WAAE Executive Board
Minutes
11-12-05

I. The meeting was called to order by Keith Gundlach.
II. Doug Raymakers moved to approve the agenda with flexibility, seconded by Dave Laatsch, motion passed.
    A. The board members introduced themselves. Those present included Keith Gundlach, Ron VonGlahn, Dave Laatsch, Larry Plapp, Jeff Hicken, Rachel Sauvola, Becky Wirkus, LeRoy Miller, Arlaina Meyer, Diane Runde, David Friend, Marty Nowak, Jeff Zobeck, Doug Raymakers, Brian Kast, Jerry Wendt, Dick and Linda Aide.
III. Approval of Summer Conference Minutes
    A. Jeff Hicken moved to approve the minutes as printed, seconded by Rachel Sauvola, motion passed.
    B. Dick Aide congratulated Jeff Hicken on his new job as DPI Ag Ed Consultant.
IV. Financial Report - Richard Aide
    A. Dick brought the financial report in the folders to the attention of the board. He mentioned the new format that the accounting firm is using.
    B. Dick discussed the financial report with the board. Discussion of the report followed.
V. Membership Report - Richard Aide
    A. Dick asked the board members to look at the spreadsheet in their folders. He then discussed this with the board. Discussion followed.
    B. Membership at present is 320 members.
    C. Dick pointed out that each sectional vice-president has a printout of members and non-members in their section. Vice Presidents were encouraged to do their best to move non-members to member status.
VI. Old Business
    A. ACTE/NAAE Convention. December 6-11, Kansas City, MO, '05.
        1. Dick asked everyone who is attending to let him know their arrival and departure dates .
        2. Dick talked about promoting Paul Larson's candidacy for president-elect of NAAE. All members need to attend the host state social as that is where the promotion will take place. You need to go on the website and sign up for that host state social ahead of arriving at the convention.
        3. Paul has asked for help from the WAAE in printing a brochure to promote his candidacy. Ron asked if he anticipates any other expenses. Paul said there should be some letters mailed to other states so there would be postage costs. Paul said he would like the group who is going to get together and discuss "talking points". The Wisconsin group will meet at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday of the NAAE Convention.
        4. Rachel Sauvola moved to spend $850 on the brochures for Paul Larson's candidacy, seconded by Doug Raymakers, motion passed.
    B. WAAE/DPI Fall Inservice
        1. The sectional vice-presidents discussed the fall inservice sessions in their sections. Reports were given by Jeff Hicken, Rachel Sauvola, Becky Wirkus, David Friend, Doug Raymakers, Larry Plapp, and Brian Kast.
        2. Dick Aide brought to the attention of the board that some of the meetings overspent their budget for food and snacks. He asked the board how this will be handled. Comments were made that the facilities required them to use the food service provided.
VII. Reports

A. FFA Center Board - Cheryl Zimmerman
    1. Cheryl reported to the board on what is happening at the FFA Center. She passed out a handout to go with her oral report. The handout highlights the activities of the center.
    2. Cheryl praised the work of national president, Jackie Mundt of Wisconsin at the national convention.

B. Advocacy - Paul Larson
    1. Paul worked with the Public Relations and PR committee on an advocacy plan for ag ed. Paul said that he also worked with Jen Bos who is WAAE advocacy person and went to the conference on this.
    2. Paul handed out the plan that the group worked out. He said that he strongly recommends that some of these ideas be adopted.
    3. Paul discussed the ideas in the handout with the board. Paul stressed regularly contacting your legislators. He also went over the 10 steps for success outlined in the plan.
    4. Keith announced that this advocacy will be on the agenda for the halftime conference and it will be a major work activity at the halftime conference.

C. PR and Public Relations - Linda Burton
    1. Linda reported that Jen Bos is working on a Northwoods Day on the Hill in the northern counties with legislators. The Day on the Hill will continue at FFA State Convention time as this worked very well in the past.
    2. Linda reported that their committee is working closely with the advocacy. Jen Bos attended the advocacy workshop sponsored by ACTE at the national level and it was very good. This workshop takes place in March and WAAE should send a representative to this conference as it is very valuable.
    3. Outdoor Wisconsin has filmed a segment at Freedom and it should air in November. This is good exposure for ag ed. The website is also being used and is successful. They will contact Ferron Havens to see if the booklet can be published again also.
    4. Alternatives to the poster were also discussed. Two-sided ag ed fact sheet was a possibility discussed, bookmarks, brochures also discussed. These would be available to be printed out as needed.
    5. The unified voice of ag ed was stressed as an outcome of the branding meeting.

D. President's Report - Keith Gundlach
    1. Keith reported on meetings that he has been attending. Lots of work is being done on ag ed task force planning, Vision 20/20, SAE committee work, advocacy - he has a letter written to President Bush and has it ready to mail.

E. DPI - Jeff Hicken reported that upcoming work will be done in the future on curriculum in ag ed. This will come from the Vision 20/20 planning and will involve working with higher education in ag ed. January 30th will be his official start date at the DPI. He is very interested in looking at statewide curriculum in ag ed.

F. Mentor/Mentee Report - Bridgett Neu
    1. Bridget reported that there are two new teachers without a mentor as one is not available.
    2. More mentors are always needed and need to attend the training. Section IV is especially in need of mentors.
    3. Bridgett reported that she had a phone call from Cornell University asking to work together with us on the mentor/mentee program. Cornell also brought to Bridgett's attention that Iowa State has copied WAAE's material from their website verbatim. A suggestion from Cornell is that there be an application process for getting a mentor.

4. Bridgett mentioned that she often gets questions that she can't always answer and perhaps a committee could be formed to help her with these questions and concerns and also to help new teachers as needed.
5. Diane Runde mentioned that she feels personal contacts need to be made to people the vice presidents feel would be good mentors. All some people need is some encouragement to be trained to become a mentor. Diane also suggested that our mentor training be aligned with the DPI mentor training so that our mentor training also qualifies one to be a mentor in their school districts also.

VIII. New Business

A. Copyright of Materials for Website - Dick Aide
   1. Dick informed the board that some question came up regarding using copyrighted information on the website. Dick asked if we should develop a policy to have the person sign something giving permission to use material received on the website. Discussion followed.
   2. Suggestions: Forms could be included in a place such as summer conference booklet that members could sign saying information that they share will be available for publication on the website or ListServe.

B. National AgEd Inservice - Keith Gundlach stated that he will be attending the National AgEd Inservice with Jeff Hicken, Rick Bockhop, Tim Buttles and Cheryl Zimmerman

C. Campus Visits
   1. Rachel visited UW River Falls several times and reported that things are going very well at the ag ed department. She reported on some of the activities and enrollment.
   2. Diane Runde asked for information on what school she is to visit and what she needs to do. Jerry Wendt informed Diane that she is to contact Dr. Lake at UW Madison to visit the ag ed class and answer questions and discuss WAAE with the ag ed students.

D. 2005 Summer Conference Review - Ron VonGlahn
   1. Ron drew attention to the summer conference review summary that he developed and discussed this evaluation with the board.

E. Minutes from Sectional Meetings - Dick Aide reported on which sections sent minutes from the sectional meetings. He reported which had sent the minutes and which still need to send minutes.

F. Winter Newsletter Articles. Dick pointed out which members need to send newsletter articles. They are listed on the agenda.

G. Sectional Newsletters. Keith reminded vice-presidents to send sectional newsletters to keep their section members updated.

H. NAAE Region III Conference 2008. Ron VonGlahn reported that he has been working with the LaCrosse visitor's bureau on plans for the 2008 conference.

I. Hometown Scholarship Program - Dick Aide brought the board up to date on the program with the Chevrolet dealerships. There is approximately a 16% participation with the dealerships in WI. Mr. Erickson reports to Dick that he is pleased with how the program went this year. Dick does not have financial figures available yet. It is hoped that Ford and Dodge will be added for the future. Diane Runde reported that this program cost their local dealership lots of money and the school district was limited in where they were allowed to sell tickets so she felt bad for their dealership. Other vice-presidents reported that their dealership costs were differing amounts. It was discussed that Wisconsin did not have the best head representative for this program and that there are also present problems with the economy.

IX. Work Session

A. The board divided into groups to work on the following areas: committee structure, membership recruitment, summer conference, and letter to administrators for awards.
B. Committee Structure Report - Jerry Wendt
    1. Jerry passed out a packet of materials to the board members. Jerry explained how the committees work and then passed out the committee reports. Suggestion of a "runway" to showcase exhibitors. He also highlighted what the other committees have recommended in their reports. Special workshops committee is suggesting that they be disbanded as their committee function is not working out. Look at having a committee on mentor/mentee. Rachel mentioned that there is no committee report from Section II on support for the northern area golf outing.
C. Membership Recruitment - Rachel Sauvola
    1. Rachel said that the first step will be to get information to Dick regarding who is no longer teaching, who has moved from their sections, etc.
    2. Two letters need to be developed; one for those who have not been members in a long time and one for those who have recently been members and these letters will invite them to be members. Doug will develop these letters. This information and sample letters will be sent to vice-presidents via email.
D. Summer Conference
    1. Ron VonGlahn reported that their group is making good progress with ideas for 2006 summer conference and work will continue on this.
E. Letter to Administrators for Awards
    1. Jeff Hicken said that it would be good for a letter to be sent to the members who are nominated for awards in the areas of young member, outstanding teacher, and outstanding program. The nominees would need to let Dick know the names and addresses of superintendents, principals, and board presidents in order to send this letter out. Put a line on the application asking for these names and addresses.
    2. It was decided that Dick and Keith will develop a form letter and it will be mailed to the vice-presidents and they will send these letters out to their sections.

X. Meeting Schedule
A. Dick announced that everyone needs to bring all their award applications to the January meeting.
B. Jerry suggested that many will be bringing students and they will have extra time. Could these students meet together and have a "jam" session or help state officers? Becky Wirkus said that her student teacher could help supervise this group. The board could provide pizza and soda for the kids.
C. Bridgett asked if any polo shirts need to be ordered for board members. It was not needed at this time.

XI. Meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.
A. There will be a meeting at the home of Dick Aide on December 30th at 10 a.m. to do intensive planning for summer conference for Dick, Keith, Ron, Jerry, Bridgett, Jim, and Jeff.