



**VIRGINIA**  
**FFA ASSOCIATION**

Virginia FFA Association  
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## **Governing Board/Advisory Council Minutes**

**April 3rd, 2020 9:00 a.m.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Brian Alexander, Chair; Cindy Vance, Secretary, Alan Webb, Marc Moran, Kate Hawkins, Ed McCann, Darryl Holland, Jennifer Armstrong, LaVeta Nutter, Alison Jones, Andy Seibel, Philip McCroskey, Blair Hoffman, Cole Ramsey, Cindy Green, Mary Hardesty, Sherry Heishman, Casey Davis, Stuart Byrd, Teresa Lindberg, Russell Jennings.

**MEMBERS UNABLE TO ATTEND:** Jennie Simmons

**MINUTES:** The minutes from the March 27 minutes were reviewed.

Motion to approve minutes – Marc Moran

Second – Darryl Holland

Minutes approved

**YOUTH LIVESTOCK:** Katherine Carter, Youth Livestock Specialist, gave an update on youth livestock shows. All events for April/May/beginning of June are postponed. She is hoping that summer events will be allowed to proceed as scheduled.

- **Youth Cattle Working Event** - will be held late summer/early fall due to availability of cattle. All students that are currently considered eligible will be able to participate this fall.
- **Summer Shows/County Fairs** - Encouraging counties to plan as scheduled but to have a contingency plan.
- **YQCA Program** – Katherine is suggesting that the YQCA requirement be waived for the 2020 Virginia State Fair. Not set as of yet but should know by end of day.
- **Youth Shows and Sales** - Katherine is sending out a PowerPoint and resource sheets regarding platforms for virtual shows. Katherine can assist with setup.

*Contact Katherine with any questions.*

**FFA FOUNDATION:** Jennifer Armstrong addressed the money that was raised for FFA jackets for members. There is more than enough for one jacket per chapter. Every chapter will get a check for \$60. The advisory group suggested selection should be based on financial need and input from the teacher. The kick off will be this fall.

*Passed at the April 9, 2021 meeting*

**AG ED AND FFA:** Andy has asked the Virginia Secretary of Agriculture to work with us so that Agricultural Teachers are allowed to come to school and take care of plants and animals. The Secretary of Agriculture contacted the Secretary of Education who has asked the State Superintendent of Education to send out a memo to the local Superintendents.

Andy also express a concern that students may get asked to complete tasks that Federal Guidelines prohibit and suggest that teachers still need to serve in a supervisory role for the Work Based learning SAE activities. The visits can be done by phone, zoom or other means and to avoid personal visits during the pandemic.

**STATE AWARD APPLICATIONS** The 2020 State Officer application has been updated and posted online.

State Degrees - If a teacher emails the application to Andy, it is assumed that the student has at least a C average and that the signatures would be approved since the approval signatures are difficult to obtain. Discussion was held about the 5 activities above the chapter level and with school ending abruptly, some students were lacking. The group decided that the state office will review and evaluate the State Degree applications. Andy will work with teachers to find alternatives for students that have shortcomings above the chapter level.

Since Andy had to cancel reservations for this year with the 4-H Center, Andy will proceed with signing a contract for judging for next year.

Unanimously, the group agreed to proceed with scheduling 2021 State Judging for April 20-22.

**STATE RESOURCES:** Resources for teachers are located on the website and have been updated. If anyone has new resources, please inform the state office so they can be added to the VAAE/FFA site.

#### **STATE FFA CONVENTION:**

Andy announced that the 2021 date would be June 21-24, 2021.

LaVeta said that VDOE has imposed a "no travel" mandate for employees until after June 30.

The earliest we could reschedule convention would be July; a Sept. date would be difficult due to Big E and state fair.

LaVeta suggested working towards a virtual convention and when or if restrictions are lifted we could still have an in-person event.

National FFA will accept virtual conventions/events. Andy is unable to film state officers due to the limit of 10. He and Alison will work on options. Other CTSOs have either canceled or are limiting their events.

*Passed at the April 9, 2021 meeting*

A decision will be made by May 1.

**STATE FAIR:**

Andy will be meeting next week about the FFA schedule for the 2020 State Fair.

There will be uniform awards and ribbons for each event - rosettes for the top six teams and flat ribbons for top 10 individuals. Money will be adjusted to make the events equitable.

Motion for Andy and Brian A. to work together for setting state fair dates and plans for this year.

Motion - Darryl Holland

2nd - Marc Moran

Motion Passed

**VAAE AWARDS:** Encourage teachers (especially young/new) to apply for VAAE awards.

***We will continue to meet on a weekly virtual basis. Next meeting Thursday, April 9th at 9:00 a.m.***

**Meeting adjourned: 10:38 a.m.**

*Passed at the April 9, 2021 meeting*