



NEBRASKA FFA

ALUMNI AND SUPPORTERS

Nebraska FFA Alumni and Supporters Council March 8th, 2025 Meeting Minutes

The March 8th meeting of the Nebraska FFA Alumni & Supporters Council was called to order by President Matt Scholz at 9:01 a.m at the Leadership Center in Aurora, NE.

Those attending the meeting in person were Stan Heyen, Kevin Henrichson, Brett Nunnenkamp, Jenny Meyer, Matt Scholz, Tom Hoffman and Kenny Reinke. Jill Goedeken, Monty Larsen, Reagan Choat, Lori Walla, Rachel Tagge and Tammie Steinhauer attended via Zoom.

Brett moved and Kevin seconded the motion to accept the secretary's report. Motion carried.

Stan moved and Jill seconded the motion to accept the January Special Meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Brett reported income of \$24,055.81. Expenses were \$28,308.95 giving us a checkbook balance of \$38,957.22. Our total assets are \$350,728.62. Brett reported the convention registration brought in \$4,590.00. The Article Auction brought in \$5,007.00. The Dessert Fundraiser made \$3,530.00 which was donated to the local FFA chapters that assisted with our convention.

As previously voted on, Brett put \$20,000 in a CD at Cornerstone Bank at 4.1%. All the CD's have been renewed.

Council members gave reports on activities from the following chapters across the state: Sutton, Crete, Lakeview, Raymond Central, Arcadia, Osceola, Cross County, EMF, High Plains, Alliance and Antelope County.

Reagan Choat provided an update on the state officers activities. He said they have had a lot of in-person impact with students while traveling across the state.

Monty Larsen gave the UNL report. He said faculty is currently visiting many first year teachers. He reported there are 29 Freshman ALEC students. All but one student teachers have secured a teaching job in the fall. There continues to be a demand for Ag teachers in our state. Their nationally recognized, Husker High School, will occur on April 23rd.

NAEA rep, Kaydie Brandl, sent a report that said teachers are finalizing district qualifications. State proficiency reviews were held in Kearney, as well as state Star placements.

Post-Secondary representative, Courtney Nelson, sent an email noting colleges have been hosting over 1,800 students for CDE events. They will have a booth at the State Convention.

Foundation Board update: Melissa sent a report. As of February 6, 56 FFA chapters had participated in over 400 sponsored engagement activities. \$80,000 in FFA Foundation grants have been given to FFA chapters, agricultural classroom experiences and school based enterprises.

Membership Chair, Tammie, said the checkbook balance is \$9,791.59. Most chapters have paid their renewal fee.

The Social Media Committee said the website has been updated with convention items. They added the links that Corynn had suggested.

State FFA Convention:

Jill reported that shirt sales are down- probably due to weather related school closures. She will order 400 more shirts and 50 hoodies to sell at the state convention. She will ask Shirt 101 to open up the online store so patrons can also purchase through QR code at the Convention.

Brett will pick up cornhole and materials from Les. Convention set up will occur at 7:30 a.m. on Wednesday with many helping. Kenny will close the booth each



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evening. Firespring created a new banner for our booth. The cost is \$360.00. Kevin will pick up.

Brett ordered store items such as: ties, state degree chains, suspenders, scarves, stuffed animals, hair clips, belt buckles, blankets and stickers. Prices on these items will remain the same as in the past. In addition, we will sell 7 designs of socks, for \$12.00 a pair. Kevin will order panty hose. Brett made store signs. We will advertise the Booth Sign up link on Facebook.

The Scholarship Committee will be in contact with Matt Kreifls. The scholarship recipients will continue to speak at the Convention at the Saturday luncheon.

2026 Convention will be held January 16 & 17, 2026, in Valentine Nebraska. The Convention committee is Tammie, Lori and Monty. Tammie shared that lodging and meeting rooms are secured. Tours will include CSS Farms, a grocery store operated by Kody-Kilgore students and Niobrara Vineyards. Meals and social locations are being coordinated.

Awards Chairperson, Rachel, said the Golden Idea application link is on the website and council members will remind alumni chapters about this new event. The Golden Idea presentation will be held on the Friday evening of Convention.

Old Business:

NCE Conference: On June 11, Rachel will present: "Golden Idea: Co-op Event Funding with FFA and Alumni."

Jill shared an update on the Teacher Retention Incentive program. We will continue to encourage Ag Teacher retention by funding scholarships for Ag teachers and gift cards for the mentors they want to recognize.

A motion to spend \$3,0000 for (6) \$500 first year teacher scholarships, that will go toward their first Ag graduate class, and \$1,000 for gift cards awarded to a mentor, colleague or community member that an Ag Teacher would like to nominate was made by Rachel and seconded by Tom.
Motion carried.

Jill will set up the application process with Matt Kreifels.

Upcoming National Dates and Remote Development Conferences were shared.

New Business:

We will add approved Council minutes to the website.

Other Business:

Council members are encouraged to sign up for new apparel in the next few days.

Jill received the “Admiral in the Great Navy of Nebraska” award from Govenor Pillen. Matt, Jenny and Rachel submitted a letter of nomination. Admirals in the Great Navy of the State of Nebraska are individuals who have contributed in some way to the state, promote the Good Life in Nebraska, and warrant recognition as determined by the Governor.”

The council visited about several future planning items. We will strive to keep open communication among the committee members. Our purpose is to fundraise, advertise and support local chapters. Our council will continue doing a community service project at our Annual Convention.

Council Member chapter assignments were restructured. Please check to see which chapters to correspond with.

The next meeting will be held on Saturday, June 14th, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. via zoom. Future meetings will be on September 6th at the Leadership Center in Aurora and November 9th in Columbus.

It was moved by Kevin and seconded by Kenny to adjourn meeting.

Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.



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Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Meyer, Secretary