



NEBRASKA FFA

ALUMNI AND SUPPORTERS

Nebraska FFA Alumni and Supporters Council
January 17th, 2025 Meeting Minutes

The January 17th meeting of the Nebraska FFA Alumni & Supporters Council was called to order by President Jill Goedecken at 8:01 a.m. at the Scarlet Hotel in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Those in attendance are as follows; Jill Goedecken, Jenny Meyer, Rachel Tagge, Stan Heyen, Kevin Henrichson, Brett Nunnenkamp, Tammie Steinhauer, Monty Larsen, Melissa Hagemeister, Tom Hoffman Lori Walla, Kenny Reinke, Matt Scholz and special guest, Corynn Flood, Central Region Representative on the National FFA Alumni & Supporters Advisory Board.

A motion to accept the secretary's preport was moved by Melissa Hagemeister, and seconded by Tom Hofmann. Motion carried.

Brett Nunnenkamp gave a report on our finances. Our reported income was \$57,842.45. Expenses were \$61,651.41, giving us a checkbook balance of \$61,007.42. Our total assests are \$352,138.72.

The increase in income came from ad sales and convention merchandise.

The Nebraska FFA Alumni & Supporters Council has 3 CD's that are due. The new rate at Exchange bank for 2 of the CD's is 4%.

A motion to take advantage of that new rate was moved by Tom Hofmann, and seconded by Kevin Henrichson. Motion carried.

A third CD, worth \$80,000, is located at First Northeast Bank.

A motion to re-enroll that CD was moved by Kevin Henrichson, and seconded by Monty Larson. Motion carried.

Rachel Tagge presented the “Local Chapter Golden Idea Competition.”

Local alumni chapters can compete to receive a monetary award to fund current or new events for their chapter. Participants will give 5 minute pitches to a panel of three judges. The winners will receive a free advertisement in the Blue and Gold magazine, and on our website. \$1,500 will be given for first place, \$1,000 for second and \$500 for third. The competition will be held the Friday night of our annual convention. These winners would then present at the following years’ convention. Participants must provide a follow-up report. If no report is provided, that group will not be eligible to apply the following year.

Corynn Flood suggested it be called “*The First Annual* Local Chapter Golden Idea Competition.” Rachel Tagge will print 100 pamphlets to hand out at the annual meeting tomorrow. We will utilize the NEFFAmagazine@gmail.com as the contact email address.

A motion to allocate \$3,000 for the “Local Chapter Golden Idea Competition” for the awards was moved by Stan Heyen, and seconded by Kenny Reinke. Motion carried.

Brett Nunnenkamp provided the proposed 2025 budget. The added expense of the Golden Idea Competition will now be added to the proposed budget.

A motion to approve the proposed 2025 budget was moved by Kevin Henrichson, and seconded by Tammie Steinhauer. Motion carried.

A motion to create a short term CD with \$20,000 from our Checking Account was moved by Matt Scholz, and seconded by Tom Hofmann. Motion carried.

Monty Larsen gave the UNL report.

UNL’s Teacher Prep team is the largest in the nation with 9 members. The Husker High School event was held at Lincoln Northeast High School. Teacher retention is



NEBRASKA FFA

ALUMNI AND SUPPORTERS

a high priority. He says our Alumni Council's support of Ag teachers is vital to their retention.

Stacie Turnbull's previous position with the Department of Education, is currently open.

Kaydie Brandl, NAEA representative, reported that several members attended the NAEA convention in San Antonio, Texas. Ag teachers are currently busy with CTE, State degree and Proficiency preparation.

Nebraska State FFA Advisor, Sarah Heideman, would like our council to hand out awards at the Thursday session of the State Convention. They would like us to continue helping with activities at The Cube on Friday, April 4, from 2:00-3:30.

A Post- Secondary report was submitted by Courtney Nelson. She said many locations are currently hosting district livestock judging events and hosting CDE's.

Melissa, FFA Foundation representative, said there was nothing new to report from the fall. Their next meeting will be February 6th.

Council members gave reports on activities occurring in chapters across the state.

Tammie Steinhauer, Membership chair, reported 14 new state life, and annual, members, with 7 currently serving as state officers.

The membership account has a checkbook balance of \$10,906.04. Last year's income was \$13, 282.00. There was \$12,932.39 in expenses. We will have a drawing for \$500 between Arlington, Minden and Syracuse, as they are second year alumni chapters.

Awards chairperson, Rachel Tagge, said the awards application deadline will continue to be December 1. Laura, from Rixtine Awards, will attend our banquet on January 18th, 2025 in the evening.

The Nominating Committee reported the following members have expiring terms and would like to be on the ballot: Jill Goedecken, Brett Nunnenkamp, Rachel Tagge and Kevin Henrichson.

Danie Brandl's term will also end, but she is not seeking another term.

Matt McElfresh has agreed to be on the ballot. We will ask for additional nominations from the floor to be on the ballot at the annual meeting.

Old Business:

2026 State FFA Alumni & Supporters Convention will be in Valentine, Nebraska on January 16 & 17. The Convention committee will consist of Tammie , Tom, Stan, Monty and Lori.

Stacie Turnbill, Matt Kreifels, Becky Haddad, and Toni Rasmussen have created a Teacher Retention committee and would like to work with our council. They have asked for monetary help to fund scholarships for their Mentor/Mentee program.

A motion to participate in the program and offer financial support was moved by Lori Walla , and seconded by Tammie Steinhauer. Motion Carried.

Jill Goedecken will serve as our representative on this committee.

There were proposed amendments to our By-Laws.

In Article 3 Section B, there is a proposal to add the following: There shall be no more than two council members from any one local Nebraska FFA Alumni & Supporters Chapter.

No motion was given.



NEBRASKA FFA

ALUMNI AND SUPPORTERS

Article 5 Number 6 in our current By-Laws say that our council will have a Membership Chairperson who will serve as an ExOfficio member. To clarify, being ExOfficio does NOT mean they are a non-voting member. Currently our By-Laws say our council is made up of 13 voting representatives.

A motion to propose a change to Article 5 Number 6 concerning the membership Chairperson was made by Tom Hoffman, and seconded by Kevin Henrichson. Motion Carried.

New Business:

The 2025 State FFA Convention is April 2-4 in Lincoln at Pinnacle Bank Arena. Jill Goedecken will continue to coordinate with Shirts 101. She will ask them to keep our online store open all week. We will continue to bring Corn Hole games. Kenny will follow up with Les as to how to order new boards and bean bags. Brett will look into our stock order merchandise to sell at our booth. Gift items were a big hit last year. Brett Nunnenkamp and Matt Scholz will collaborate what to order.

We will continue to provide games for The Cube on Friday, April 3 from 2:00-3:30.

A motion to order a new banner with our logo, as one of our banners was damaged two years ago was moved by Kevin Henrichson, and seconded by Kenny Reinke. Motion carried.

Kevin Henrichson will inquire with Fire Spring about this.

Corynn Flood , National Central Region Representative from the National FFA Alumni & Supporters, said there are 1,027,273 members in FFA. There are 9235 FFA chapters and 13,000 advisors. She also said, nationally, there are 760,152 alumni members in 2033 chapters. She congratulated us on our National Silver

Award. She encouraged us to add several links to our website. One being about the grants that are available, information about travel programs that are available and there is a document we can link as a resource on how to submit new membership. Additionally, National has an EDI inclusion statement that should be added to the website. Corynn's seat will be available after this year as she is concluding her time on the Council. She thanked Jill and Matt for their dedication.

Dates were shared for upcoming RDC events. Dates were also shared for National FFA Alumni Supporters Meet Ups.

Other business:

The banquet programs Jill Goedeken ordered from the UPS store had an increased price from last year. It was noted that convention sponsorship would pay for this price increase.

We will continue to provide ¾ zip shirts for the state officers. Jill asked the council if we would like new apparel. Rachel Tagge and Jenny Meyer will look into this.

A motion to adjourn was made at 11:11 a.m. by Tammie Steinhauer, and was seconded by Kenny Reinke. Motion Carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:11 a.m. on January 17, 2025.

The next meeting will be held on Saturday, March 8th, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. at the Leadership Center in Aurora, NE. This will be our goal setting meeting for the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Meyer, Secretary