

The VAAE summer meeting was called to order by president, Jonathan Grimes. Brian Alexander introduced a local celebrity, an Edith Bolling Wilson re-enactor, who gave greetings and welcomed everyone to Wytheville, Virginia. Jessica Jones lead a memoriam moment for fallen agricultural educators and their loved ones.

It was moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes as they were sent to the membership prior to the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed.

Andy Seibel presented the financial report. Our total income was \$47,451.44 and our net income was - \$5,003.71. To make sure we would no longer be operating in the red, the board moved to raise member dues and conference fees to balance the budget for next year. The books were audited, taxes were filed. After last year's conference all accounting was moved to an online software to increase security. A new teacher program was funded through a grant. The FFA Foundation is sponsoring the retired teacher reception. Dr. Jones wants to start a Master Teacher program through VCE. This would provide liability insurance so retired teachers could with agriculture programs.

Dr. Jessica Jones presented the 2018-2019 budget. The proposed budget has our expenses at \$50,490 and income at \$50,725 leaving us with a net balance of \$235.00. Howard Hill moved to accept the budget and Teresa Lindberg seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Dr. Jessica Jones gave the VACTE update along with our CTE Resource representative, Kevin Reilly. There are close to 23,000 CTE teachers in VA. Membership in ACTE matters because of the advocacy done to make programs better and keep programs. We have a dedicated lobbyist, David Bailey, who advocates our behalf in Virginia. ACTE provides program awareness tools and tools for advocacy. Our CTE Resource Center is in danger of crashing because of the amount of data being stored on an outdated system. Funding and support are preventing VERSO from switching to a cloud based service. This tool is advocated for through VACTE. Membership also provides professional development opportunities, liability insurance, and award opportunities.

Jeannie Layton-Dudding provided an FFA update. The state officers kicked off the year with their initial training opportunities and FFA camp. Officer requests need to go to Jeannie. Budgeting means not all officers can come to an event. The first visit to your chapter is covered, but please help offset their travel costs and provide them with lunch when applicable. Big E information is coming. We will be in the same hotel in CT. Need to have commitments from teams ASAP. One bus is committed and another will be if needed. Pick-up points and funding information are unclear at this time.

Andy gave a calendar update.

- State Fair:
  - 1st Friday - Jr. Dairy, Small Engines, Lawn Tractor Safety, and Tractor Troubleshooting (Lawn/Tractor both qualifying events) - Contests will be on the opposite side of the road
  - Tuesday - Jr. Forester and Crops
  - Wednesday - Hort and Ag Demo - two presentations at the same time to ensure you're competing in your division, second round for top two in their division to compete for scholarships
  - Thursday - Forestry Field Day - Jr. and Sr. teams allowed, teams will be alphabetized and starting points will be staggered, changes can't be made on site (do before you leave), may be allowed to come in early, online tickets have a surcharge
  - Friday - Stockman's and Poster Contest
  - Saturday - Livestock Show
  
- 9/7 and 9/8 - Regional FFA Alumni Conference in Winchester at the Lord Fairfax Community College, Registration is live.
- 9/12 - Beef based field day at VT, \$10/student, demonstrating new technology
- 3/1-3/2 B&B Stockman's and Livestock Judging, Meats is being moved to a later date
- Week of 4/9-4/11 - State Judging
- 4/12-4/13 - State Stockman's, Tractor Driving and Cattle Working
- Food Science contest not set

- EquiSmartz will be 4-H only, Horse Eval will be at State Convention
- Proficiency checks have been ordered and will be sent when they arrive
- National Convention:
  - We will be staying in the Embassy Suites for National Convention
  - Every state team is guaranteed two rooms - big groups will have three - governing board decided to markup the cost of the rooms to pay for state officers and lodging for VIPs
  - National FFA has changed team registrations - check your email to get your teams certified immediately
  - VA will have to draw for new rooms this year so communicate your wants, but know we may not get Embassy Suites because drawing is not done in the same order
  - Primary rooms are 4 person occupant with a pull-out couch
  - Consider planes and trains for transport because state bus contracts have not been secured

Dr. Karen Hutchinson gave a National FFA Update. The website is changing and improving. Will be able to do more on the site without signing in. Student information will still be behind the login. Pdfs are going into a document library to improve flow and searchability. There will be a real search engine. The federal charter is being revised to move us away from federal governing and be more self-governing. The US Department of Education fills vacancies and there are several unfilled positions as a result. A proposal for increased dues will go before the delegates at convention. National Convention registration opens 9/12 and it "will work." Concert tickets will be separate from registration and be a minimum of \$50. The act is still a secret. After August 1st check back for rooms if your housing block fills up. The Blue Room will be debuted at National Convention. This is a 90 minute experience to allow students to dig deeper into careers and innovations. Awards and recognition are being reviewed and input is being sought. Living to serve grants are on the website. When entering your rosters, make sure your teacher profile is filled out, encourage students to do their own, the invite code will be easier to find, we'll be able to merge student accounts and edit student data. There will also be more hover data. Live trainings are offered over the summer to help with roster navigation.

Brian Alexander gave an advisory council update. He thanked the advisors for all their help with state convention. The advisory council will be having a more active role again to be the liaisons between the Department of Education and FFA. Area representative terms will be communicated to each area so we can fill spots for those whose terms are ending. The Governing Board is working to develop a budget to help support State Officers. If you have an outstanding bill with the FFA, rectify this immediately.

Jennifer Armstrong gave an FFA Foundation Update. The plate applications are going to the DMV next week and production begins in December. Still need a few more forms. Once the plates are on the road we will get \$15,000 a year. Other fundraiser ideas they're working on are a UTV raffle, past state officer reception/gala, business and industry tour with State Officers. Donor Perfect is a donor tool they're using to engage donors.

Jonathan Grimes referred to his report in the conference program and said thank you to everyone for all their help with the conference. He did report that Perkins funding is going to increase 10-12% in big part to the efforts of ACTE.

Dr. Jessica Jones also referred to her report in the conference program and thanked the membership for a great year.

Representatives from Ferrum College, Virginia State University and Virginia Tech spoke on behalf of their agriculture programs giving updates about their new courses and student teachers.

Dr. Donna Westfall-Rudd reported that seven student teachers graduated this year with five of them being employed in Virginia. She thanked their cooperating teachers. VT is finishing the search for a new department head. A gala to celebrate 100 years of Ag Ed is planned for 9/22. It will be \$65/person. Half of the cost will be covered for alumni. On 11/16 CALS will host an open house in Litton Reaves and a tailgate on 11/17. If you have students in high school remotely interested in teaching, see Donna for help with choosing

classes. The new teacher conference will be in January and is being provided through the Hillison Endowment.

Morgan Slaven reported on behalf of the Ag in the Classroom. Over 300,000 students were reached this year. There are free resources available for volunteers. You can apply for a mini-grant of up to \$500 for school garden or ag experience - mostly supports K-5 initiatives. September 6th is National read a book day. They are looking for FFA programs to pilot this program this year. You can find more information on the [agintheclass.org](http://agintheclass.org) site.

LaVeta Nutter gave greetings on behalf of the Department of Education. She thanked everyone for all of their work at convention. There are new and revised courses on the CTE Resource page, Equine Science, Equine Science, Advanced, -and Cybersecurity in Food and Agriculture, and Cybersecurity in Food and Agriculture, Advanced. An Equine Science credential has been approved and it provided by Precision Exams. The Work-based Learning Guide and a Safety Guide have been updated and are available online. There are video profiles of CTE student success stories linked on the CTE Resource page. Virginia Career Works is a new program aimed at connecting employers with educators to increase workforce development. Federal program monitoring is coming. Make sure you are meeting course needs, aligning lessons with competencies, updating competency records, have a course sequence and plan of study, accurate inventory, participating in the FFA, practicing safety, securing industry credentials, incorporating work-based learning, and making sure you're using technology, participating in professional development and providing accommodations. Cyber security jobs are in high demand. Ms. Nutter is looking for people to serve on curriculum review and development committees. You must have been teaching for three years and must commit to both virtual and face-to-face meetings. Tess Seibel will be Virginia's National Officer Candidate this year. All new teachers were introduced.

Jonathan asked for a motion to adopt the bylaws changes. Brian Alexander made the motion, Jessica Jones seconded, motion passed. It was then moved and seconded to elect Jessica Jones as President of the VAAE for the next year. Ted Delano moved to elect Teresa Lindberg to President-Elect. The motion was seconded and passed.

Brian Alexander also announced the process for hiring a new Executive Secretary has begun. The job description is written, the panel will be announced and teachers will be allowed to view presentations of the final candidates and provide feedback.

The meeting was adjourned.