

**4-H State Advisory Board
Summary of Minutes
January 24-25, 2009
Ellensburg, WA**

Treasurer's Report - Chuck Todd reported that the State Ambassadors have a balance of \$2,888.46. There is a balance of \$27,166.82 in the checking account, \$4,118.21 in the savings account, and \$19,065.14 in the investment account (as of 12-31-08). This includes a balance of \$3,872.25 in our account for the Horse Judging School.

4-H Staff –Jana Ferris is coordinating camp training for the state. Jennifer Leach is the state-wide equine coordinator. Jean Smith will field calls for the state concerning livestock. Jill Stevenson has put together an online e-learning activity on human health impacts, bio-security, and animal quality assurance training. Jana Ferris, Jennifer Leach, and Jill Stevenson have some travel money for county training.

Know Your Government – It takes place February 14-17. Pat has a DVD that contains the 2.5 hour teleconference and 7.5 minute presentation for legislators and others. Last year's KYG brought forward issues that Washington State is now focusing on (economy and education).

State 4-H Conference – The conference in June 2008 was very successful (over 300 were present). 30% of those who attended last year's Teen Conference "Breaking Barriers Building Bridges" weren't in 4-H. The College of Liberal Arts at WSU has received a five (5) year grant and has created a partnership with 4-H to accomplish the goals of that grant. They will pay for buses to take teens to the conference this year. They will also fund arts education at county camps. The 2009 conference takes place Sunday, June 28 thru Tuesday, June 30 (ends at noon).

–There was an increase in the number of large animal project and still life exhibits at the 2008 State 4-H Fair even though gas prices were very high. During the last five days of fair (which does not involve 4-H animals), there was an outbreak of a cattle disease (MCF) whose carrier includes sheep and goats.. There is no human health impact with this disease. Twenty of the animals that were exposed have died of MCF. Sheep and goats will now come in at the end of fair. This will require a major revision to the state fair schedule. Cattle and pigs are susceptible and will die from this disease. This is a decision that was made by the State Fair Association at the recommendation of the State Vet. At this time we don't know what affect the MCF outbreak could have on the round robin event.

4-H Enrollments – 4-H membership had declined during the last 4 years. 4-H grew by 19,000 members from 2007 to 2008. Membership was 55,000 in 2007 and 75,245 in 2008. The non-club program was up by 17,000 members. The club program grew by almost 2,000 members. The growth occurred across the state and represents 7% of school age youth in Washington State.

4-H License Plates – This is still in process. Talk to your legislators about it. Stress that 4-H is not asking for more money. We want to be able to raise our own money. The 4-H license plate could eventually raise \$200,000 for support of 4-H programs. The earliest we would receive money from the license plates would be in January 2011, unless the legislature created a bill saying we would have the license plate (then we would begin receiving funds in January 2010).

Readers Digest Article – Jo Simpson had an article about her 4-H program in the Readers Digest. She works with juvenile felons (some are in jail for murder). The kids train dogs that would have been killed because no one wanted them.

2009 Forum – The 2009 Forum will take place at the Great Wolf Lodge just north of Chehalis and Centralia. Entertainment has been confirmed and will be Just Cuz, a 4-H singing group. Forum will take place October 16-18, 2009.

2010 Forum – A problem has been encountered in scheduling forum. Because of other events taking place in Spokane on the 3rd weekend in October, no hotels are available. However, Idaho would like to do a joint forum. The NW District forum planning committee will explore the idea of partnering with Idaho to hold a joint 2010 forum on the third weekend of October in Post Falls at Templins, which offers an airport shuttle and can seat 600 in banquet style seating.

Leader of the Year Pin – The new Leader of the Year pin will be offered to past Leaders of Year for \$10. Beginning with the 2009 Forum the new pin design will be given to Leaders of the Year and each county will receive up to two free pins per year. Additional pins will cost \$10. This price is for the current pin design. The replacement cost of pins with the former design is \$20. Hall of Fame recipients can purchase additional Hall of Fame pins for \$10.

4-H Foundation – The Director position is vacant. The Foundation Board is exploring strategies toward hiring their own director. Previously, it was a 50/50 WSU/4-H Foundation position. A discussion concerning the need for this position is underway between WSU and the 4-H Foundation. Because of the professional level required of this position, a full time individual is needed.

Challenge – Larry Cressey is going to Japan to teach in February. Planning is underway for a portable low course, canoe, and high course in Ferry County. Climbing training at Banks Lake may take place. Planning for another Japanese International event in the fall in Ferry County is taking place. Currently, there is no 4-H high ropes course site in Western Washington.

Myers Point Update – Environmental Impact work is on-going. A third creek has been discovered. They are close to a Final Environmental Assessment Report. In the past this course has been used by corporations. The course design has been completed. However, it will be necessary to rebuild the pool of volunteers when this site becomes operational. The facility will include a conference facility in addition to the challenge course.

2011 Western Regional Forum – The State 4-H Advisory Board authorized Pat BoyEs to begin negotiations with Holland America. This is a 7 day cruise. The price of the cruise includes all meals. Gratuities are automatically added to the price of the cabins and should be included in the price when posted on the website. Final payment is due 60 days prior to the cruise for those who want to make payments. A departure on Saturday would allow people to fly into Seattle on Saturday without the added expense of a hotel room on Friday night. The ship returns at 7 am on Saturday, allowing time to catch a flight out that day. The ship arrives in Juneau at noon and leaves at 9 pm. One restriction is that teens cannot share a room without an adult (over 25) in the room. Passports are needed by all passengers. Holland America seems most interested in having us and has a reputation of being one of the better cruise lines. This can be a family event. Some rooms are large enough for 4 people.