purchased a display board and set it up at the banquet. Their last county meeting was well attended with a program on the ethanol plant. They have some classes scheduled yet this season.

Eastern – Nathan Kreider reported the Solanco YF banquet was held last night with several awards given out. Linda Krall said the Cedar Crest banquet is April 1 and all board members are invited.

Old business – Minutes of the October 2013 meeting were approved as presented without a list of attendees which is not available. Chris asked that old minutes be posted on the website.

Conference report – Dan Wilkinson reported 52 fulltime registered, 33 partial, and 3 children. He turned over PYFA's split of \$1198.07 to the treasurer. The community service project turned over \$200 to Gettysburg Cares and he received a thank you from them. Everything went well in spite of weather problems. Bob Corman offered thanks for a job well done. The secretary was asked to send a thank you letter to Gettysburg School Superintendent for their support of the Young Farmers.

For next year, A. Dale Herr reported the hotel, 3 tours, and workshops are set. Kutztown will host in 2016.

Awards review – The Agribusiness Person Award was good; A. Dale suggested asking for more photos. Over and Under 30 – financial requirements were removed. The Board thought the interview requirement should be reinstated on Wed. afternoon of the conference, possibly by phone if the contestants are unable to attend. Local winners should be encouraged to submit their applications to the state level. There was discussion on offering incentives to winners for attendance at the banquet. The Awards Committee will meet and bring recommendations next meeting.

Officers Handbook – Denise Leydig moved, Ed Zug seconded to approve the revised Handbook as posted on the website. Motion carried. Deb Zug asked if the Handbook should be printed. Chris Weller said PDE can print some copies and possibly mail a copy to each chapter with a cover letter from President Jamison.

Delegate meeting business – A. Dale reported from the 2/14/00 minutes that the National Institute Hosting Committee turned over \$20,000 remaining funds to PYFA plus the advance of \$4000 for a total of \$24,000.

Officers reimbursement procedure – Bob Corman reported from the Audit Committee that they created an expense/work report form for the Executive Secretary to use, and an updated list of covered expenses is needed for officers. Expenses are to be reimbursed after the event. Bob said a conflict of interest exists between the treasurer and executive secretary and the PR director. A second signature should be required on checks and the executive secretary's expense form should be signed by the president before she is paid.

Linda Krall asked why we use the IRS mileage rate. The IRS rate is 56 cents, nonprofit rate 14 cents, community service rate 23 cents. Bob questioned charges for baggage fees, parking, tolls, etc. Nathan and Betsy will work together to draft an updated reimbursement policy to present next meeting.

Debbie Zug moved, Ed Zug seconded, to set the PYFA mileage rate at 35 cents for officer and employee travel reimbursement effective April 1, 2014. Motion carried.

Other old business – Bob asked if the school senior projects that Deb Kammerer mentioned last meeting were taken care of. The deadline is past.

New business:

Donation to Delaware Valley College A-Day – this was unofficially approved in February to give \$100 as a livestock sponsor. Bob moved, Denise seconded to approve the \$100 donation. Motion carried.

FFA Golf Tournament – Denise moved, Dan Wilkinson seconded, to approve \$250 to be a hole sponsor for the Tournament. Motion carried.

Scholarship – one application was received. Nathan Kreider moved, Bob Corman seconded, to approve the scholarship to Samuel Dively, a member of Berlin Brothersvalley chapter and student at Alfred State College, NY. Motion carried. Linda suggested that the PYFA President present the scholarship at the FFA conference in June.

Ag in the Classroom – Bob Corman moved, Denise Leydig seconded, to sponsor a teacher this year for \$750. Motion carried. The workshop will be held at Hershey in conjunction with the National Ag in the Classroom Conference.

Delaware Valley Collegiate 4-H Club – sent a request for us to sponsor their attendance to the National Collegiate 4-H Conference March 6-8, 2014. Since the event is over no action was taken on the request.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 11:50 and was called back to order at 12:36.

Ag Progress Days – Betsy Huber moved, Denise Leydig seconded, to pay \$350 for a booth space at Ag Progress Days August 12-14. Motion carried. Linda Krall will set up the booth and staff it Tuesday. She will have a schedule for volunteers at the next meeting.

PAAE/PYFA Summer Institute – to be held July 7-10 at Grandview Elementary School, Westmoreland County. The PYFA board will meet at 8 am Wednesday July 9. Tours that day will be 11:30-5:00 including lunch on the bus. Dinner at 6:30 pm, Chestnut Ridge Resort. The day's activities will be \$60. Headquarters hotel is the Hampton Inn at \$119 per night.

Program of Work – Nathan Jamison will compile this and have it at the next meeting.

Other new business – Gary Weimer, Rockwood YF advisor, suggested using YouTube to post video classes for YF chapters to use for education. Chris Weller suggested we add links to the Center for Dairy Excellence webinars on our website and advertise them in our newsletter.

PA Soybean Board – request was received for nominations to serve on this board. They are due July 1. It was suggested to put a notice in the newsletter asking for volunteers.

Bob Corman moved, Denise Leydig seconded to adjourn the meeting at 1:05 pm. Motion carried.

Betsy Huber, Secretary