

## Utah FFA Foundation Board of Trustees

Minutes – Semi-Annual Meeting

14 September 2009 – Utah State Fair Park

### In Attendance

Layne Anderson  
Sarah Buttars  
Buddy Deimler  
Brett Evans  
Tony Fassio  
Mark Gibbons  
Diane Jones

Mike Kohler (Guest)  
Dr. Kelly Matthews  
Clay Nielson  
Randy Parker  
Amberley Snyder  
Kyle Stephens  
Allan Sulser

### Excused

Kent Erickson  
Rick Lovell  
Cary Peterson  
Brent Tanner  
Jim Webb  
Dolores Wheeler

### **1. Call to Order**

Board Chair Clay Nielson called the meeting, at the Utah State Fair Park Board Room, to order at 1:05 pm. He welcomed the new members and asked for introductions around the table.

### **2. Seating of New Board Members**

New members Tony Fassio, Brent Tanner, Diane Jones, and Allan Sulser were seated as official members of the Utah FFA Foundation Board of Trustees.

### **3. Introduction of State FFA President**

Amberley Snyder provided a self introduction and also introduced her State Officer Team; Chantz Potter, Vice President from Manila HS; Kaytlyn Davies, Secretary from Desert Hills HS; Ellary Swenson, Treasurer from Payson HS; Emy Peterson, Reporter from Juab HS; and Christopher Cook, Sentinel from Springville HS.

### **4. Approval of Minutes**

Layne Anderson made the motion to accept the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Brett Evans which then passed.

### **5. Financial Report**

The current Utah FFA Foundation Balance Sheet, January 1, 2009 through August 31, 2009, shows Total Assets equal to \$186,094 with total liabilities equal to \$0.00 leaving a Total Liabilities & Fund Balance of \$186,094. Contributions are currently at \$25,595 with \$10,910 in regular donations to the Foundation, \$13,382 in donations collected for the 2009 State FFA Convention, and \$1,303 in interest. The Utah Department of Agriculture and Food

donated \$40,000 to the Foundation with \$2,000 applied to the Foundation account and \$38,000 flow-through to Utah State University for the FFA Executive Secretary position. Contributions are down at this time because the solicitation letters have not gone out yet this year. Kyle Stevens made the motion to accept the Financial Report. Sarah Buttars seconded the motion which passed.

After some discussion about the fact that increasing contributions may require the Foundation to file different and more complicated tax returns; Clay Nielson offered to contact an accountant to see if we can receive a contribution of accounting services to help us with the financial reports and the tax reporting.

#### **6. Foundation Investment Report**

The Zions Bank –Certificate of Deposit, with current rate at 1%, is about as good as is available for short term investment at this time. The thought is to keep the current investment instrument for another year and then take a look at what is available.

#### **7. Report on Invitation of new members**

With his new position with the USDA Farm Service Agency, Arthur Douglas will not be able to serve on the Foundation Board as a Farmer’s Union representative. The Board will extend an offer to participate on the FFA Foundation Board to Kent Bushman who is currently the President of Utah Farmer’s Union. Buddy Deimler will contact Kent Bushman to see if there is an interest.

#### **8. Final Report for 2008-09 FFA Donation to Foundation**

Brett Evans reported 80 additional FFA members since the March meeting and presented a check to Randy Parker for \$80. This completes the 2008-09 FFA Membership year with a total of 4,517 members. This is a 12% increase over the 2007-08 membership year.

#### **9. Proposal for use of 2009-10 Foundation contribution to the FFA**

2009-10 Proposal requests \$6,500 in support from the Foundation. The contribution will be used for State Officer Training, Chapter Visit supplies, State FFA Convention, and student awards. The specific uses are detailed on the written proposal which has been included in these minutes. The motion to accept this proposal was made by Layne Anderson, seconded by Diane Jones, and then passed.

#### **10. 2010 State FFA Convention Report**

Amberley Snyder presented the State FFA Report. She invited the Board Members to the State FFA Convention which will be held March 11-13, 2010 at Southern Utah University.

Friday the 12<sup>th</sup> will be a big day with the State Degree Luncheon at 12:15 pm and the Foundation multimedia recognition in the 3<sup>rd</sup> General Session. Board members were invited to participate in all activities.

### **11. Contribution Solicitation Report**

The following comments and assignments were collected during the discussion.

1. The first step should be to make sure that all agricultural commodity groups are sponsors and support the Foundation. We need to review the sponsors list and add agricultural commodity groups that are not currently contributing.
2. Are fines collected at the Utah Department of Agriculture and Food? If they are, can they be used to support the Utah FFA Foundation?
3. We need to start thinking outside the box when it comes to who sits on the Foundation Board and who contributes to the Foundation. We need to look outside the agriculture community for the next level of support. Agricultural Education and the FFA represent an educational and leadership program for high school students. We are in the student business not the agriculture business. We need to remember this when we are talking to people about what we are doing for them. We are growing the next generation of leaders; whether in the agriculture industry or in other areas.
4. Each member of the board needs to email 5 new prospects so that they can be contacted by Clay Nielson and asked to make a contribution to the Foundation.
5. Should we look into hiring an Executive Director to help us run the foundation and raise funds? We need to develop an RFP to fund this position and find a person to fill the position. Diane Jones can help us put together this RFP. The Executive Committee needs to get together before the next meeting and meet with a good non-profit accountant to look into the tax consequences of taking this step. Diane Jones has some contacts that might be able to help.

### **12. Next Meeting**

- a. Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2010
- b. Place: Zions Bank – Downtown, 1 South Main Street, Salt Lake City, 5th floor. (Park across the street in the Joseph Smith Memorial Building parking. Clay will make arrangements for parking validation.)

### **13. Motion to Adjourn**

Allen Sulser made the motion to adjourn. Amberley Snyder seconded the motion which then passed.