

Wyoming SkillsUSA Board of Directors
Meeting, West Fork Lodge, Casper WY
Friday, September 9, 2023

In Attendance – P. Brutsman, T. Grubb, T. Warner, R. Hill, J. Feiler, P. Joyce, L. Dow, J. Eggemeyer, J. Wilcox, B. Thoren, J. Martinez

2pm: Hill- Welcome and review or reading of the minutes 6/2023 – Rob Hill

Eggemeyer motioned to waive reading on the minutes, Brutsman – 2nd. Passed. The board welcomed our newest member, Travis Grubb of Gillette College. Travis noted that he has been active in SkillsUSA for 18 years – beginning as a diesel faculty then department chair and now dean. Dean Grubb oversees all CTE programs at Gillette College.

Treasurer’s Report – Joe Feiler and Janie Wilcox

Joe reviews 2023 actuals.

Discussion on fee and membership increase fees. Discussions on designated funds vs general funds for the general good of the organization.

Discussion on projecting 3-4 years ahead.

Motion made by L. Dow – increase membership registration Aug 2024 by \$5 for student and \$3 for professionals and increase state leadership registration by \$25 in 2024. Seconded by R. Hill, discussion – amended to the first motion made by J. Eggemeyer – from \$3 to \$10 for professionals, seconded B. Thoren, discussion- conversation regarding being cognizant of how other CTSOs are priced in Wyoming. Further discussion of how many more contests are offered by SkillsUSA and the space, volunteers, consumables needed. Amendment to the motion passes. Original motion discussed. Vibrant discussion on apples to apples in organizations and stress points of schools and their funding.

Additional conversation on how big we want to GROW SLSC. Membership vs State conference attendance.

Quality over quantity discussed. No further discussion to increase state or national conference registration dues. Dues increase - students by \$5 and professionals by \$10 for 2024-2025, State Leadership and Skills Conference increased by \$25, passes.

J. Feiler IRS Update from National office given.

Review of 2024 budget, discuss. B. Thoren motioned to amend the 1099 contract employee budget to 10k and approve the budget, seconded L Dow. All in favor? Passes.

Committee Reports

J. Wilcox – Leadership Development and Workplace Experiences

1st quarter objectives outlined.

Initiative One (our responsibility in 4th quarter):

1. Create our OWN Technical Chairman reference guide.

Resources: Guide provided by national office (way too long) and our welding technical team experience.

2. Set a date certain in Jan of 2024 to bring tech chairs together on a ZOOM to discuss best practices (line out which contests these are in Casper).

Initiative Two (4th Quarter to-do list):

1. Janie needs to initiate zoom invitation to advisors to discuss the year in progress and then create a link to a google form to invite Janie to visit their chapters, in-person for chapter development. Engage board, engage state officer team, engage successful advisors?
2. Develop a presentation that is concise and direct and not overwhelming for advisors. (Slide deck and notes and purchase materials to distribute?)
3. STRESS QUALITY CHAPTER and CEP training by Jan of 2025

Initiative Three (4th Quarter to-do list)

1. Identify contacts across the state to help with our initiatives. We will literally create a MAP or spreadsheet or both, of who we have where. Connect these folks to my travels this year to teach chapter development and the Chapter Excellence Program.

B. Thoren noted that with Perkins 5 rewrite, WDE could pay SkillsUSA to travel the state and discuss talking points to generate revenue. May not be a ton of room changes to Perkins 5 but there may be a place for an advisory board for the implementation of Perkins 5. This may be a year off of “our” road show.

R. Hill - Advocacy, Marketing and Community Engagement

Rob- Policy points discussed prior to retreat and during their roundtable discussion this morning.

Confirmed #1 problem is teacher pipeline – without quality teachers programs collapse.

UW, Dr. Jenna Shimm desire to retool the CTE teacher program - impressed and SkillsUSA will send a letter of support for the work she is doing. Note to craft this and send in the coming weeks.

Fireside chat last evening in moving forward –

We need talking points in kicking out to B & I, members - we need consistent messaging in place.

Prioritization in key.

CTE Teacher retention.

CTSO increase support.

Perkins 5 rewrite conversation - Externships. We know the intent was a good one, but the action is another story. Discussed ways to make less stringent. Example – broaden the definition – for example state or national competition attendance points. Industry into classroom, continued certifications could count to points.

DoE Rewarding Chapter Excellence recipients.

Work based learning -looks different in every community, and workforce services plays a roll too.

Support more targeted work-based learning. Connection should be deliberate and thoughtful.

Community colleges- 45 Districts receiving 25k grants, 8 Community colleges receiving the same amount. Appears to be an inequity in disbursement of funds.

Align state standards more closely to federal standards in areas that may be easier on our smaller districts.

Noted the importance of developing Perkins 5 session, talking points. Wilcox to push out sessions this month to board members.

J. Feiler - Financial Management and partner and alumni engagement

Techspo opportunity to increase funds – working on list of industry to solicit and create letter to send to make the ask.

As a board, focus on making personal reaches to additional sponsors, but ALSO to take heavy lift off of the executive director by hiring help to relieve ED of mundane items on her plate and direct her to additional reaches to advocate for sponsorship in alignment with contract.

Extensive job description has been done. Need to start thinking about salary level, benefit options, and proposed candidates.

March DoE budget approval – may not be able to complete the job description until that time.

Good model of try before you buy – having an assistant director on board or the person hired for marketing/state officer trainer? One place to look may be working part time in an industry or a job share opportunity. Begins with work ethic and personality. There are independent contractors.

Leadership Wyoming reach could be an option.

R- Hill Legislative Updates

Active in public policy and legislative engagement – including state officer team presence.

Degenfelder huge support of CTE and CTSOs.

On the table and presented for Policy session – increase to 60K per CTSO an 75K incentive dollars.

Our board members are actively engaged in these conversations at the request of Superintendent Degenfelder.

Who is a CTSO, who is going to be funded the process?

Joe Feiler updated on CTSO roundtable and CTE/CTSO cabinet meetings.

State Director's Report – Janie Wilcox

J. Wilcox presented Technical Standards for new contest for Wyoming: Action Skills.

P. Joyce made motion to accept this new contest, L. Dow seconded No discussion. Passes.

Updates on Fall Conference – Nov 9, LCCC.

Updates on State Conference Progress – increase to contractors at Events Center. Hilton Garden Inn signed for our block ONLY, due to remodel. Alternatives booked for alumni group and considering Sunday night dinner off campus of hotel. Food is marginal, and has been for 6 years.

Boad members for certain in attendance at SLSC: Thoren, Joyce, Grubb – all of which will cover cost of their hotel.

Quality Chapter (Chapter Excellence Program) Mandatory to Compete in 2025. Wilcox reminded board members of this initiative. Discussion regarding Post-Secondary chapters, as many transition at semester end.

Board members interested in attending Nationals in 2024: Feiler, Joyce, Thoren. Reminded of dates.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Martinez noted we have a rotation off the bord in January of 2024 prior to our next meeting. Pat Joyce, Joseph Martinez, and Bruce Thoren all expressed desire to remain on the board for a second term.

Motions to approve each member and their additional term as follows:

Joseph Martinez: L. Dow motioned, B. Thoren seconded. All in favor. Passes.

Pat Joyce: L. Dow motioned; T. Grubb seconded. All in favor. Passes.

Bruce Thoren: J. Martinez motioned; P. Joyce seconded. All in favor. Passes.

4: 19 pm: Adjourn