



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: July 15, 2024

RE: State FFA Executive Board Meeting  
**Monday, August 5, 2024 – 9:00 a.m.**

1<sup>st</sup> Floor NJDA Conference Room, Trenton, NJ

- 9:00 am – 10:45 am – State FFA Executive Board Meeting
- 11:00 am – 12:00 pm – Chapter Visit Workshop
- 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm – Lunch
- 1:15 pm – 2:15 pm – Nuts and Bolts of NJ FFA
- 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm – Farm Bureau Visit

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 AUGUST STATE MEETING

- I. Opening Ceremonies
- II. Minutes from the July 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 Agriculture Educators – Mr. Dale Cruzan**
- X. Unfinished Business**
  - A. Summer CDE Results
    - a. Safe Tractor Operations Event – Julia Moreno
    - b. Dairy Handlers Event – Abrianna Portillo
  - B. Checkpoint #1 and I AM Training – William Rutherford
  - C. State Officer Summit – Nina Weiland
  - 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. State Theme T-Shirt and Thank You Gift – William Rutherford
  - F. Eastern States Exposition (September 14-15, 2024) – Tyler Murnaghan
- XV. New Business**
  - A. Association Budget – Abrianna Portillo
  - B. International Leadership Seminar for State Officers – Allison Josielewski
  - C. Leadership Experience and Development Conference (October 4-5, 2024)
    - a. I AM Conference
      - i. Chapter Officer Leadership Training – Tyler Murnaghan
      - ii. Leadership Opportunities Conference – Allison Josielewski
    - b. State Greenhand Conference – Julia Moreno
    - c. Timeline – Niccolo Conte
  - D. Agricultural Education Issues Discussion – Tyler Murnaghan
  - E. State Officer Mileage – Abrianna Portillo
- XVI. Closing Ceremonies**

***Next State Meeting – September 9, 2024***  
***1<sup>st</sup> Floor NJDA Conference Room, Trenton, NJ***  
***4:00 p.m.***

**New Jersey FFA Association  
Minutes from the July 1, 2024 Meeting**

**I. Opening Ceremonies**

Niccolo Conte called the meeting to order at 9:03 am. The voting members in attendance were Niccolo Conte, Allison Josielewski, Tyler Murnaghan, Abrianna Portillo, Nina Weiland, William Rutherford and Julia Moreno. State Staff in attendance were Mrs. Noble, Ms. Allen and Ms. McCluskey.

**II. Minutes from June State Meeting**

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

**Seconded by Abrianna Portillo. Motion passed.**

**III. Treasurer's Report**

The opening balance for the month was \$126,043.63 and the closing balance was \$148,289.55.

**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.

**V. Committee Assignments**

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

No report.

**B. Membership & Chapter Relations**

No report.

**C. State Leadership Activities**

No report.

**D. State Applications**

No report.

**E. Career and Leadership Development Evaluation & Review**

No report.

**F. Horticultural Exposition Evaluation & Review**

No report.

**VI. Parliamentary Procedure Report**

Nicco went over "lay on the table" which is a subsidiary motion and explained how it is used and when it is used. Lay on the Table moves aside a question or a motion to resume later during the meeting. The executive board practiced this motion.

**VII. Executive Committee Report**

Julia Moreno gave the State Officers a personal pocket sized calendar as a gift to use throughout their year of service and beyond. She asked the officers to write and describe what their perfect day would look like and they all shared their vision.

**VIII. State FFA Foundation Report**

No report.

- X. State FFA Alumni & Supporters Report**  
Tyler Murnaghan attended the virtual meeting where the board talked about the organization's efforts and plans for the future. Three county chapter representatives reported what is going on in their chapter as they prepare for upcoming events. The board discussed how to plan for the upcoming Golf tournament and selected their nominating committee. The next meeting is August 14th at 6pm, at the State Office, after the meeting members are invited to a picnic.
- X. Food, Agriculture & Natural Resources Education Advisory Council Report**  
No report.
- XI. New Jersey Agricultural Society Report**  
No report.
- XII. Equine Advisory Board**  
No report.
- XIII. New Jersey Association of Agricultural Educators**  
No report.
- XIII. Unfinished Business**
- A. Chapter Banquets**  
Julia Moreno reported that all requested chapter banquet visits have been completed. She enjoyed them very much and was impressed with the awards she didn't know some chapters gave out to their members.
  - B. State Officer Leadership Training**  
SOLT was hosted by the NJ FFA Alumni & Supporters on June 8-9. State Officers learned more about what being a state officer is, more about being a leader, and how we can be good state officers. The State Officers learned many valuable lessons that they can apply to their year of service and in life. The State officer team chose the state theme "Grow Beyond" to reflect their vision of a revitalized, expanding, and limitless year for the NJ FFA Association. They also thanked the facilitators and stressed the value of S.O.L.T.
  - C. Alumni Golf Tournament**  
The Golf Tournament was held June 25<sup>th</sup> at Mercer Oaks Golf Course. There were 54 golfers and 70 people attended the banquet that was held after the tournament.
  - D. Base Camp**  
Nina Weiland reflected on Base Camp where the State Officers were able to learn from National Facilitator, Luc Sproles about leadership and teamwork. She discussed the effective strategies we now understood and recalled the fun moments from Base Camp.
  - E. Checkpoint #1 & I AM Training**  
Check Point #1 and Impact Training will be held at the EcoComplex from July 16-19. At Check Point we will learn about conversation skills and facilitation. I AM Training will help the State Officers learn more about the curriculum being used during LEAD. State Officers were provided with updates to prepare for this upcoming event.
  - F. Summer CDEs**  
Julia Moreno will help with Safe Tractor Operations on July 16, 2024 at Burlington County Fairgrounds with Mrs. Noble. Abrianna Portillo will help with Dairy Handlers on August 20, 2024 at Sussex County Fairgrounds with Ms. Allen.

**G. State Officer Summit**

State Officer Summit will be held in Washington, DC from July 22-26. We will learn about advocating for FFA and Agriculture, meet other state officers, and kick off the delegate process. Ms. Allen gave updates and clarified instructions.

**XV. New Business**

**A. LEAD Cost Analysis**

The State Officers were provided with a copy of the LEAD cost analysis.

**Motion by Abrianna Portillo** to keep the price of LEAD the same.

**Seconded by William Rutherford. Motion passed.**

**B. 97th National Convention (October 23-26, 2024)**

- a. Delegate – Niccolo Conte, Allison Josielewski and Tyler Murnaghan will serve as official delegates. William Rutherford will serve as the alternate delegate.

The State Officers were also presented with the Iowa FFA Association's delegate proposal to increase the value of Agriscience Research Hours in SAEs. This proposal was submitted because the research in that field is very meaningful, but it is impractical to conduct it with the same amount of hours as other SAE qualification hours. The State Officers discussed the proposal and agreed to endorse Iowa FFA Association's proposal.

**Motion by Julia Moreno** to endorse the Iowa delegate proposal.

**Seconded by Nina Weiland. Motion passed.**

The State Officers were also challenged to think of issues/concerns they could solve with proposal submissions. Nicco and Nina will work together to submit a proposal entitled Recognizing Non-Traditional Agriculture.

- b. Flag Bearer – Abrianna Portillo will serve as NJ's flag bearer.
- c. State Suite – William Rutherford will serve as the host to the State Suite.
- d. Recognition Program – Nina Weiland will organize the recognition program for the National Convention breakfast. Abrianna Portillo had mentioned a passport like ALLD for members. Nina Weiland mentioned she can create it in Canva.

**C. State Theme T-shirts and Thank You Gift**

The officers talked about the t-shirt color that will be Orchid for the LEAD t-shirts. The type of thank you gifts we want for this year will be cooler bags.

**D. Eastern States Exposition**

Niccolo plans to apply for the President Internship at the Big E to help with competitions and other aspects of the event. State Officers can attend as event assistant volunteers. Essex County plans to compete in the Agricultural Issues Form, Hunterdon County ESEA plans to compete in Nursery/Landscape, Hunterdon County Polytech plans to compete in Livestock Evaluation, Phillipsburg plans to compete in Employment Skills, Salem Tech plans to compete in Parliamentary Procedure, Freehold plans to compete in Marketing Plan and Allentown and Belvidere plan to compete in the Star program.

**E. Agricultural Education Issues Discussion**

Allison Josielewski talked about the disparity in Middle School FFA involvement. Across the county there are a total of 830 middle school agricultural programs. States like Puerto Rico, Florida, Delaware, North Carolina, Virginia, and Georgia have 600 middle school programs, but most states have few to none. She discussed how getting involved as a middle schooler is what brought her to the position she is in today and posited that the NJ FFA Association should do more to drive up middle school involvement.

**F. State Officer Mileage**

All mileage reports are due each month with the next one due on August 4th.

**XVI. Closing Ceremonies**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 am. The next meeting will be held on August 5, 2024, at 9:00 am.

8:04 AM

July 1, 2024

Cash Basis

## NJ FFA Association

## Monthly State Meetings - General Ledger

As of June 30, 2024

Type	Date	Name	Memo	Split	Original Amount	Paid Amount	Balance
<b>FFA</b>							126,043.63
Check	06/03/2024	Allentown FFA	convnetion stage floral decorations	P6 (State Convention - Expense)	-100.00	-100.00	125,943.63
Check	06/03/2024	NJ 4-H Dairy Advisor...	CDE additional judge	P2 (CDEs - Expense)	-75.00	-75.00	125,868.63
Deposit	06/04/2024		Deposit	-SPLIT-	3,138.00	3,138.00	129,006.63
Deposit	06/04/2024		Deposit	-SPLIT-	10,204.00	10,204.00	139,210.63
Check	06/05/2024	First Coast Promotions	convention t-shirts & pins	P6 (State Convention - Expense)	-3,920.32	-3,920.32	135,290.31
Check	06/05/2024	DJ Nebbs Entertain...	Dj services at convention	P6 (State Convention - Expense)	-450.00	-450.00	134,840.31
Check	06/05/2024	National FFA Organi...	Agriscience awards	P6 (State Convention - Expense)	-390.00	-390.00	134,450.31
Deposit	06/10/2024		Deposit	Undeposited Funds	100.00	100.00	134,550.31
Deposit	06/12/2024		Deposit	-SPLIT-	6,909.51	6,909.51	141,459.82
Check	06/12/2024	Bank of America	Best of Signs- stage backdrop	P6 (State Convention - Expense)	-188.90	-188.90	141,270.92
Check	06/12/2024	Bank of America	Convention CDE judges snacks	P6 (State Convention - Expense)	-77.61	-77.61	141,193.31
Check	06/12/2024	Bank of America	Walmart - Nom Corn snacks	P6 (State Convention - Expense)	-78.85	-78.85	141,114.46
Check	06/12/2024	Bank of America	Sir Speedy - convention programs	P6 (State Convention - Expense)	-833.67	-833.67	140,280.79
Check	06/19/2024	NJ FFA Foundation	convention awards sponsorship	P6 (State Convention - Expense)	-2,000.00	-2,000.00	138,280.79
Check	06/19/2024	National FFA Organi...	convention awards	P6 (State Convention - Expense)	-112.00	-112.00	138,168.79
Check	06/19/2024	National FFA Organi...	2024-24 (3) SO Team jackets and neck...	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-349.00	-349.00	137,819.79
Deposit	06/24/2024		Deposit	Undeposited Funds	549.00	549.00	138,368.79
Deposit	06/24/2024		Deposit	-SPLIT-	11,927.80	11,927.80	150,296.59
Check	06/27/2024	Julia Moreno	Jan - June mileage reim	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-860.69	-860.69	149,435.90
Check	06/27/2024	Maisie Shimko	Jan - June mileage reim	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-843.07	-843.07	148,592.83
Check	06/27/2024	Chase Sherburne	Jan - June mileage reim	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-248.38	-248.38	148,344.45
Check	06/27/2024	Jonathan Finney	Jan - June mileage reim	P4 (State Officers - Expense)	-54.90	-54.90	148,289.55
Total FFA						22,245.92	148,289.55
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>22,245.92</b>	<b>148,289.55</b>

1. Opening Balance on June 1, 2024 was \$126,043.63
2. Closing Balance on June 30, 2024 was \$ 148,289.55
3. I move to pass the treasurer's report pending audit