

**Meeting Minutes of  
National Board of Directors and National Officers  
of the National FFA Organization  
January 23 – 25, 2000  
Alexandria, Virginia**

**Saturday, January 22, 2000**

A special meeting to discuss the New Horizons magazine was held at the Agricultural Education National Headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia. Participants included the National FFA Board of Directors and the National FFA Officers.

**Sunday, January 23, 2000**

A special board session for committee and task force reports was held at the Agricultural Education National Headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Reports included the following: Study to Evaluate FFA's Expanded Mission Statement; Study Comparing FFA Members to High School Students Profiled in Horatio Alger Study; Technology Study Findings/ Recommendations; Postsecondary Meeting Results; English As A Second Language Task Force; CDE/Awards Task Force; Review of Audit & Related Business Issues; Gallup StrengthsFinder Status.

**Monday, January 24, 2000**

Committee meetings were held at the Agricultural Education National Headquarters in Alexandria, Virginia from 8:30 a.m. to noon. This session included the following meetings: Finance and Policy, Constitution and Bylaws, both Standing Committees and a Special Committee – Review and Recommendations of the first convention in Louisville.

The meeting of the Board of Directors and National Officers of the National FFA Organization was called to order at 1:00 p.m., by the National FFA president, Chris Vitelli. Following is a listing of all who were present.

**Board of Directors:**

**Larry D. Case**, Chairperson of the Board and Coordinator, Agricultural & Rural Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C.

**Ernie Gill**, Program Manager, Agricultural Education, Colorado Community College & Occupational Education System, Denver, CO

**Tommy Gladden**, State FFA Advisor, Clemson University, Clemson, SC

**Steve Gratz**, U.S. Department of Education Representative; Supervisor, Agricultural Education, State Department of Education, Columbus, OH

**Karen Hutchison**, Education Associate, Agricultural Occupations, State Department of Public Instruction, Dover, DE

**Barbara Kirby**, U.S. Department of Education Representative; Professor and Assistant Director of Academic Programs, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC

**Vicki Lantz**, U.S. Department of Education Representative; Instructor – Agricultural Education, Big Spring High School, Newville, PA

**Ronald L. Reische**, Principal Consultant, Agricultural Education, Illinois State Board of Education, Springfield, IL

**Nick Siddle**, U.S. Department of Education Representative; Instructor - Agricultural Education, Sheridan High School, Sheridan, WY

**Officers of the Board of Directors:**

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**Larry D. Case**, National FFA Advisor and CEO; Coordinator, Agricultural & Rural Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C.  
**C. Coleman Harris**, National FFA Executive Secretary; Education Program Specialist, Agriculture, Division of Vocational-Technical Education, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C.  
**Marion Fletcher**, National FFA Treasurer; Supervisor for Agricultural Education, State Department of Education, Little Rock, AR

**Board of National FFA Officers:**

**Chris Vitelli**, National FFA President, Plant City, FL  
**Jodee Ruppel**, National FFA Secretary, North Manchester, IN  
**Leslie Small**, National FFA Vice President, Central Region, Lebanon, IN  
**Joe Shultz**, National FFA Vice President, Eastern Region, DeGraff, OH  
**Carol Spruill**, National FFA Vice President, Southern Region, Hoschton, GA  
**Marshall Baker**, National FFA Vice President, Western Region, Portales, NM

**Consultants:**

**Lisa Ahrens**, Past national officer, National FFA Organization, Osage, IA  
**Jim Allsup**, Vice President, National FFA Alumni Association, Robstown, TX  
**Barry Anderson**, Past President, National FFA Alumni Association, Alleman, IA  
**James Dawley**, NAAE Senior Vice President, Region II and Instructor – Agricultural Education, Mexia High School, Mexia, TX  
**Bryan Gause**, NAAE Senior Vice President, Region IV and Instructor – Agricultural Education, Union County High School, Liberty, IN  
**Mac Hodges**, Vice President, National FFA Alumni Association, Washington, NC  
**David Howell**, AAAE Representative & Professor and Coordinator, Adult and Occupational Education Program, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH  
**Paul Jaure**, NAAE President Elect and Instructor – Agricultural Education, Beeville High School, Beeville, TX  
**Wade Miller**, AAAE Representative & Assistant Professor, Agricultural Education and Studies, Iowa State University, Ames, IA  
**Robert Terry**, AAAE Representative & Associate Professor, Agricultural Education, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK

**Others present for all or portions of the meeting:**

**FFA, Foundation and the Agricultural Education National Headquarters staff** participated throughout the week.

- 1. Reflections** - led by Marshall Baker.
- 2. Review of Board Operating Procedures**  
Chairman Case had previously explained parliamentary procedure to the board in January and to the new board members at their orientation.
- 3. Overview of National Officer Activities**  
The national officers reviewed highlights of their activities thus far as they serve the FFA members across the country. The national officers were commended for a job well done and a round of applause followed.

**MOTION:** **Moved** by Barbara Kirby, seconded by Steve Gratz **and carried** to accept the report of the National FFA officers and commend them on a job well done.

**4. Seating of Newly Elected Officers and Consultants**

Chairperson Case introduced and welcomed Wade Miller, Jim Allsup, Paul Jaure, Bryan Gause, James Dawley and Lisa Ahrens. All were welcomed with a round of applause.

**5. Reports & Remarks - Board Consultants & Agricultural Education Related Groups**

FFA Alumni Association — Mac Hodges, President

NAAE — Paul Jaure, President-Elect

AAAE — Rob Terry

NASAE — no report

PAS — no report

The Council — Ernie Gill

NYFEA – no report

All expressed appreciation at being a part of the group.

**6. Review of and Adjustments to Agenda**

No major changes were made to the agenda.

**7. Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION: Moved by** Leslie Small (Ernie Gill), seconded by Carol Spruill (Ron Reische) **and carried** to approve the National FFA Board of Directors and National Officers minutes of October 25, 1999.

**8. Report of National FFA Treasurer**

Marion Fletcher reviewed the current financial report.

**MOTION: Moved by** Jodee Ruppel (Karen Hutchison), seconded by Joe Schultz (Tommy Gladden) **and carried** to accept the report of the national FFA treasurer.

**9. Selection Committee to nominate board members to replace Ernie Gill as the CDE/Award Committee chair, starting 7/1/00 (3 year term); board members to replace Ernie Gill as the FFA Board representative for the Council Board of Directors 1/1/00 (3 year term); Governing Committee members to replace Karen Hutchison and Ernie Gill, starting 7/1/00**

Ernie Gill, Barbara Kirby and Karen Hutchison (chair) to make recommendations for appointments.

**10. Program Development and Direction**

Bernie Staller summarized the procedure for Program Development and Direction presentations. Team Leaders were directed to focus on major accomplishments, major issues and any funding request(s) which should be brought to the board.

- a. Dennis Shafer presented the report for the Ventures Team. No board motions were presented.
- b. Jimmy Long provided the report for the Distribution Resources Team. No board motions were presented.

- c. Karen Goley presented the report for the Finance, Technology and Human Resources Team. No board motions were presented.
- d. Scott Stump presented the report for the National FFA Convention.

MOTION: **Moved by** Marshall Baker (Ron Reische), seconded by Leslie Small (Vicki Lantz) **and carried** to approve the National FFA convention internship, for a term of May – November. (*Attachment A*)

- e. Gene Starr presented the report for the National FFA Alumni Association. No board motions were presented.
- f. Bill Stagg presented the report for the Communications Resources Team. No board motions were presented.
- g. Dean Folkers presented the report for the Teacher Services/Partner Development Team. He shared the team's activities. The following motions were brought before the board.

MOTION: **Moved by** Carol Spruill (Ernie Gill), seconded by Marshall Baker (Ron Reische) **and carried** to accept a proposal to the Hitachi Foundation to assist in the creation of the agricultural sciences magnet school and FFA Chapter in the greater Minneapolis area as a special project of the National FFA Foundation.

MOTION: **Moved by** Leslie (Vicki Lantz), seconded by Carol Spruill (Tommy Gladden) **and carried** to accept the CDE Advisory Committee minutes dated January 8, 2000 as a report of the committee.

MOTION: **Moved by** Marshall Baker (Ron Reische), seconded by Joe Shultz (Tommy Gladden) **and carried** to approve the use of up to \$7,500 from SAE development monies in fiscal year 2000 to bring together a task force to consider, develop, and prioritize options for (an) FFA incentive program(s) which would support member interest in the agricultural education profession/career path. (Report back to the board in July 2000)

MOTION: **Moved by** Leslie Small (Karen Hutchison), seconded by Carol Spruill (Nick Siddle) **and carried** to approve the use of up to \$7,500 from SAE development monies to bring together a task force to further develop ideas submitted by the national delegates and others regarding additional activities to strengthen SAE programs. (SAE fair, SAE grant programs, etc.)

Ernie Gill commended the FFA Teacher Services Team on being prepared for the committee meetings and their professionalism, which helped his job as chair to be more effective.

- h. David Doerfert presented an overview of the Student Services Team. The following are the motions brought before the board.

MOTION: **Moved by** Jodee Ruppel (Barbara Kirby), seconded by Carol Spruill (Karen Hutchison) **and carried** to approve the 1999 National FFA Convention Delegate Committee Report.

Karen Hutchison, board chair representative of the National FFA Officer committee, commended David Doerfert and others involved in the Nominating Committee for their hard work.

**MOTION: Moved by** Carol Spruill (Nick Siddle), seconded by Joe Shultz (Barbara Kirby) **and carried** to appoint Kenneth K. Mitchell as adult consultant to the National FFA Officer selection process.

**MOTION: Moved by** Marshall Baker (Karen Hutchison), seconded by Joe Shultz (Nick Siddle) **and carried** to approve the New Century Farmer program and request special project funding from the National FFA Foundation for the annual operation of this program. (*Attachment B*)

**MOTION: Moved by** Joe Shultz (Tommy Gladden), seconded by Marshall Baker (Steve Gratz) **and carried** to accept Doug Robertson, State Supervisor of Maine and Saundra Castillo, Executive Secretary of New Mexico to serve as Delegate Committee adult coordinators for 2000-2002.

**MOTION: Moved by** Leslie Small (Ron Reische), seconded by Joe Shultz (Vicki Lantz) **and carried** to accept the FFA Mission Validation Study report conducted by Penny Wittler and commend her for her work. In addition, the FFA staff is directed to review the results of this study and bring forth an implementation plan to the Board for consideration at the July 2000 meeting.

- j. Tammy Meyer presented the National FFA Foundation report. Ms. Meyer indicated that Larry Gundrum of Kraft, will serve as the 2001 chair. No new board motions were presented.

**MOTION: Moved by** Joe Shultz (Ernie Gill), seconded by Jodee Ruppel (Vicki Lantz) **and carried** to accept the reports of the FFA Teams. Dr. Case commended Bernie Staller and all team leaders on a job well done.

Dr. Rob Terry, on behalf of AAEE, distributed a review of research projects completed in the past year that relate directly or indirectly to FFA activities and/or programs. This is provided as a reference for the FFA Board's use.

Chairman Case thanked AAEE for their efforts and encouraged continued research in all areas of agricultural education. The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

### **Tuesday, January 25, 2000**

The meeting reconvened at 9:00 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Eisenhower in Alexandria, Virginia. The meeting was to be held at the U.S. Department of Education in Washington, DC, but an unexpected snowstorm hit the DC area, limiting travel and closing of the federal government.

### **11. Standing Committee Report — Policy, Constitution and Bylaws**

Barbara Kirby, Chairperson, presented the report for the Policy, Constitution and Bylaws Committee. Ms. Kirby thanked the Policy Committee for their contributions.

**MOTION:** **Moved by** Leslie Small (Vicki Lantz), seconded by Joe Shultz (Steve Gratz) **and carried** to refer the American FFA Degree constitutional amendment to the task force on CDEs and Awards for consideration in the next revision process. Strike the “\$” before 3.33 in Article VI., Section E. American FFA Degree, Item 5 and in its place insert “a factor of.”

**MOTION:** **Moved by** Carol Spruill (Tommy Gladden), seconded by Jodee Ruppel (Nick Siddle) **and carried** to submit the following constitutional amendment to the delegates of the 73<sup>rd</sup> National FFA Convention. Strike the “\$” before 3.33 in Article VI., Section E. American FFA Degree, Item 5 and in its place insert “a factor of.”

**MOTION:** **Moved by** Joe Shultz (Nick Siddle), seconded by Carol Spruill (Vicki Lantz) **and carried** to accept that the following policy as amended and proposed by the CDE Advisory Committee be inserted in Division I., Section F., Item 4 of the policy and procedures handbook. *All finalists selected will be eligible to receive their finalist's recognition/awards. All finalists not able to attend the National FFA Convention must inform the National FFA Center staff as soon as they are aware of not being able to attend. Finalists with a personal or family situation, which will prevent them from attending the convention, must convey this specific problem to the National FFA Board of Directors in writing prior to the convention. The Board will consider each request based on their merits but will look favorably upon requests based on illness, military duty, special school situations, specific family situations, etc. If the board approves the request, the finalists will be eligible to be named the national winner.*

**MOTION:** **Moved by** Jodee Ruppel, seconded Leslie Small to add a new policy item in Section D. General, Division II. Operations, 09. *Student Sexual Harassment*

- a. *FFA opposes sexual harassment of any kind. Moreover, sexual harassment is illegal - Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination, including sexual harassment. Title IX protects both male and female students from sexual harassment, regardless of who the harasser is.*
- b. *FFA activities are integral to local school instructional programs in career and technical education and are a responsibility of the state. Therefore those sexual harassment policies and procedures in effect in student's home school or school last attended are the means by which sexual harassment issues at FFA events will be addressed.*
- c. *FFA does reserve the right to respond to any disciplinary situation as they deem appropriate and independent of any action by a school.*

*Procedure:*

*(01) If a student feels they have been sexually harassed while participating in a National FFA event or activity, they are strongly encouraged to report the incident immediately to 1) the state leader responsible for FFA activities in the student's home state, 2) the student's FFA advisor and/or home school principal or 3) the chief executive officer of the FFA. Harassment issues reported to the FFA chief executive officer will be referred to the student's FFA advisor and/or home school administrator(s).*

**MOTION:** **Moved by** Carol Spruill (Karen Hutchison), seconded by Marshall Baker (Ernie Gill) **and carried to amend** the motion in order that the procedure reads: (01) If a student feels they have been sexually harassed while participating in a National FFA event or activity, they are strongly encouraged to report the incident immediately to 1) the state

leader responsible for FFA activities in the student's home state, 2) the student's home school principal or 3) the chief executive officer of the FFA. *Harassment issues reported to the FFA CEO will be referred to the state leader responsible for the event, student's FFA advisor and/or home school administrator.* **Motion carried as amended.**

**MOTION:** **Moved by** Marshall Baker (Ron Reische), seconded by Joe Shultz (Karen Hutchison) **and carried** to accept the attached policy relative to advertising, exhibition and sale of guns, knives and ammunition and that this policy book in Division II., Section D., General, Item 12. and request that the national advisor send adopted policy to local and state leaders encouraging them to adopt similar policies. (*Attachment C*)

**MOTION:** **Moved by** Leslie Small (Tommy Gladden), seconded by Joe Shultz (Ernie Gill) **and carried** to accept the Co-Branding guidelines as attached for use in fundraising activities for the National FFA Foundation and include these policies in the official policy manual under Division II., Section D., Item 06. Name and Emblem. (*Attachment D*)

**MOTION:** **Moved by** Marshall Baker, seconded by Jodee Ruppel to accept revised Honorary American FFA Degree policy, procedures and nomination form as outlined in Division I. Activities, Section A. Adult Recognition, Item 02. Honorary, policy item b. and procedure 01. **Moved by** Marshall Baker, seconded by Leslie Small to amend the motion by adding that all applicants be *required* to receive the honorary state FFA degree before they can receive the Honorary American FFA Degree. Amendment to the amendment: **Moved by** Jodee Ruppel, seconded by Carol Spruill to amend the amendment, to add policy item f. *It is highly recommended that the applicant receive the honorary state FFA degree before receiving the Honorary American FFA degree.* In summary of the action above, it was **moved by** Marshall Baker (Karen Hutchison), seconded by Jodee Ruppel (Steve Gratz) **and carried as amended** the acceptance of the revised Honorary American FFA Degree policy, procedures and nomination form as outlined in Division I. Activities, Section A. Adult Recognition, Item 02. Honorary, policy item b., procedure 01 and the addition of policy item f. (*Attachment E*)

**MOTION:** **Moved by** Carol Spruill (Ernie Gill), seconded by Joe Shultz (Vicki Lantz) **and carried** to update the policy book by including all agriscience awards.

**MOTION:** **Moved by** Jodee Ruppel (Karen Hutchison), seconded by Carol Spruill (Ron Reische) **and carried** to add the official dress statement which is presently in the CDE Handbook to the FFA Board Policy Book – Division I., Section F., Career Development Events, Item 11. *Participants are expected to observe the National FFA Code of Ethics and the Proper Use of the FFA Jacket during the career development events. (Please reference the latest edition of the Official FFA Manual.) Official FFA dress is highly recommended for all participants where appropriate and is required for the awards presentation and recognition.*

**MOTION:** **Moved by** Jodee Ruppel (Tommy Gladden), seconded by Leslie Small (Karen Hutchison) **and carried** to adopt the following policy statement (Division II., Section D., new item 08. *English as a Second Language.*) and request staff to develop an implementation plan for presentation at the July Board meeting. *Agricultural Education and the National FFA Organization recognize the globalization of the Food, Fiber and Natural Resources system in our society and will partner with parents, teachers, state leaders, business leaders and others to:* 1. *Encourage all students to become proficient in*

*other languages and experience other cultures. 2. Encourage and support the recruitment and retention of limited English skill members. 3. Proactively support the academic achievement of all students and target those with limited English skills.*

**MOTION:** **Moved by** Joe Shultz (Karen Hutchison), seconded by Marshall Baker (Vicki Lantz) **and carried** to amend the following policy statement in Division I., Section D., Item 01., by adding *h. States are not allowed to substitute a candidate after the published application date.*

**MOTION:** **Moved by** Marshall Baker (Ernie Gill), seconded by Carol Spruill (Vicki Lantz) **and carried** to submit the following amendment to the delegates to the 73<sup>rd</sup> National FFA Convention - Article IX. National Officers and Procedure for Election, Section C., of the National FFA Organization *constitution* by changing the following dates: (a) Change application deadline from September 1 to August 1. (b) Change eligibility notification from September 15 to August 15. (c) Change appeal deadline from October 1 to September 1. (d) Change appeal vote notification from October 15 to September 15.

**MOTION:** **Moved by** Marshall Baker, seconded by Carol Spruill to submit the following Idaho proposal to the delegates to the 73<sup>rd</sup> National FFA Convention. Amend the FFA Creed by striking the word “an” and inserting the words “a positive” in the fifth paragraph, fourth line, just before the word “influence.” The creed would then read “and that I can exert a positive influence in my home and community.” **Motion failed.**

After considerable discussion, it was **moved by** Carol Spruill (Nick Siddle), seconded by Jodee Ruppel (Nick Siddle) **and carried** that the board submit the Idaho proposal to the delegate assembly. **Moved by** Carol Spruill (Karen Hutchison), seconded by Leslie Small (Ron Reische) **and carried** that the FFA Board of Directors does not feel the change is necessary because the tone of the Creed implies a “positive” influence throughout.

**MOTION:** **Moved by** Marshall Baker (Tommy Gladden), seconded by Leslie Small (Karen Hutchison) to accept the policy committee report.

## **12. Standing Committee Report — Finance**

Karen Hutchison, Chairperson, presented the report for the Finance Committee. Ms. Hutchison thanked the committee members for their hard work.

**MOTION:** **Moved by** Carol Spruill (Ernie Gill), seconded by Jodee Ruppel (Vicki Lantz) **and carried** to approve the 1998-99 FFA organization audit as completed and distributed by Olive LLC.

**MOTION:** **Moved by** Joe Shultz (Steve Gratz), seconded by Carol Spruill (Tommy Gladden) **and carried** that the National FFA staff develop a proposal to conduct an FFA “brand” identify study to better understand identity and perceptions among various constituencies and audiences. This proposal to be submitted to the FFA Board at the July 2000 meeting. The advantages section of the motion indicates that it is important to know and understand how various audiences perceive FFA and how they view the “FFA Brand” in order to develop materials, programs and communications that will ensure the best use of available funding. The brand study will help ensure programs, activities and materials are consistent with beliefs and perceptions.



MOTION: **Moved by** Leslie Small (Nick Siddle), seconded by Carol Spruill (Vicki Lantz) **and carried** to establish a task force to conduct a comprehensive study of the National FFA delegate process including but not limited to the number of delegates, allocation, selection, preparation, committee process, administration of process, logistics and follow through on delegates. Further move to allocate \$20,000 of organizational funds to accomplish this work with report due January 2001.

MOTION: **Moved by** Jodee Ruppel (Vicki Lantz), seconded by Carol Spruill (Ron Reische) **and carried** to approve the capital reserve requests for a total of \$77,000, which include Macola enhancements (\$18,000), conference room speaker phones (2) and jack modifications (\$4,000), Sony backup tape drive AIT 8mm (\$3,000), document imaging/archive/survey (\$25,000), additional LCD projector (\$5,000), CD-ROM writer (\$500), digital camera (\$1,500), design computer – web/publications development (\$3,000), furniture purchase and move for the new division directors (\$10,000) and computers and phones for the new division directors staff (6) (\$7,000).

MOTION: **Moved by** Jodee Ruppel (Steve Gratz), seconded by Marshall Baker (Tommy Gladden) **and carried** to approve the information systems and Technology Plan as presented; to appropriate funding as outlined in the attached IST Funding Request; to authorize implementation of the Information Systems. (*Attachment F*)

MOTION: **Moved by** Carol Spruill (Barbara Kirby), seconded by Jodee Ruppel (Ernie Gill) **and carried** to approve creation of two new staff positions on the Information Technology Team including Database Developer and Web Developer as defined in the attached position descriptions. (*Attachment G*)

MOTION: **Moved by** Marshall Baker (Ron Reische), seconded by Joe Shultz (Tommy Gladden) **and carried** to approve to Finance Committee report.

### 13. National FFA Convention Special Committee

Ron Reische gave the report for the Special Committee – first National FFA Convention in Louisville. His report covered the discussion items listed below and felt that there will be improvement at the next convention due to the excellent work of Scott Stump.

- A. How is FFA ensuring a high quality program and safe convention experience for convention attendees given the current level of participation?
- B. How does FFA continue to provide efficient and equitable access to housing for all convention attendees?
- C. How can FFA work with students, teachers, state leaders and vendors to address the challenging behaviors that have accompanied the growth of the convention in recent years? (e.g., lack of official dress, smoking, theft, vandalism etc.)
- D. How does FFA enhance and extend the educational value of the convention to those students who attend and those that cannot?

MOTION: **Moved by** Joe Shultz (Vicki Lantz), seconded by Marshall Baker (Karen Hutchison) **and carried** to accept the report of the Special Committee – National FFA Convention.

### 14. Nominating Committee Report

Karen Hutchison submitted the names of board members recommended for special assignments as follows: **Moved by** Carol Spruill (Ernie Gill), seconded by Joe Shultz

(Tommy Gladden) **and carried** to accept Bob Heuvel as the CDE/Award Committee Chair, starting 7/1/00 for a three year term. **Moved by** Joe Shultz (Nick Siddle), seconded by Jodee Ruppel (Vicki Lantz) **and carried** to accept Marshall Stewart as the FFA Board representative to the Council Board of Directors, starting 1/1/00 for a three year term. **Moved by** Carol Spruill (Vicki Lantz), seconded by Marshall Baker (Barbara Kirby) **and carried** to accept Ron Reische and Tommy Gladden to serve as Governing Committee members, starting 7/1/00.

**15. Research Committee**

Rob Terry gave the report on the Research committee. Barbara Kirby, David Howell, Wade Miller and Rob Terry served with Bill Stagg as the key consultant. Dr. Terry felt that the various research projects would be interesting to the teacher educators. The AAAE listserv is an open forum where the resources would be available to help with various research needs.

**16. Administrative and Legal Matters**

Bernie Staller gave an update on administrative and legal issues. Apparently, there are some students in San Luis Obispo who have used the name of the "Future Farmers of America" to sign graffiti in the area and some biotechnology companies were interested in a possible connection with the National FFA Organization. NEA attendance at the national FFA convention and they may be of assistance with the teacher shortage issue. The board member insurance policy has been renewed for liability coverage and an update will be provided at the July board meeting. Vicki Settle will take over as the comptroller of both Organization and Foundation accounting staffs. The four division position vacancies have been narrowed down to final interviews being conducted by mid-February. The Gallup StrengthsFinder process was completed on the final applicants so the research data will be available.

**17. Upcoming Meetings**

The next National FFA Organization Board of Directors meeting will be held on July 16-18, 2000 and the National FFA Foundation Board of Trustees meeting will be held late afternoon on Tuesday, July 18, 2000 in Indianapolis, IN.

**18. Recognize Retiring Board Members, Consultants and Trustees**

Remarks were given by Barbara Kirby, Ernie Gill, Karen Hutchison and Lisa Ahrens. Dr. Case thanked the group for their service and encouraged the board to continue to be a part of a community that provides a wholesome environment for students in our country. A round of applause followed.

MOTION: **Moved by** Marshall Baker (Tommy Gladden), seconded by Jodee Ruppel (Vicki Lantz) **and carried** for a commendation on a job well done of the retiring board members.

**19. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30p.m.

**20. Executive Session with Senior Management**

No motions in the Executive Session of the Board.

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C. Coleman Harris, Secretary

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Larry D. Case, Chairperson