

## Pennsylvania FFA Association

### Board of Directors Meeting

May 5, 2026

The meeting was called to order by President Sarah Firestone at 1:06 PM with the State Officer Team conducting opening ceremonies. In attendance were: Logan Hall, Sarah Sparks, Alex Barzydlo, Ron Frederick, Brandon Witmer, Anthony Honeycutt, Sherisa Nailor, Thomas Gabel, Laura Rice, Natalie Barkely, Neil Fellenbaum, Katie Ranck, Mike Clark, McKayla Plewe, Sarah Firestone, Sally Bollinger, Alexis Butler, Samuel Parks, Jonathan Bradshaw, Jaylene Everhart, Leah Flinchbaugh, Mike Brammer.

*Butler/Bollinger moved to accept the minutes presented at the March meeting. Motion passed. Clark/Barzydlo moved to concur. Motion passed.*

### Reports of Officers/Staff

#### State Officer Team Report

Flinchbaugh presented the report and the State Officer Team talked about students who left an impact on them this past year.

#### Executive Director & Financial Reports

Brammer presented the financial report. The report will be filed for audit.

### Standing Committees

#### CDE/LDE Committee

Barzydlo presented the report. *The committee recommends a policy change to VI.k. Participation at the National Convention in CDEs not held in Pennsylvania. Fellenbaum/Ranck move to accept. Motion passes. Flinchbaugh/Everhart move to concur. Motion passes. **This is the second vote. Now POLICY.***

#### SAE Committee

No report was presented.

### Reports of Special Committees

#### Human Resources

Clark presented the report. Thomas Gabel will start as the Executive Director of the Pennsylvania FFA Association on June 1, 2026. The committee is currently in the process of hiring an Assistant Executive Director.

#### Leadership Conference Review

Ranck presented the report. *Ranck/Fellenbaum moved to approve the recommendations from the committee to start offering Chapter Officer and Leaders Training (COLT) Conferences starting in 2027. Motion passes. Everhart/Parks move to concur. Motion passes.*

### **Policy Manual Revision Committee**

Plewe presented the report. Please provide any feedback on the proposed changes to the committee by the end of May.

### **Strategic Planning Steering Committee**

Fellenbaum shared an update.

### **National Chapter Award Committee**

No report was shared.

### **Middle School Programming Committee**

Brammer presented the report. JAMS 2026 was a success!

## **New Business**

### **Convention & Activities Week Preview**

Brammer shared an update.

### **Board Elections**

Katie Ranck nominated for VP. Elected by unanimous consent. Mike Clark nominated as the 2026-2027 President of the Board. Elected by unanimous consent.

### **Budget Approval for 2026-2027**

Brammer presented the proposed budget. *Firestone/Ranck moved to accept the 2026-2027 budget as written. Bollinger/Flinchbaugh move to concur. Motion passes.* The Budget will move to be voted on by the delegate body at the 2026 State Convention in June.

### **Honorary & Citation Award Approvals**

Brammer presented the report. *Bradshaw/Parks moved to approve the Honorary & Citation Award List. Motion passes. Barzydlo/Fellenbaum move to concur. Motion passes.*

### **Constitutional Amendment Proposal to the Delegates**

Firestone and Brammer presented the report. These proposals will be voted on by the delegate body at the 2026 State Convention in June.

### **Reach Cyber Charter School**

Brammer shared an update. Reach Cyber Charter School is currently in the process of applying to be chartered as an agriculture education and FFA program. Brammer is looking for feedback on their current information and wants to come back in August for further action.

## **Good of the Order**

### **Regional Coordinators**

Barkley shared an update on the South-Central Region. Regional speaking is complete and is being submitted to states. One Living to Serve Award was submitted from the region. Hoover shared an update on Western Region. Regional speaking is complete and one Living to Serve Award Applicant was submitted from the region. Frederick shared an update on the Eastern Region. Their spring CDEs are complete. 1,352 Students total for spring and fall CDEs. 83 LDE competitors. 36/43 chapters represented at regional contests. Witmer shared an update on the Northern region. They had regional contests this spring at Penn Tech College. 4 Living to Serve Award Applications.

### **PA Dept of Education**

No report was shared.

### **Commission for Agriculture Education Excellence**

No report was shared.

### **SAE Specialist**

Plewe shared an update. 123 Americans submitted. 81 are still in review, 5 have been rejected and 2 were resubmitted.

### **PAAE**

Gabel presented a report.

### **PA FFA Foundation**

Sparks shared an update. The Foundation held their spring in-person meeting. Updated their employee policy. Meetings are beginning to discuss the 100th year annual celebration. The foundation is focusing on leadership development. Registration is open for their annual golf outing. All Learning by Doing Grant checks have been awarded. Links are live for the scholar dollar program for 2026 Ag Progress Days and 2027 Farm Show. The Foundation took the state officer team on their week-long spring business and industry tour.

### **FFA Alumni**

Nailor presented a report.

### **Penn State Agricultural Teacher Education/Center Report**

Rice shared an update. The semester ended on Friday 5/2. 13 current seniors: 9 graduating spring, 3 summer, 1 December. 4/13 have jobs. 14 alternate certification students.

### **Future Board Meetings: 2026**

June 10 & 11, (PSU - Convention & Activities Week)

August 5, 2026 - State College

December 9, 2026 - State College

March 10, 2027 - State College

May 12, 2027 - State College

**Other Events:**

- a) State Convention & Activities Week - June 9-11, 2026
- b) All American Dairy - September 12-16, 2026
- c) The Big E - September 18-19, 2026
- d) KILE - September 25-October 4, 2026
- e) Fall Leadership - October 6, 2026
- f) National FFA Convention - October 21-24, 2026
- g) PA Farm Show - January 9-16, 2027
- h) Mid-Winter Convention - January 11, 2027
- i) ACES - Feb 6-7, 13-14, 20-21, 2027
- j) SLLC - March 14-16, 2027
- k) State Convention & Activities Week - June 8-10, 2027 - TENTATIVE

Closing Ceremonies were conducted by the State Officer Team. The meeting was adjourned at 3:41 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Leah Flinchbaugh  
FFA State Secretary

Mike Brammer  
Executive Director