Treasurer’s Report
Chuck Todd distributed the financial reports for review. There is a total of $35,833.15 in the checking account. This includes State Ambassador funds in the amount of $921.17 and Horse Program funds in the amount of $4,659.90 which are being held for these organizations by the State 4-H Advisory Board. This leaves an Advisory Board balance of $30,252.08. In comparison to last year the board is “in the plus.” There is a total of $32,871.27 in the investment portfolio. The income for the period was $51,732.14, which includes the funds being held for the State Ambassadors and the Horse Program. Also included is the income from the 2015 Forum. Expenses include the state charity license and corporate license of $50.00, the credit card fee, the January & April 2015 meeting expenses, and the $2,170 deposit for the use of TRAC during the 2016 Forum. The total income from the 2015 Forum was $42,603.16, with the auction bringing in about $8,000. This was the first time we have had to paid for the hotel staging. This cost was paid for by a $800 donation from Pat BoyEs. Expenses for the 2015 Forum were $38,196.22.

The budget for this year includes a total projected income of $45,230. This includes $1,725 from dues, an estimated $8,000 from the 2016 auction, a Forum income of $500, Forum registration of $35,000, and income from interest of $500. The total expenses are estimated to be $45,320 with the largest cost being the hotel/TRAC ($30,750). A total of $1,043.93 in non-reimbursed expenses were reported to Chuck Todd by Advisory Board members.

Extension Report and Update
• Doreen Hauser-Lindstrom was present for the extension report and update. Doreen was a 4-H Educator in Wisconsin prior to coming to Washington State. Since coming to Washington State, Doreen has worked with the after school program and horizon programs. Doreen spoke on leadership programs being an important part of the programming and the dialogue of the community in 4-H.
• Pat BoyEs retired December 2015, and Doreen is the interim director until someone is hired to fill Pat’s position. The process is expected to take six months to a year. The position description is being rewritten to build a position that a strong leader will be drawn towards. Kristi Axtell has replaced Nancy Mordhorst who retired in November. She is located on the WSU-Spokane campus. Kristi comes to us with a background from Apple and in websites. She is very organized. A volunteer specialist (Eric Larsen) will start work on Monday. Eric was a member of faculty in Arizona. Jan Hiller had served this role previously. He will serve all of extension programs and will be located in the Spokane office. Dr. Stephanie Smith is the new Consumer Foods Specialist. She will be involved in food security and food safety issues. Linda Loos is the assistant that will be supporting Kristi and Doreen. Pat BoyEs retirement party will probably be in February when she returns from Hawaii.
- Food Sense has funding but is switching to a competitive grant process. YA4-H Program funds were received from Conagra funding as a collaboration within area nutrition programs.
- This is a season of change all around. Doreen will be asking a lot of question to get a clearer picture of the Advisory Board and how 4-H has been working in the past. Faculty led transition teams with committees of volunteers and teens serving on them will help define what they can do. Developments will be emailed out but some of the development work will be:
  - Financial Management- EINS, 501c3 development and maintenance led with Jana Ferris. This includes the development of funding resources at the county level and I-90 forms consistency.
  - Conflict Management-Brian Brandt will take the lead on procedure management and documentation management of conflict.
  - Risk Management-signing contracts and liabilities. Brian Teuteberg is leading this and already has weekly contact with the Attorney General’s office and Contracts Offices.
  - Professional Development-This is one of the highest priority items. Kevin Wright and Natalie Kinion are taking the lead. This includes training new staff and staff development.
  - Global Development- Lauren Hrncirik will be taking on global understanding with Mary Kathrine Dean.
  - Evaluation-We are continually asked about the economic bottom line and return on investment. Gary Varrella is doing a study on how economics are benefitted by the youth of 4-H. There is an online council evaluation tool focusing on health, career readiness, leadership, and more. Faculty and staff can choose evaluation tools based on the end goals and will be aggregated on a national level.
  - Livestock Development-At this time nothing has been done to replace Jerry Newman. Janet Schmit is taking the lead.
  - State Fair-Janet Edwards and Missy Cummings are working with the State Fair Board on development and clarity.
  - Jan Klein-She will be assisting Doreen by working with the State 4-H Advisory Board as the lead transition chair between the board and Doreen.

2016 Forum
The Benton Franklin 4-H area is excited to be hosting the Forum in 2016! The venue has been an issue. Turnover of staff at TRAC and the hotel left us with less rooms in the TRAC than we need for Forum. It will necessary to rent a few rooms from the Holiday Inn Express which will increase the cost of the event. This could cause the 2016 Forum to be VERY over budget. We are going to try to get donations to help cover the costs. The maximum amount it may cost is $1200 a day, but that cost will go down if we are not using all the hotel meeting rooms. We may use these rooms on just Saturday.

We have the 2016 keynote speakers lined up! Saturday we will TENTATIVELY have Kyle Scheele who speaks on youth and anti-bullying. This speaker will be brought to you by Windermere and Toyota. On Sunday we will have Ann-Erica Whitemarsh. She runs the “Rascal Rodeo” which is a therapeutic riding program for youth.
The local Forum Committee has decided NOT to do the vendor village idea that was presented during the Forum post meeting. There was a concern that it would detract from the auction and from the rest of the 4-H meeting. Plus, the vendor village was going to require a lot more management than we would be able to provide.

An email was received from 4-H Mall where we can get items for sale and raise nominal funds through those sales. We can either purchase the items outright and sell them, or we can “borrow” the goods, sell what we can, and return those items that are not sold. The option of borrowing is best but we have not identified the volunteers to run the shop. Erin will talk to the local Forum Committee about volunteers from the county to man the shop.

The Golden Ticket is a twenty-dollar raffle for the winner’s choice of one live auction item. It’s hard to determine how much money we will make off the item in question. A discussion will take place at the April Advisory Board meeting to decide if this raffle should continue to take place.

Erin suggested that the Advisory Board work toward the creation of partnerships with commodity groups and others for donations to Forum. Additional donations for Forum would make it possible to get better (more expensive) speakers and decrease the registration fee. Sponsorship letters will be written that can be used to request funding for Forum.

**Credit cards at the next Forum**
Credit Cards are used by many people who purchase auction items at Forum. The problem is that the WSU website is not considered a secure site. Brown Paper ticket is sometimes used in counties for local events. Our cost at this particular time is 2.5% of the cost and we charge a convenience fee. At this time, we do not have a protocol. A protocol for credit cards was outlined and will be added to the registration.

Chuck Todd was asked if there was a concern with the chips that are now on the credit card. Our reader costs $150 and the chip readers cost $600. One concern Chuck has with the new readers is that they need to constantly be used, not just one weekend a year.

**Sub-Committee Reports**

**Grants and Recognition Committee**
The group will be reviewing the applications and information on state applications for all awards. The National Hall of Fame nominations were discussed; and since the nominations are due soon, the committee is going to re-submit last year’s nomination.

**Fund Development Committee**
4-H Leaders and others need to be encouraged to purchase 4-H License plates for their vehicles. The auction was lack luster this year and the committee discussed the need to solicit higher priced items to balance the items currently being donated. More
competitive bidding during the auction would help. A thermometer to show how much funds have been donated was recommended with a first year goal of $10,000.

Public Awareness Committee
Some discussion was made on how to get information out to everyone with a graphic punch. The Forum graphics need to get onto Facebook and the website. Running a Facebook promotion to like and share graphics may help. It was suggested that piggy backing posts between the State Fair Board, the 4-H Foundation, and the 4-H Forum would help build visual reference from users and help the Facebook programming by giving the Forum promotions a higher profile.

Michelle Lain made a motion to approve a Public Relations Campaign for the liking and sharing of Forum information with the reward of $25 off a Forum registration for likes and shares of Facebook posts. The motion was seconded by Don Ballard and unanimously approved by the State 4-H Advisory Board.

Teen Leadership
It was requested that workshops on running meetings and officer training aimed toward teens (but also be applicable to adult leaders) be included at the 2016 Forum. An effort will be made to locate a recently updated teen committee publication. This publication needs to be reviewed to ensure it includes Youth Adult Partnership. The Teen Leadership Committee is going to develop ideas for getting teens interested in the State Advisory Board and creating the materials needed to develop interest and understanding.

State Wide Committee Reports
State Fair Board
The 2016 tentative state fair schedule is a new format that includes closing the State Fair on Tuesday to allow for set up. Janet Edwards said that the first weekend of State Fair does not include any competitions and is demonstration only. There are some open classes being shown at this time.

Dog
The State Fair is expanding but will still only have 8 days of dogs with the entire fair being shut down on Tuesday. An updated State Fair show calendar will be available in the near future. Showmanship questions will be accepted until June 1. The Veteran Scoresheet and the Showmanship Scoresheet have been updated. Group scoresheets will be updated to include the new AKC changes. A new Rally Rules and Guide will be presented. The dog judging rules have been revised. State guidelines are being update to reflect changes since the last edition. There will be merit awards at the State Fair.

Forum Restructuring Committee
The Forum Restructuring Committee met Friday night (January 22) to discuss how the Forum can be improved without eliminating the needs of the groups (staff and volunteers) but increasing the value of the time and funds spent to attend Forum.
Approximately 250-300 people attend Forum. Roughly one third of these attendees are WSU staff. There are about 30-40 new or first time attendees every year. The workshops and networking aspect are clearly the biggest. It was decided that the most important change needs to be the quality of workshops and that Friday will continue to be the day on which the longer workshops take place. Workshops are the most important part of the Forum. It is also necessary to ensure that only those who pay for meals eat the meals. We need to create hands on workshops that bring out an application toward the 4-H program. Entry level courses for newer leaders were recommended.

Round tables were recommended for the following projects:
- Horse
- Rabbits
- Shooting sports
- Dogs
- Livestock
- Fundraisers

The 2016 Forum will take place on October 20-23 in Pasco at TRAC.

Financial Audit Report
The financial audit was completed by Michelle Lain and Holly Haddenham. They did not find any concerns/issues. Don Ballard made the motion to accept the audit report. The motion was seconded by Jean and unanimously approved by the State 4-H Advisory Board.