

Region IV Conference Minutes  
Rend Lake, Illinois June 23-25, 2009

Called to order by Greg Curlin at 1:16 PM. Greg thanked Monsanto for sponsoring the luncheon proceeding this session and gave the conference welcome.

Archie Sauerheber led the pledge of allegiance and gave reflections.

Archie also presented minutes of the previous meeting and they were approved.

Larry Littlefield gave the host welcome from the Illinois Association. Changes to the program included an update on the wine tasting and murder mystery dinner at Pheasant Hollow Winery. Dinner will start at 6:30. We will leave at 7:45 for the tours on Wednesday. Supper will be provided on Wednesday night. Awards were given for shotgun golf and regular golf. Breakfast on Thursday is from 7:00-8:00.

Greg recognized Illinois for hosting this year's conference.

Dr. Jason Emmert from University of Illinois brought greetings from the university.

NAAE President Elect Ray Nash brought greetings and spoke about National Teach Ag Day. He also gave an invitation and registration information for the NAAE Conference in Nashville.

State Reports:

Illinois: Morris McClelland-Introductions of delegation. Talked about the state budget situation and how it will affect CTE funding.

Indiana: Ben Helms-Introductions. Funding was mentioned. Meetings with State Superintendent and governor were discussed. Partnerships with Farm Bureau outlined. Robert Juncker retired from the Indiana DOE and was replaced by Lisa Chaudion. Travis Scherer has been instrumental in reviewing Curriculum. New Purdue professor Lavonne Esters has been hired. Three former agriculture teachers received Purdue certificates of distinction. Greg Curlin was recognized as a Distinguished Agriculture Alumnus.

Kentucky: Margo Bruce-Introductions. Maintain statewide 240 day contract. There is great involvement with colleges and college students in Ag Ed in Kentucky. Two million dollars have been donated to improve the Kentucky FFA Center. Members are proposing name change to KAAE.

Michigan-Kyle Fiebig-Introductions. Budget cuts are a concern in state vocational funding. Money to FFA Association was preserved. State conference will be held next week.

Missouri-Randy Plattner-Introductions. Conditions in Missouri are strong for Ag Education. Several recruitment efforts for agriculture educators are in place. Over 50 student teachers are coming out in Ag Ed. 13 new programs are in place and seven programs have expanded.

Ohio-Jamie Cheveny-Introductions. Summer conference was very successful. Membership is up by 20. Funding is a concern. Lobbying efforts are in progress to maintain funding. Humane Society of the United States is aggressively becoming politically involved in Ohio. Educational programs are in place to provide education about animal welfare.

Greg Curlin reviewed the conference agenda. Thank you notes, attendance roster, standing committee packets, financial documents and budget are provided for review. Program of Activities was discussed and needs to be looked at in each committee. State officer rosters were discussed. Professional State Association Applications need to be completed. CEV lesson libraries will be given away on Thursday. Thanks to CEV for their sponsorship. Surveys need to be completed for CEV.

Ideas Unlimited displays can be set up any time.

Ray Nash presented a Power Point about the Risk Management curriculum found on the TeamAgEd Learning Center. Members can sign up at <http://aged.learn.com>. Mr. Nash gave a demonstration of how to access the material.

Committee meetings were held.

## **Thursday, July 25**

Called to order at 8:17 by Greg Curlin.

Greg covered attendance, state rosters, and other forms. Greg gave an overview of NAAE Awards and the selection process.

John Stahl from Farm Credit Services brought greetings to the conference.

Greg presented the NAAE informational Power Point.

Ideas Unlimited presentations were given and scored by the Finance Committee. Missouri and Michigan presented ideas.

### Committee Reports:

Finance Committee-Jamie Cheveny, OH-Recommend to NAAE to return to a 3% financial set aside. Recommend finding more sponsorships and finding ways to cut cost. Price of hotels for NAAE conference is a concern.

Marketing-Howard Heavner-, MO-NAAE will require a small dues payment to be eligible for Upper Division Ag Ed Scholarships. Several promotional ideas for NAAE were brought forward.

Member Services-Mark Wildman, IL-Developing a brochure for Communities of Practice was discussed. Discount cards for NAAE members were discussed.

Policy and Bylaws-Kyle Fiebig MI-Reviewed bylaws and approved them.

Professional Growth-Gigi Neal, OH Ideas for promoting communities of practice were discussed. Money to assist teachers with professional development was discussed. Utilizing new teachers and their ideas was discussed. Suggested to have state officers to receive college credit for their years of service. Ways to improve webinars and some alternatives were discussed. Teachers Turn the Key many possible improvements were discussed.

Public Policy-Mike Ross, KY-Possible lottery to disperse extra money from NPS. POA was reviewed and discussed.

Strategic Plan-Gerard Reaume, MI-Reviewed and approved Strategic Plan.

Greg reviewed the objectives of the committee reports.

Mark Wildman moved and Kyle Fiebig seconded to approve the committee report recommendations. Motion passed.

Committees selected winners in award areas for Region V and for some Region IV Awards.

Award Winners:

Outstanding Young Member (Region V): Jason Chester  
Outstanding Teacher (Region V): Doug M. Latta  
Outstanding Middle School/Secondary Program (Region V): Anthony Adams  
Outstanding Teacher Mentor (Region V): John Blankenship  
OPAP (Region V): Jeremy Brooks, Midland Valley HS  
Ideas Unlimited: James McCormack, Missouri  
Outstanding Service Citation: Robert Juncker, Indiana  
Outstanding Cooperation: Dan Doerge, National Wild Turkey Federation  
Lifetime Achievement Award: Dr. Charles Arensmeier, Michigan

The Ohio delegation gave their invitation to next year's regional conference.

Greg recognized the Simone Devore, the conference manager for the hotel.

The CEV promotional DVD was viewed by the conference attendees.

Mr. Curlin recognized key contributors to the success of the conference.

The Illinois Delegation presented the Regional VP and Secretary with thank you gifts.

Door prizes were given.