

FBLA Board of Trustees Meeting
January 4, 2025

The **meeting** was **called to order** by Board Chair – Gregg Pelka at 10:01am.

Attendance: Gregg Pelka, Debbie Cross, Dave Sousa, Tirso Tonche, Julie Ellis, Renee Morgan, Troy Maskill, Michael Fox, Katie Holm, Bruce Ruan, Mahesh Vinayagam, Reggan Dumpert, Laurie Urich.

Introductions of members

Julie Ellis shared the following:

Jennifer Woods Bodensiek, has been hired as **our new FBLA National President/CEO**. Her previous work experience was with Junior Achievement.

(Copied from Sterling Martin and Associates, internet) Bodensiek brings decades of executive, fundraising, and youth development experience to FBLA, most recently as Chief Development Officer of Junior Achievement of Greater Washington. Her previous roles include CEO of Junior Achievement of Central Maryland, Global Vice President of Development at Junior Achievement Worldwide, National Director of Capstone Programs at Junior Achievement USA, and Major Gifts Officer at Johns Hopkins University. She started her career in the banking sector, where her positions included Assistant Vice President at Bank of America.

Bodensiek earned her bachelor's degree in marketing education from Virginia Tech. She is certified as a career and technology educator and as an executive coach.

She is an accomplished volunteer leader and currently serves on the Technical Advancement Center Board and Maryland Governor's Workforce Development Board, and as Chair of the Women's Giving Circle Board. Her past volunteer contributions include being part of the U.S. Hispanic Youth and Education Board of Directors and Maryland Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Career and Technology Education. Bodensiek was named one of Maryland's Top 100 Women in 2012 and 2020 by *The Daily Record* and was inducted into the Baltimore Washington Corridor Chamber Business Hall of Fame in 2014.

NFLC – nationals would like for AZ to host the conference next year in the fall. Missey and Julie are in negotiations with nationals. FBLA AZ fall conference will not take place next year if we host the NFLC 2025. Conference days: Thursday – Saturday, second week in November. AZ will get \$\$ per member participant. Missey will send out an invite for anyone who wants to be on the planning committee.

Minutes: From September 9, 2024, were open for discussion. Motion by Debbie Cross, second Tirso Tonche. YES -12, motion passes

Unfinished Business: none

New Business:

FBLA Collegiate Highlights: Katie Holm provided an update on activities that have taken place so far this year. 30 participants at ASU fall conference. Dave Sousa presented. Restarting ASU chapter via Katies support. Looking for an adviser for this chapter. If anyone has contacts, please provide names to Tirso, State Adviser. Currently there are 57 members, paid and non-paid. Katie created fliers and brochures to be used for promotion. **WLC** (Winter Leadership Conference)– Feb 15th at Phoenix College, **SLC** (State

Leadership Conference) at Yavapai College, April 11-12, **NLC** (National Leadership Conference) in Dallas, TX, May 31-June 2

Julie Ellis mentioned that the FBLA Collegiate bylaws needs more work. **It was decided that the FBLA Executive Director, Missey Goodman, will review the Collegiate FBLA bylaws for final “word” changes. Debbie Cross, Tirso Tonche, Katie Holm will meet to discuss either in person or online as soon as possible with Missey Goodman.**

FBLA Updates and Highlights:

Bruce Ruan shared updates on activities that have taken place so far this year. 45 workshops at the Flex conference. NFLC in Columbus, Ohio – had testing competitions and three-hour workshops. Six regional conferences are coming up in the next month.

Changes to SLC: Tucson Convention Center with 15 hotels. If you are planning on attending the conference let Missey know for room reservations at the DoubleTree hotel - April 1-3, 2025. Per Julie the hotel charges will be covered by AZ FBLA.

Group committee Reports:

Alumni and Sponsorships – Debbie Cross – see notes below.

Judges – Laurie Urich – Send Megan Victory and Julie Ellis the judges’ committee minutes. Megan will develop a one-page cheat sheet that has been requested by the committee. Suggested to have our state officers present at the local chambers and other organizations.

Community Service/Social – Elena Sobampo was not present at the meeting. Bruce Ruan shared that the officers asked for donations at the Flex conference. There will be some type of activity at SLC.

Sponsorship Discussion: Julie Ellis had a conversation with Debbie Cross regarding the sponsorship checks that have not been cashed from SLC. There are 100’s of checks that are not cashed on a yearly basis. This creates a nightmare for Missey.

Debbie Cross moves to discontinue the financial sponsorships for state winners at SLC. Second by Dave Sousa.

YES-12 motion passes

Debbie Cross moves that money donated will go to postsecondary scholarships. Seconded by Mahesh Vinayagam. YES-12 motion passes

FBLA Collegiate Financial Reports: Tirso Tonche shared that he closed out the old bank account and money was moved to TRI Leadership. Research is being done regarding Tirso getting a credit card for easier payment processing. Needs a nonprofit determination letter which Julie has. Tirso would like to be a part of the future TRI Leadership meetings with Missey.

FBLA Financial Reports: Julie Ellis reviewed the Financial Position. Starting in March a one-page financial report will be shared with the board for **each** conference to include profit and loss. There also needs to be an audit on the credit card expenditures. She suggested that we should have a finance committee to review the documents. Do we need to write off some of the outstanding money owed to AZ FBLA? Mahesh questioned line item 3100 - \$212,978.00, Julie was unsure what this represents and will follow-up.

Contracts: none

Judges Needed: January 15 - Ottawa University, January 18 - Estrella Foothills HS, January 22 – ASU, January 23 – Eastern AZ College, January 25 – GCU. If commuting distance is an issue, a hotel room will be provided.

Other business: none

Next Meeting: March 6, 2025 – virtual meeting

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Dave Sousa, second by Mahesh Vinayagam. The meeting was adjourned at 12:30pm.

Let's eat!

Respectfully submitted by Laurie Urich