WAAE Meeting
Minutes
11-11-06

I. The meeting was called to order by Keith Gundlach at 9:00 a.m. in the absence of president Jerry Wendt and president-elect Ralph Johnson. Ralph Johnson arrived and continued with chairing the meeting. Those present included Dick and Linda Aide, Ralph Johnson, Keith Gundlach, Arlaina Meyer, Dale Rosen, Becky Wirkus, Glenda Crook, Marty Nowak, David Friend, David Kruse, Dan Kvalheim, Peter Hoffman, Jeff Hicken, Ron VonGlahn, Joe Hienbuch, Jeremiah Frederickson, Linda Burton, Brian Kast, Melinda Goplin, Jay Kennedy, Cheryl Zimmerman.

II. Approval of Agenda
   A. Brian Kast moved to accept the agenda with flexibility, seconded by Becky Wirkus, motion passed.

III. Approval of Summer Conference Minutes
   A. David Friend moved to accept the minutes, seconded by Glenda Crook, motion passed.

IV. Financial Report
   A. Dick Aide pointed out the financial report in the officer packets and discussed the report with the board.
   B. Dick pointed out the special account to administer the CDE funds which were transferred to WAAE from the FFA Foundation.
   C. Discussion was also held regarding future expenses that WAAE may incur with the transfer of the executive director position.
   D. Ron Von Glahn brought up the fact that the administration of the CDE account should be paid for from the CDE funds.
   E. Becky Wirkus moved to accept the financial report, seconded by Brian Kast, motion carried.

V. Membership
   A. Dick pointed out the membership materials in the board packets and discussed the material with the board.
   B. Dick said that we are down in membership numbers compared to other years at this time. We are at 299 members and our goal is around 326 members. Dick encouraged the vice-presidents to recruit the non-members and try to get them to join.
   C. Discussion with group about how to recruit members. Number one problem was identified that those who don't attend summer conference forget to pay their dues. Reminder letter should help with this. Becky Wirkus asked to have the tenure years put on the member/non-member lists. Marty Nowak said that he has heard members ask, "why are our dues so high when we have reserves over $100,000?". Dan Kvalheim (visitor to meeting) suggested that perhaps a fact sheet should be sent to all teachers telling them about the use of Carl Perkins funds and that they should request these funds for help in paying their conference fees. Jeff Hicken said that it is being emphasized that Carl Perkins funds be used for professional development. It should be emphasized to teachers that those who pay any part of their own conference fees, this can be used as a tax write-off. Becky Wirkus mentioned that when she returns from the conference she sends a letter to the administration telling them how much she benefited from the conference and she puts a dollar value on the materials she receives at the conference. It needs to be communicated to non-members that they

are receiving benefits that the majority are paying for.

D. Emphasis that membership recruitment needs to be done at the present time. We would like to have the members in place by January 1st. Jeff Hicken said we should have a press release showing the benefits of membership and the dollar value of curriculum, etc. received at conference. Could be sent to administrators in early April to show them the benefit of sending their ag teacher to conference.

VI. Old Business

A. ACTE/NAAE Convention. Ralph announced that we have a large delegation going to Atlanta. Wisconsin is very well represented in the award area at this convention. Dick will send out an updated list on arrival and departure times. He also pointed out the article writing assignments for the convention. Cost sharing: $4500 divided up among the board members attending. $300 stipend for non-board members or alternates attending. Any award winners who have their way paid will not receive any money from WAAE.

B. Report of Fall Inservice meetings was given by each sectional representative. Everyone reported a successful meeting with good discussions, tours, etc. Ralph thanked the vice-presidents for setting up all of the meetings. Jeff Hicken reported that next year it is hoped to have all inservice meetings for 2007 within a two week period the second and third weeks in November. Also plan to have these dates and plans in place during Professional Development Conference. Section I and II reported that they have to have their inservice during teacher's convention in October; if it is moved to November, they will lose attendance. Jeff said that is no problem and he can work with that.

VII. New Business

A. Spring Inservice. This is an after-school session and is planned by the vice-presidents.

B. National AgEd Inservice - Jeff Hicken

1. Conflict of time of inservice with alumni convention. Five from Wisconsin will be attending. Discussion of whether or not we should send an additional WAAE representative. Ralph Johnson was selected as the choice and he will be in contact with Jeff Hicken about this.

C. Campus Visits - Ralph asked that the visits with the campus's take place. Becky Wirkus announced that Rachel Sauvola visited the UW River Falls campus.

D. Minutes from Sectional Meetings - Ralph Johnson asked that each section keep minutes of their meetings and forward a copy of those to Ralph and Bridgett and they will be posted on the website. Any sectional minutes should always be sent to Bridgett to be posted on the website so your sectional members can keep up to date on what is happening in their sections.

E. Committee Structure and Updates - Ralph Johnson. Ralph passed out a list of items from the committee reports listing the questions, etc. from each committee. These items were discussed with the board members. The importance of having a statewide mentor/mentee committee was discussed and emphasized. Glenda Crook stated that she feels the Section VI Member Development Committee is very important and needs direction as to what their task and goal should be. Keith Gundlach suggested putting on the ListServe a question as to who would like to work on and serve on a mentor/mentee committee. Suggested to have Section VI committee be membership development and recruitment (or Jay suggested membership services). Jay said that he will contact Adam Wehling about ideas concerning International Agriculture.

1. Keith Gundlach moved to change Section IX committee to Diversity, seconded by David Kruse, motion passed.

2. David Kruse brought up discussion about getting involved in fundraising to fund CAERT. Could develop curriculum CD's, etc. and collect royalties on this material. David says he feels that there is some real potential here for the association. Jay says that UW Platteville and UW Madison would be interested in working with ag teachers on this and provide graduate credit for instructors who help in the development of materials. Jeff Hicken said that this should be brought up at Halftime as the CAERT presenters will be at that conference.
3. Jay Kennedy moved to appoint a committee to present to CAERT at Halftime about this project, seconded by Keith Gundlach, discussion followed to have a 3 person committee as opposed to putting it to a sectional committee, motion passed. Committee volunteers included Jay Kennedy and David Kruse.
4. Ralph reminded sectional vice-presidents to get any updates on names for the committees to him and to fill in any blank spots on the committees from your section to him. Committee membership is posted on the website.

F. Winter Newsletter - Dick reminded members to send him their articles for the newsletter by December 1st.

G. Sectional Newsletters - Dick reminded vice-presidents to send out their sectional newsletters and to send him a copy of those newsletters for the files. After a board meeting is a good time to send out newsletters.

H. NAAE Region III Conference 2008 - Ron VonGlahn
1. The conference will be held in LaCrosse. There will be a riverboat cruise with pizza and beer. The conference will be on June 17-19, 2008.

I. DATCP Ag Ed Position Initiative - Keith Gundlach
1. Keith reported on the meetings that have been taking place and the membership of the committee.
2. The legislation has been written. There is an interim position that will be filled until the July time when the candidate is selected.
3. Fund raising has been taking place for this position but more will be raised to fund the position.
4. An actual copy of the legislation will be given to the board at the Halftime conference.
5. Keith Gundlach moved to give $5000 to the Ag Ed Interim Position, seconded by Dale Rosen, discussion followed. This contribution would bring the salary up to $20,000 (as other groups have contributed money) and it will be the job of the interim to establish contacts to further raise funds, etc. to secure the position of an ag ed position. This $20,000 is a start-up fund to get the position started. It is hoped that eventually this position will be totally funded by the legislature. The $5000 will come from the reserves of WAAE and not from the operating expenses of WAAE. Voting proceeded. Motion passed unanimously. Keith expressed that Paul Larson and Al Herman have put a tremendous amount of work into this initiative.

J. Award Revision. Dick sent out information about revisions to awards that will align with the NAAE member awards. Discussion followed. Brian Kast stated that he feels that the form should not be changed for this year as there is not time for a change to take place. Some have already filled out the form as it is at present. Keith Gundlach moved to use the current form for member awards for the present year, use the new mentor application and to postpone using a new member form for the future, seconded by Glenda Crook, discussion followed. Motion passed.

K. Evaluation of 2006 Summer conference. Keith passed out a summary of the

evaluations and discussed this document with the board.

L. Professional Development Conference Planning will take place as a separate meeting before the Halftime Conference in January.

VIII. Reports

A. Cheryl Zimmerman - FFA Center: Cheryl handed out a report to the board concerning the FFA Center activities. She discussed the report with the board members and answered questions.

B. Jeff Hicken - DPI. Jeff reported on the Summit meeting. Good presentation given by Larry Plapp, Jerry Wendt, and Roger King. Recommendations will be released and board members were encouraged to be sure and read these. They will be on the DPI website under "High School Redesigned".

1. Jeff will be having a meeting with Bob Ray (UW Madison) on setting up certification on ag-science curriculum certification. He will meet with other colleges in the future and this work will continue.
2. CAERT project update was given. Two more inservices on this will still be coming. Tool kits will need to be gotten into the teacher's hands and how will this be funded. FFA Foundation has been contacted to help with funding. Should non-members be very low priority in receiving FFA Foundation funding help? It was decided that this should be the case.
3. Jeff asked for input on the next issue. Jeff wants to know how best we can help some of our colleagues in the ag teaching field. He has sensed that help is needed by some due to some of the ListServe requests. There are requests by some for such items as requests for worksheets for videos such as "Finding Nemo". Jeff is trying to stress rigor and discipline so we can get science credit. This may not present a good image to our science colleagues. How can we help some of these instructors? Discussion followed. Suggestion to put an article in the newsletter about this situation.

C. WTCS - Peter Hoffman. Pete was asked to report in the absence of Jim Gibson. He did not have any additional information at this time.

D. Promotions and Publicity - Linda Burton. Linda reported on what is happening with that committee at the present time. Scheduling materials will be available to be printed out. Ferron Havens reported to the committee that the booklet on agriculture for elementary schools will be updated and available soon. Linda said that any information and ideas for their committee would be greatly appreciated.

E. Team Ag Ed Meeting - Keith Gundlach. Keith reported on the Branding Initiative.

F. Executive Director Search - Ron VonGlahn. Ron passed out the minutes of the August 8th meeting. He then discussed the work of the committee with the board. Goal is to have new executive director hired by January 1, 2008. Discussion of the document followed, particularly concerning the suggested salary figures.

IX. The Meeting Adjourned at 12:37 p.m. Ralph reminded board members to work on membership recruitment and to do a sectional newsletter of items from this meeting to inform their section of what is happening.