Treasurer’s Report
The investments are at Edward Jones now. Twelve counties submitted their dues after the end of March. They will appear on the April bank statement. The county auction shares were $2,846.25 and were sent to the counties on March 20. The ending balance of the checking account is $34,352.85. State Ambassadors purchase their new jackets and shirts in the spring. Half of the purchase price is paid by the individual. The other half is paid from State Ambassador funds.

2015 Forum Update
We have fewer meeting rooms for Forum than in previous years, but we will be able to accommodate the same number of participants. Tom and Ann Muchoney will be coordinating the Hospitality Room. Counties in the northwest district have been asked to help stock it. The Forum Committee is using facebook and the State 4-H page to advertise Forum. A key note speaker (Reina Almon) has been scheduled. Information about her is now available on the 4-H website. She is from Yakima County, was Miss Washington, and is currently studying to be a lawyer. Reina has requested that her speaking fee be gas money from Issaquah and back. Robin Minaker has contacted NW Harvest about receiving the food and money raised by the food drive and is waiting for their response. My Champion Books will be used as speaker gifts. The remainder of the books will be donated to various groups in the state (a case to each group). Sabrina Wood will spearhead this. Each board member was asked to contact organizations that would be interested in receiving these books. George Magnochi will be the auctioneer in return for $200 and dinner for two. The goodie bags are done and ready to be filled. A flier for this year’s forum is on the 4-H website.

State Director Report
Know Your Government (KYG) – This year was awesome!!! Politics and the Media with an emphasis on social media was the topic of this year’s event. Social media was added this year. Sixty-one (61) legislators were able to attend. The speakers were phenomenal, especially on Tuesday morning when the topic was “Redefining the Super Hero.” The Sparrow Program is an organization that meets medical needs by providing sponsors to purchase items the family cannot afford. The money earned by 4-H participants during the community service project at Know Your Government went to the Sparrow individual that 4-H adopted. 4-H participants earned $10 per hour for every hour the 4-H’ers worked. Hours outside of KYG were turned in during the KYG conference. The number of hours worked was in excess of 1000 hours. This year’s 4-H recipient was a 4-H’er.
State Fair Funding – Both the House and Senate version of the budget includes funding for the State 4-H Fair. This is very good news.
WSU Medical School – This school will be operating out of Spokane and serve eastern Washington. It is in the development stage at this time. There is the possibility of youth oriented medical, science, and nursing positions.

WSU Everett Campus – WSU has opened a branch campus in Everett. This campus will include a high tech and western Washington agricultural approach. It is in partnership with Everett Community College.

IRS – After four (4) years of effort, we have completed our first year under the new 509(c)(3). Every individual 4-H organization still needs to complete a 990 form if they wish to continue their non-profit status. A peer review of a 4-H group’s finances is required and can be tracked by the new enrollment system. The county offices now need to certify that a peer review has been done for each club with 509(c)(3) non-profit status. This certification needs to be submitted by the state no later than March 15. The peer review needs to be done by a non-family member. Having non-profit status only affects clubs or other 4-H groups that want to be able to receive tax deductible donations.

New Enrollment System – Since last June, Washington State has been using a new enrollment system. It was developed for Texas (which has 3/4 the times of our enrollment). The database includes enrollment, registration, fee collection, training, and other functions. 4-H is concentrating on enrollments this year. Next year we will add the registration and fee collection function. Webinars for the enrollment training are available on-line. Forty-four (44) states are currently using this system. Chuck Todd was told that this system could keep track of the leader council officers in each county. We will be able to tie hourly volunteer reporting into this system. Child Protection Training will also be attached to the enrollment site, so separate tracking will not be necessary. An electronic record book would eventually be included. This system will also allow a county to track ear tag numbers of livestock. There is a social media side of the record book. This program was created by two guys in their bedroom. They do not have a corporate office, headquarters, etc. Their office is wherever their laptop is located. Their business doubled in size in a year. Nancy Mordhorst will be retiring at the end of the year. Finding a replacement will be difficult. Her expertise cannot be replaced, and it will take time for her replacement to get up to speed. If you need something, contact Nancy as soon as possible. Pat BoyEs has given Nancy enough travel money to provide training on the new enrollment system.

Burundi – 4-H has partnered with nine (9) sister schools in Burundi. The teachers make $250/month. 4-H is currently partnered with Central United Methodist Church of Spokane. This country is the 3rd or 4th lowest poverty stricken nation in the world. It was held by the Beligiums and has experienced a genocide. Burunda is land locked, has no natural resources, and is of no strategic importance. We are focusing on school gardens that will help feed the children and their families. Teacher training will be done by a group from Washington State 4-H that will be going to Burundi this year. A drip irrigation system will be installed at the school gardens to able them to garden all year.

2016 Puyallup Fair/Washington State 4-H Fair
The State 4-H Advisory Board discussed the addition of a weekend to the beginning of the State 4-H Fair. Still life entries can already be mailed in after the start of fair. Some livestock projects are already at the State 4-H Fair three (3) days prior to the start of fair. At this time Pat BoyEs does not know what is expected of 4-H during this additional
weekend. The State 4-H Fair Board will meet next Saturday to discuss the schedule change. They will provide more information to Pat after their meeting.

Public Awareness Committee Meeting
Floy Ziegler challenged everyone to have a 4-H display at their library during 4-H week, the first full week of October. Photo’s of the displays throughout the state could be sent to the State 4-H Office, judged, and given an award sponsored by the State 4-H Advisory Board (free registration at the following year’s Forum was one suggestion). Floy Ziegler will work on promoting this activity. The county would designate who receives the award. Each county would submit one display. The award would be presented at Forum during the award ceremony. Photos of the displays will be put in a power point by Sarah Bishop for review at the Thursday Advisory Board meeting prior to Forum.

Committee Liaison Reports

Adventure Education – Scott Vanderway was just promoted from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor. In King County 4-H has a partnership with the City of Seattle Parks Department (Camp Long). It has been held in trust for almost 90 years, is in the middle of Seattle, and has had a high and a low ropes class for two years. Over 9,000 youth have gone thru the class and the affect of this class on these youth has been documented. In Chelan County the course is encountering some challenges since the retirement of Ray Faini. Jefferson and Clallum Counties are doing challenge course training. Building Successful Learning Communities uses principles of Challenge Education being done by Scott Vanderway.

Camping – Mike Jensen has been doing a series of seminars on getting ready for camps. Pat BoyEs recently sent his latest seminar on risk management for camp out on 4-H talk for everyone to see because applies across 4-H. The seminar is 30-40 minutes long. His next seminar topic will be on allergies.