

**Minutes
NAAE Board of Directors
Meeting
June 2, 2026**

The NAAE Board of Directors conducted a board of directors meeting virtually on June 2, 2026. Board members in attendance included: Cameron Dale (OK), President; Kyle Stapleton (ID), President-Elect; Sharon Metzger (AZ), Region I Vice President; Lauren Emerson (LA), Region II Vice President; Paul Aarsvold (MN), Region III Vice President; Nelson McCracken (GA), Region V Vice President; Darla Romberger (PA), Region VI Vice President; Bill Newsom (TN), Past President; and Alissa Smith (KY), NAAE Chief Executive Officer. John Hammond (KY), Region IV Vice President was unable to join the meeting.

The minutes of the meeting are as follows:

1. **Call to Order** –President Cameron Dale called the board meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. Eastern time on Tuesday, June 2, 2026.
2. **Review and Approve Agenda** – Kyle Stapleton moved, Sharon Metzger seconded, to approve the agenda with flexibility. Motion carried.
3. **Review and Approve Minutes** – Nelson McCracken moved, Darla Romberger seconded, to approve the minutes from the April 30, 2026 Board meeting. Motion carried.
4. **CEO Report** – Alissa Smith presented the CEO report of what has been occurring with staff and in the office. Alissa reported about the recent awards deadline and the upcoming awards judging. She also reported about the upcoming state institutes and the partnership with National FFA on the #TeachAg Breakout Challenge becoming a FFA Endorsed contest. Additionally she reported on the work NAAE continues to do with AAAE and the FAST listening session that occurred at AAAE Conference.
5. **Membership Report** – Alissa Smith shared that membership had hit 10,266 members for the year with around 28 days left in the membership year. She also discussed strategy moving forward regarding communication to states about the membership dues increase as well as challenge the Regional Vice Presidents to begin conversation with their states on what we can do to help them increase membership.
6. **NAAE Financial Update** – Alissa Smith shared the 2025 NAAE Audit that was conducted by the independent audit firm, RFH CPAs, has been finalized and we received a clean audit report with no issues reported by the auditing firm. The audit will be placed online for members to have access to it as well.
Alissa also reported on the 2025 end of year NAAE Financial Compilations. She noted an increase in NAAE Convention revenue that is due to several factors including savings in the reception to provide a drink ticket to participants instead of light appetizers, substantial

savings because staff trucked the items to Nashville instead of shipping due to the close location, savings related to close proximity that allowed for staff and several board members to carpool and drive instead of fly to convention, an increase in sponsorships solicited by staff for convention, as well as a substantial savings related to sharing AV cost in the general session room with ACTE. Alissa reported that in the future we will not be able to take advantage of those savings but was glad we were able to make it work for 2025.

7. **NAAE Updated Committee Timeline** – Alissa shared the updated NAAE Committee timeline and the NAAE Committee MOU and application have been updated and are ready to send out to members and current committees.
8. **New/Old Business** – Paul Aarsvold provided the Board an update from the most recent National FFA Board of Directors meeting in May. The board discussed the upcoming meeting in July and judging of the NAAE Student Teaching Scholarship. The Board meeting date will be determined by a Doodle poll.
9. **Adjournment** – With no further business to be transacted at this time, Paul Aarsvold moved, Kyle Stapleton seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m. Eastern time.