

Samantha Osbourne Honaker HS

Dan Swafford

Kyle Gilliam

Alan Webb

Mary Katherine Rudy

Kelsey Johnson

Mindy McCroskey

Jesse Morris

Alan Webb

Sarah Jo Jones

Alison Jones

Jennie Simmons

Tadd Phipps

Jake Richards Chilhowie

Phil McCroskey Jr

Phil McCroskey Sr.

Lawrence Cox

Mindy McCroskey - Treasurer Report: \$15,369.95

Leadership Conference Expenses:

SWVA Higher Education Center Rental \$565.00

Supplies \$93.98

Pizza \$196.70

Flowers for workshop \$134.45

Total \$1,066.89

Income \$3195.00

Sarah Jo Jones - Leadership Conference Thoughts:

Hands on options

Try to push the date up a little later Tuesday 1st choice of 3rd week of September Thursday if we can't get the Hired Center

Bring back t-shirts

Bank Account Information - Updating Signature

Current: Rachel Short, Mindy McCroskey and Sarah Scyphers

Brian Alexander moved to add Lawrence as a 3rd signature, seconded by Alison Jones - passed

Virginia Tech Report - Kyle Gilliam

- Middle School Leadership Conference 22 schools, 260 kids. Wanting to move that away from State Fair to increase attendance.
- Executive Secretary Search - committee is working through training to get proper access to applications so the process is slow, but moving
- Dave Close is leading the process for the committee
- In the process of hiring a new Department Head - in negotiations and hopefully finalized in the next few weeks
- Four student teachers in the cohort - three will student teach in the spring, fourth will be doing it in the fall. Pulaski, Auburn, Blacksburg and Rockingham are the cooperating schools

- Looking for suggestions for how to increase the number of student teachers

Dan Swafford - VAAE, DOE, and FFA

- LaVetta needs help with curriculum review
- Summer conference is still being decided for VAAE (South Ridge Area is hosting - Jessica Jones)
- 1200 members involved in contests at State Fair
- No results from the State Fair for a few days
- Money is due NOW for National Convention
- Bus routes are still being finalized
- If you need to pay your dues, tell Dan and he will get Andy to send out an invoice

Southwest Ag Association Teacher Representative

- Mid October at the HirEd Center are meetings
- Brian moved that we appoint Phil Jr, Jesse 2nd

Spring Rally - April 5th

- Brian needs help with Livestock Contest, 2 teams per school limit
- Ag Expo won't likely be able to host the whole Rally, but can hold some
- Andy will do tabulating
- Jennie will do plaques
- Tadd will do food - needs numbers no later than the Tuesday week of
- Discussion to bring horse judging/hippology to Ag Expo
- Sr. Ag. Mechanics - Brittany Litton coordinates at George Wythe, Lawrence will contact Heishman and Brittany
- Tractor Driving - Brian and Jeff will get tractors Jeff will set it up, Jesse will run it
- Lawn Tractor Operator at WCC with Swaff
- LDEs Coordinator - Jennie Simmons
- Animal Science CDEs Coordinator includes Middle School SAC- Mary Katherine
- Horticulture CDEs Coordinator - Phil McCroskey, Sr.
- Registration and Logistics - Lawrence
- College/Career Fair - Sarah Jo Jones
- Talent - Alison Jones
- Transportation - Create a folder with directions, have someone working the contests riding the buses to those events
- Off Campus Contests - Tractor Driving, Ag Mech, Livestock
- Samantha Osborne will do Hippology
- Kelsey Johnson is moving to Livestock

Foundation Report - Jennifer Armstrong via Lawrence

- **Virginia FFA License Plate Update:** We met the minimum requirement of 450 to continue to the production phase. While it's not nearly as far along as we we'd like to be, working toward 1,000 - it's the number we needed to keep this train rolling. The payment for the original plates has been received at DMV. Next step is finalizing design and then on to stamping them out! We wish we had an updated timeline on that, but we have not gotten that information from DMV yet. Soon, you'll see VA FFA Plates as an option when you opt for a specialty plate on the DMV website! The GREAT news in this update is that there's no stopping it - VA FFA Plates are a REAL THING! We owe a huge thanks to those of you who not only got on board, but believed in us and helped us get that magic number!

- **Donor engagement platform:** While it may not seem like a big deal to most, this is a huge step for the Foundation. We are in the final stages of implementing this software which will allow us to better track our donors, better engage our donors and most importantly, provide better stewardship to our donors. Donor Perfect works seamlessly with QuickBooks and will provide a HUGE time saving element, as daily tasks that have multiple steps, using multiple softwares will be reduced to 1. We will be able to receive a gift, provide acknowledgement and gratitude in one step, plus have action items tied to gift levels. Example (\$1,000 donations get a state officer call or visit). We'll also be able to set up simpler monthly donor programs, manage event RSVP's and much much more. Look for new ways to give and get involved as we learn more about what the possibilities are in the next few months.
- **ILSSO Fundraising:** We are assisting the State Officer Team with Fundraising for ILSSO. All 8 Officers were approved for the trip to South Africa in 2019. Visit our website to donate online or you can always mail checks to the Foundation. If your area, alumni group, chapter or anyone else would like to contribute and need an invoice, please let Jennifer know.
- **National Convention/Big E Funding:** All events and sponsors are listed on the Foundation website at supportffa.org. Sponsored events and awards provide \$250/Individual, \$1,400 per team for National Convention and \$225/Individual, \$900 per team for Big E. Sponsored, state winners for Proficiency Awards receive \$250 for National Convention and an additional \$100 for National Finalists. I'll have a more comprehensive update on this funding after the Foundation Board meeting, which was postponed to October 19. (This is why nothing has been sent to ListServ)

All in all, the future is bright for the Foundation as we look forward to working more closely than ever with the Association and VAAE to open more doors and provide more opportunities in the very near future. There is a LOT of work to do, but we have an active, engaged board and I think you'll see some great things coming down the pike for Virginia FFA!

Brian - Advisory Council Meeting and Board of Directors 10/16

- Meeting at Skelton 4-H Center
- Dr. Jones is encouraging 4-H and FFA work together and have synergy
- Megan Seibel is going to facilitate a joint meeting of Advisory and Board
- Looking at all the responsibilities of all governing bodies and organizations (advisory, board, VAAE)
- LaVetta really really really needs help with curriculum review
- Be patient with the ListServ and the number of email duplications, they're being steam lined
- Sarah Jo Jones moved Alison Jones be Appalachian Area Advisory Council Representative if Jessica Gwaltney says her term is up. Jennie seconds the motion. Jennie is going to follow up with Jessica.

Spring Meeting/Area Officer Interviews

- March 19th, 2019 location TBD