



New Jersey Department of Agriculture | Office of Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources Education
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In cooperation with the New Jersey Department of Education

NEW JERSEY FFA ASSOCIATION

"Grow Beyond"

TO: State Executive Board Members, NJ FFA Chapter Advisors, Officers, and Members

FROM: Niccolo Conte, State FFA President
Jenny J. Allen, State FFA Specialist
Erin Noble, State FFA Advisor

DATE: September 16, 2024

RE: State FFA Executive Board Meeting
Monday, October 7, 2024 – 4:00 p.m.
1st Floor NJDA Conference Room, Trenton, NJ

All State Executive Board Members must attend this meeting. If these individuals cannot attend, they should call Ms. Allen at (609) 475-2373 and give the reason to receive an excused absence. Mr. Dale Cruzan will fill the teacher representative on the Executive Board and will have voting power at each meeting in 2024-2025.

AGENDA FOR THE OCTOBER STATE MEETING

- I. Opening Ceremonies
- II. Minutes from the September State Meeting
- III. Treasurer's Report
- IV. Guest Introductions and Attendance
- V. Committee Reports
 - A. Constitution, Bylaws & Program of Activities and State Convention Evaluation – Niccolo Conte
 - B. Membership & Chapter Relations – Nina Weiland
 - C. State Leadership Activities – Tyler Murnaghan
 - D. State Applications – William Rutherford
 - E. Career and Leadership Development Evaluation and Review – Allison Josielewski
 - F. Horticultural Exposition Evaluation and Review – Abrianna Portillo
- VI. Parliamentary Procedure Report – Niccolo Conte

- VII. Executive Committee Report** – Julia Moreno
- VIII. Foundation Report** – Allison Josielewski
- IX. State FFA Alumni & Supporters Report** – Tyler Murnaghan
- X. Food, Agriculture, & Natural Resources Education Advisory Council Report** – William Rutherford
- XI. New Jersey Agricultural Society Report** – Niccolo Conte
- XII. Equine Advisory Board** – Nina Weiland
- XIII. New Jersey Association of Agricultural Educators** – Mr. Dale Cruzan
- XIV. Unfinished Business**
 - A. Eastern States Exposition – William Rutherford
 - B. Fall Ag Ed Conference (September 27, 2024) – William Rutherford
 - C. Leadership Experience and Development Conference (October 4-5, 2024)
 - a. Impact Conference
 - i. Chapter Officer Leadership Training (COLT) – Tyler Murnaghan
 - ii. Leadership Opportunities Conference (LOC) – Allison Josielewski
 - b. State Greenhand Conference (SGC) – Julia Moreno
 - c. Timeline – Niccolo Conte
 - D. 96th National FFA Convention (October 23-26, 2024)
 - a. Delegates – Niccolo Conte
 - b. Flag Bearer – Abrianna Portillo
 - c. State Suite – William Rutherford
 - d. Recognition Program – Nina Weiland
 - E. Delegate Process Written/Oral Testimony – Allison Josielewski
 - F. Fall Career Development Events (November 21, 2024) – Nina Weiland
 - G. Calendar of Events – Tyler Murnaghan
 - H. Chapter Visit Updates – William Rutherford
 - I. Team Goal Action Plan – Niccolo Conte
- XV. New Business**
 - A. SOCS Cost Analysis – Abrianna Portillo
 - B. New Jersey State Grange Annual Meeting – Allison Josielewski
 - C. New Jersey Farm Bureau Convention – Niccolo Conte
 - D. Agricultural Education/Agricultural Issues Discussion – Nina Weiland
 - E. Member of the Month – Julia Moreno
 - F. State Officer Mileage – Abrianna Portillo
- XVI. Closing Ceremonies**

***Next State Meeting- November 4, 2024
New Jersey Department of Ag Building
4:00 pm.***

New Jersey FFA Association
Minutes from the September 9, 2024 Meeting

I. Opening Ceremonies

Niccolo Conte called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm. The voting members in attendance were Niccolo Conte, Allison Josielewski, Tyler Murnaghan, Abrianna Portillo, Nina Weiland, William Rutherford and Mr. Cruzan. State Staff in attendance were Ms. Allen and Ms. McCluskey.

II. Minutes from August State Meeting

Motion by Tyler Murnaghan to dispense with the reading of the meeting minutes and approve them as distributed.

Seconded by Nina Weiland. Motion passed.

III. Treasurer's Report

The opening balance for the month was \$148,840.78 and the closing balance was \$142,371.39.

Motion by Abrianna Portillo to accept the treasurer's report pending audit.

Motion passed pending audit.

IV. Guest Introductions and Attendance

No Guests were present at today's meeting.

Motion by Abrianna Portillo to excuse Julia Moreno's absence.

Seconded by William Rutherford.

Allison Josielewski assumed the duties of the chair.

V. Committee Reports

A. Constitution, Bylaws & Program Activities and State Convention Evaluation

No report.

B. Membership, Chapter & Relations, and State Leadership Activities

The Membership & Chapter Relations Committee met to establish goals, assess social media outreach, and get feedback from chapters about actions which could be taken to ensure that chapter visits are successful and meaningful.

Motion by Nina Weiland to accept the committee report as presented.

Implied Second. Motion Passes.

C. Career and Leadership Development Evaluation & Review

No report.

D. Horticultural Exposition Evaluation & Review

No report.

Niccolo Conte reassumed the duties of the chair.

VI. Parliamentary Procedure Report

Niccolo demonstrated "recess" and explained what that means. This motion is used to take a break during the meeting with a time frame. It must be seconded, it can be amended only regarding the length mentioned and it is not debatable. This requires a majority vote.

VII. Executive Committee Report

Ms. Allen asked the State Officers about their strategies for LEAD planning and how they felt prepared for it. The State Officers are working diligently on curriculum and memorization to make LEAD successful.

VIII. Foundation Report

No report. The next meeting will be held on October 8th at 6:00 pm at the NJDA.

IX. State FFA Alumni & Supporters Report

They talked about the golf tournament and brainstormed for a new location for next year. They also discussed who would be delegates for the National FFA Convention and the Ag Convention. Chuck Wojtaszek was elected as President, Talia Priore was elected as President-Elect, Julia Moreno was elected as Secretary and Chase Sherburne as Fundraising Director. The next meeting will be held on October 9th at 6:00 pm.

X. Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources Education Advisory Council Report

No report.

XI. New Jersey Agriculture Society Report

No report. The next meeting will be held on September 11th.

XII. Equine Advisory Board

Nina reported there were still two fair left to go on at the time of this meeting on August 21st. Everyone is preparing for the Fall Show, where a beginner division was added. The next meeting will be held on September 18th at 10:00 am.

XIII. New Jersey Association of Agricultural Educators

Mr. Cruzan reported the big event coming up with the Fall Ag Ed Conference. The Agricultural Education Conference will be held at the Rutgers EcoComplex where they plan to integrate more Supervised Agricultural Experience opportunities for students. The incorporation of work based learning will be important for providing real world skills and teachers are looking forward to starting the year off strong. Directly after the conference will be the NJAAE meeting.

XIV. Unfinished Business

A. Dairy Handlers Event Results

Julia Moreno attended for NJ FFA, and the event went very well. There were four competitors from three chapters. Congratulations to all and to Cassidy Hunt from the Hunterdon County Polytech FFA Chapter for placing 1st. She will represent New Jersey at the National FFA Convention in November.

B. Eastern State Exposition

Essex – West Caldwell, Salem Tech, Freehold and Allentown will be competing at the Big E in Agricultural Issues Forum, Dairy Handlers, Employment Skills, Marketing Plan and Tractor Driving, respectively. Kathryn Giovanelli from the Allentown FFA Chapter will be competing in the Star Farmer competition. Ashley Postma from the Belvidere FFA Chapter will be competing in the Star in Ag Placement competition. William Rutherford will be attending as an event assistant.

B. Leadership Experience and Development Conference

a. I AM Conference

i. Chapter Officer Leadership (COLT)

The state officers are busy preparing for their workshops for I AM and COLT.

ii. Leadership Opportunities Conference (LOC)

Abbey Goodenough and Talia Priore are lined up to facilitate the LOC Conference.

b. State Greenhand Conference (SGC)

Chase Sherburne and Julia Moreno met to discuss the expectations of SGC and assign sessions.

c. Timeline

State Officers reviewed the timeline for the conference and reminded themselves what is still due.

C. 97th National FFA Convention

a. Delegates

Niccolo, Allison and Tyler were registered as delegates. Nicco will serve on the 100th FFA Anniversary Committee, Allison will serve on the Re-evaluation of National Program and Events with a Shared Focus on Nontraditional and Traditional Agriculture Committee, and Tyler will serve on the Creating Opportunities for Younger Members at the National Level (5th - 8th Grade) Committee.

b. Flag Bearer

Abrianna Portillo was registered as flag bearer.

c. State Suite

We have secured a suite and teachers have been invited to request tickets. William Rutherford will be serving as host.

d. Recognition Program

Nina reminded the officers who still needed to write their pieces for the program. New Jersey recognizes those receiving honorary degrees, American degrees, Agriscience Fair finalists, CDE/LDE winners at the State Breakfast. State Officers will present their selected topic areas for members and guests.

D. International Leadership Seminar for State Officers

State Officers have the opportunity to apply to attend. This year they will be traveling to Spain and Portugal from January 4 – 17, 2025. There were no applicants from New Jersey for ILSSO this year.

XV. New Business

A. Team Goal Action Plan

The team reviewed their goals.

B. Calendar of Events

The finalized calendar of events can be found on the state website under the section titled calendar of events.

C. Chapter Visits

All the officers know the chapters that they are supposed to be visiting and who to get in contact with for each chapter. The officers were reminded that their visit requests need to be sent by the 15th.

D. Delegate Process Written/Oral Testimony

Each state officer is responsible for drafting written testimony for their assigned committee for October 10th, 2024. Niccolo will prepare Student Input on the 100th

Anniversary Committee; Allison will prepare The Re-evaluation of National Program & Events with the Shared Focus on Nontraditional & Traditional Agriculture Committee; Nina will prepare Evaluate the Requirements for the American Degree Committee; William will prepare Student Input on the Delivery of National Level Competitive Events Committee; Tyler will prepare Evaluating the Purpose on the Regions with the National FFA Organization and Abrianna will prepare the Creating Opportunities for Younger Members at the National Level (5th-8th Grade) Committee.

E. Fall Ag Ed Conference

This is an opportunity for the ag teachers to go through professional development and Niccolo is invited to provide words to the teachers and highlighting the state theme.

F. Fall Career Development Events

The Fall CDEs will be held at Rutgers University on November 21. Nina will assist with Fruits & Vegetables; Niccolo will assist with Land Judging; Allison will assist with Turf Management; Abrianna will assist with Milk Quality and Products, and William will assist with Forestry.

G. Agricultural Education/Agricultural Issues Discussion

Abrianna Portillo presented on the dearth of agricultural teachers. More people need to get involved and interested to fix this problem of understaffing.

H. Member of the Month

The Executive Board evaluated Member of the Month applications.

Motion by William Rutherford to select Breanna Rosmarin of the Freehold FFA Chapter as September's Member of the Month.

Seconded by Abbey Portillo. Motion passes.

I. State Officer Mileage

State officers are reminded to submit their mileage reports.

XVI. Closing Ceremonies

The meeting was adjourned at 5:29 pm. The next meeting will be held October 7, 2024, at 4:00 pm.

2:18 PM

September 3, 2024

Cash Basis

NJ FFA Association
Monthly State Meetings - General Ledger
As of August 31, 2024

Type	Date	Name	Memo	Split	Original Amount	Paid Amount	Balance
FFA							148,840.78
Check	08/01/2024	National FFA Org	second batch of new SO Team jackets	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-255.00	-255.00	148,585.78
Check	08/01/2024	Davison, Eastman ...	additional legal work	P3 (General Supplies - Expense)	-200.00	-200.00	148,385.78
Check	08/06/2024	National FFA Organ...	National CDE registration	P7 (National Conven. - Expense)	-960.00	-960.00	147,425.78
Check	08/07/2024	National FFA Org	SO jacket for W. Rutherford	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-94.00	-94.00	147,331.78
Check	08/08/2024	Bank of America	Allstate - J. Moreno motorclub renewal	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-179.00	-179.00	147,152.78
Check	08/08/2024	Bank of America	Shoprite - Checkpoint 1 lunches	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-221.49	-221.49	146,931.29
Check	08/08/2024	Bank of America	Checkpoint 1 Tues dinner	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-177.06	-177.06	146,754.23
Check	08/08/2024	Bank of America	Checkpoint 1 Wed dinner	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-173.68	-173.68	146,580.55
Check	08/08/2024	Bank of America	Checkpoint 1 Thurs dinner	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-64.16	-64.16	146,516.39
Check	08/14/2024	Bank of America	LEAD hotel deposit	P5 (LEAD - Expense)	-2,000.00	-2,000.00	144,516.39
Check	08/21/2024	National FFA Org	handbooks	P1 (Dues/Memberships-Expense)	-2,145.00	-2,145.00	142,371.39
Total FFA						-6,469.39	142,371.39
TOTAL						-6,469.39	142,371.39



Thursday, September 5, 2024

Committee Report

New Jersey FFA Association Standing Committees

Email

nweilandearther@gmail.com

Committee Name

Membership & Chapter Relations

Date

Thursday, September 5, 2024

Committee Members Present

Nina Weiland, Chair
William Rutherford, Vice Chair
Dr. McLean, Advisor

Committee Members Absent

Niccolo Conte, Member; Julia Moreno, Member

Purpose of Meeting

To meet with the committee advisor, establish goals, and review the social media and outreach plans and goals that the committee and the 2024-2025 New Jersey FFA State Officer team have.

Recommended Actions

The committee recommends the State Staff reviewing the Social Media Plan Draft and the chapter highlight post logistics. In addition, Dr. McLean shared some strategies for middle school outreach during chapter visits like discussing certain CDEs and LDEs (Fruit and Vegetable Evaluation, Milk Quality and Products, Creed Speaking, Art Competition, Essay Competition, Scrapbook Competition, Agriscience Fair, etc.). She shared that the State Officers should encourage middle school members to pursue the Discovery Degree. The committee recommends the 2024-2025 State Officer Team to thoroughly plan the High School to Middle School outreach program/competition so that there are clear boundaries and instructions for chapters and advisors regarding this event.

Comments

The committee would like to stress that State Officers make sure that advisors and members are aware that we will be posting pictures on social media, so the State Officers will clarify with the advisor if there are students that cannot be photographed or posted on social media. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, November 19th, 2024 at 5 PM on Google Meet.

Chairperson

Nina Weiland

Secretary

William Rutherford

Chairperson Signature