Fall Appalachian Area Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 28, 2019

Dinner was catered by Bonfire Grill.

**Introductions** -Update on personnel:

* Castlewood High in Russell County is looking for an Ag teacher.

**Minutes from previous meeting** - Sent out in August

* Approved to move forward.
* No discussion

**Treasurer Report** - Mindy McCroskey

* Balance - $13, 981
* Expenses for Leadership Conference - $2,154.84

**FFA Update** – Dan Swafford

* Andy is officially on the board.
* Tess is running for National Office.
* We have many teams attending and competing at National Convention.
* If you need state officers for banquets please request them early
* Numbers are up for national convention
* Over 2,000 students attended the state fair

**ALCE Update** – Hannah Scherer

* Middle School Leadership Conference
  + 175 students attended
  + New undergraduate internship available for credit to work on curriculum
  + I love to teach Ag Workshop – 1 student attended.
    - May have been marketing issues
    - Many teachers were not aware it was for high school students
    - Moved this workshop from state convention to the middle school conference due to lack of time during convention
    - Will do this workshop again in the future
* Sarah Williams left her position at the vet center. Look for position opening within the next month
* Molly Wilson is the new recruiter for CALS now. She is a great resource for seniors or future Hokies. Hannah can give you contact info if you want it.
* Tracy Rutherford is doing a great job so far. She is attending National Convention with students.
* Ag Ed Metal Fabrication course will be offered this spring
* Collegiate faculty position is open and will focus on workforce development and teacher development
* They are trying to make the under graduate licensure program happen. It is in the works. They have a check sheet so far.
* New minor in teaching and learning will be offered next year. It is similar to the current undergrad minor. There will be no license given but everything else is the same.

**Advisory Council Report/Governing Board** – Brian Alexander

* Met on the 16th in Richmond at the Farm Bureau Office
* Andy is getting things back to the way they used to be
* They want to get the financials improved
* They have many new initiatives
* Perkins reauthorization
  + Numbers are down
  + We had 38 representatives present – largest amount there
  + Wants to increase to a 90-10 split (90% high school 10% upper level/community college) current is 85-15
  + Requests made by the board
    - Funding for equipment on state list remains the same
    - Support for online curriculum
    - Continue professional development funding through Perkins
* Advisory minutes are coming out soon
* FFA Foundation is headed in the right direction. They are going to combine social media accounts so there is one message being sent out.
* LaVeta needs help with curriculum reviews. If you can’t make it to the meetings you can still help virtually.

**VAAE Report** – Sarah Jo Jones

* Winter Conference
  + A survey will be coming out for workshop ideas
  + Workshops will focus on self-care and how not to get burned out
  + Winter will be a joint meeting with middle and high school
* Summer Conference
  + Will be in Suffolk
  + Tour of Busch Gardens Horticulture facilities
  + Live demo of plasma cutters and reverse engineering machines
* Remind new people to join VAAE for the insurance and professional development

**Old Business**

**Fall Conference**

* T shirts were a hit
* Still made a profit even with t shirts
* Workshops went well
* Want to add more for next year. Any ideas are welcome.
* Time of the year was good and will keep it the same for next year.

**New Business**

**Spring Rally** – Lawrence Cox

* Date: April 3, 2020
* Place- Wytheville Community College and Expo Center
* Would like to move more things to the Expo center to help with rooms
  + Tractor Driving
  + Livestock
  + Lawn Mower
  + Etc.
* Brian needs help with set up for livestock at the Expo center
* A motion was made by Brian to use some of the areas money to purchase hog and sheep panels to be used only by the area for contests.
  + Need 6-8 for each pen and 2 pens for both hogs and sheep
  + Motion was made by Sarah Jo to create a committee for this consisting of Brian Alexander and Phil McCroskey. Motion was seconded by Allen. Motion passed.
* Ag Mechanics
  + Only a test last year, no practicum
  + It’s been a long time since we have done one
  + Logistics is an issue but would like to do it again
  + Any help is appreciated on this topic
* Registration fee
  + Up them from last year to be able to pay drivers to move kids to where they need to be
  + We were -$677.34 on area rally last year
* Talent Show
  + Not going to do it this year
  + If you have students who want to preform they can during down times at area rally but will not be a contest this year
* State convention moved livestock judging to 1 day with reasons
* Northern Area
  + Having their area rally the same time we are
  + We may not have Andy
  + Scantron issues – if Andy can’t do them who can???
* Vet Science
  + Need a new person to run the contest
  + Possible people
    - Christi Skeen – Russell County Career and Technology Instructor
    - Nancy from Scott County
    - Any other ideas please let us know
* Adding Middle School Options (Mary)
  + Contest for middle school
    - Plant science
    - Quiz bowl
    - Small animal care
  + Could help with high school enrollment by getting them involved earlier
  + Would not add to spring rally
  + Possible fall rally
    - Fall vs. spring contests
    - Take some contests away from spring rally and do them at fall rally
    - Must do things early enough in the year before state fair
  + Fall rally and Fall conference combo
    - Leadership activities in the morning
    - CDE practice/contest in the afternoon

**Spring Meeting** – Sarah Jo

* Will be held at the Farm Credit office in Abingdon on Tuesday, March 24, 2020
* Will be finalizing spring rally and setting fall dates

Concerns or Requests

* Please ANSWER/RESPOND to emails. We need to COMMUNICATE with each other.
* Lack of parking permits for national convention was an issue
* Ryan (state officer from Abingdon) has asked if we would help him fun his trip to Spain.
  + Total cost of trip for him is $4,600
  + Washington County Farm Bureau has given some as well as his FFA chapter
  + Motion was made by Brian to give Ryan $500. Seconded by Lawrence. Motion passed

Door Prizes were given out

Meeting adjourned