**SDAAE MEETING MINUTES**

**SD FFA CONVENTION MEETING**

**APRIL 15, 2013**

The 2013 SDAAE Spring meeting was held on April 15, 2013 in the Campanile Room 169 of the SDSU Student Union. A continental breakfast was served prior to the meeting compliments of the College of Ag-Bio, SDSU.

The meeting was called to order by SDAAE President Adam Franken at 9am.

Orders of the day were approved with flexibility.

Reflections were given by Todd Marks, SDAAE Vice President.

Dr. Barry Dunn, Dean of the College of Ag-Bio, SDSU gave a welcome and shared the he can tell which students were FFA members when applying for scholarships. These students are also more active in travel opportunities, growth on campus, judging teams, and the are committed to continuing ag-ed on campus.

The secretary’s report was submitted to the members prior to the meeting via email by Todd Marks. Motion to approve the secretary’s report was made by Terry Ricckman; second by John Rist. Motion passed with a voice vote.

Treasurer’s report was given by Michelle Nelson, SDAAE Executive Treasurer. Highlights of the report included:

 1. Use of Star Partner money for summer conference.

 2. New Ag. Teachers conference.

 3. Region III conference in Yankton in June of 2013.

 4. Stipend for regional and national NAAE conferences.

 5. The auction money at Region III to go to NAAE hardship fund.

Motion to accept the Treasurer’s report was made by John Rist; Second by Evan Papousek.

State FFA Officers presented greetings to the State Convention.

Jim Carmichael of the SD National Guard was present to discuss the Vet Cap mission being coordinated by the National Guard. This mission is to encourage adults and young people to do something in our own backyard to help those in need. The Vet Cap mission is a 2-4 day event to be held between June 10-18, 2013 on SD Indian Reservations. Army Veterinarians, Army Vet Assistants and FFA members will have 4 different opportunities with this project to work with small animals on the reservations.

Wyatt DeJong gave some convention announcements at this time.

National FFA Vice President, Lindsey Anderson gave brief comments to our group and stated, “Thank you for everything you do, it does not go unnoticed.”

Jason Karels of LATI was present to give an update of what is happening at LATI. They currently have 220 students and continue to grow. They are in the process of hiring a full time high school Ag-Ed Instructor.

No comments or announcements were given by the state supervisor, Nora Kohlenberg as she was on maternity leave.

Dr. Clark Hanson presented announcements and updates on behalf of Hanson Associates. He discussed the corduroy classic, a Brookings area scholarship, and that SDRL would like to be part of the summer conference.

South Dakota SD FFA Foundation update was presented by Gerri Eide, Executive Director. The FFA Foundation currently donates $70,000 to the State FFA Convention for awards, scholarships, venue rental, career carnival, state degree banquet, etc.

Roger DeRouchey presented the Farm and Ranch Business Management 2012 Annual Report. There are currently 110 farms in the report, the toolkit for the report is now online, and Roger also announced his retirement from this position at MTI after 30+ years.

Lowell Mesmen of the SD Farm Bureau was present to give an update on the Farm Bureau’s involvement with the FFA and leadership. The Farm Bureau Board of Directors supports the SD FFA financially and supports judging events at the local and county levels. There are currently 13,000 member families their Young Farmer & Rancher Program for people ages 18-35 promotes leadership skills and advocacy. The Collegiate Farm Bureau Chapter at SDSU has been active for 5 years and they hold a collegiate discussion meet.

Dave VanderWal gave a brief report and updates concerning FFA at the SD State Fair. There will be some changes in the 4-H weigh in schedule and all FFA registration will be at the superintendant’s office in the Ag. Mechanics Building. No DNA test of livestock will be required as 95% of the animals are already in 4-H. A ram show will be added this year.

Mary Christensen gave a brief report on Agricultural Education at SDSU. Brad Blaha and herself are assisting with advising the Ag-Ed students until a replacement for Dr. Smith is hired. There are currently 72 students specializing in Ag-Ed with 8 graduating in May of 2013 and 5 will be student teaching in the fall of 2013.

Announcements were made of 2 new Alumni events this year at the state FFA convention.

 1. A silent auction will be held in Frost Arena

 2. An Alumni reception will be held between the state degree banquet and Monday evening session in HPER room 104.

Adam Franken reminded the group that NAAE Region 3 conference will be held in Yankton on June 18-20, 2013. As SD is the host state, he encouraged all members to attend. Please check the SDAAE website at sdaae.weebly.com for the conference flyer, motel information & registration forms.

Terry Rieckman, NAAE Region III Vice-President gave a brief report which included:

 1. NAAE is currently revising their strategic plan.

 2. NPS is a wonderful opportunity and SDAAE pays for this. No one from SD could attend this year.

 3. Babysitting will be available at the Region 3 conference.

 4. Please thank the SD Cattlemen’s Associaton for sponsoring the picnic at Region 3.

 5. Encouraged everyone to fill out award applications.

Terry Rieckman also spoke as he is the current SDACTE Past-President. Please consider running for SDACTE office so that there is an Ag. Person on that board.

Reminder that the SDAAE/SDACTE summer conference will be held on the MTI Campus in Mitchell on July 28-31, 2013. Book your rooms at the Hampton Inn and the Comfort Inn and they are connected by meeting rooms. Each district $50 for hospitality room.

Also another reminder that the NAAE/ACTE conference will be held in Las Vegas this year, Dec. 3-7. Future conference sites are Nashville in 2014 & New Orleans in 2015.

SD Executive Secretary, Michelle Nelson, submitted her report and voiced concerns with changes on campus concerning the Ag-Ed program, loss of advocates in Pierre, reduction in staff hours, and the reduction of the Ag-Ed department from 2 professors to only 1. Raised the issue of who do we lobby for more support and funding for our programs?

A great deal of discussion followed this report addressing the following issues:

 1. The relocation of the Ag-Ed department to the College of Ag. at SDSU.

 2. The lack of a full time secretary for the State FFA Association office.

 3. The amount of time required to complete all the responsibilities of the state FFA Executive Secretary.

 4. Should FFA Foundation money be used for additional staff?

 5. Who should we contact for assistance with these problems?.

With no obvious solution to these issues being reached. President Adam Franken asked for the creation of a task force to look into this situation and asked for 4-5 volunteers to serve on this task force. Dani herring, Evan Papousek, Kelly Dunkelberger, Sarah VanDerVliet and Kelly O’Donnell volunteered to serve on the task force.

Final items of business discussed at this meeting were:

 Discussion of Honorary Membership

 Teacher of Teacher Applications

 30-Minute Club Applications

 NAAE Award Applications re due to Adam Franken by May 1, 2103

 SDACTE Award Applications are due to Roberta Stoebner by July 1, 2013.

Be no further business, Meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Todd Marks

(Using Tara Bietelspacher’s notes)