The 4-H State Advisory Board Minutes Summary
January 28-29, 2017
Ellensburg, WA

Treasurer’s Report
Since Chuck Todd was unable to attend, Don Ballard presented the Treasurer’s Report. The Board’s investment account dropped $100 to $34,464 as of January 1, 2017. This is a small change that reflects the current investment market. The State 4-H Advisory Board made $3,344.31 at the 2016 Forum. The State Ambassador’s funds total $1,402.78. The income reflected for the State 4-H Advisory Board is from the Forum auction. The Horse Program funds total $5,862.51. The proposed 2017 Budget was reviewed.

Committee Liaison Reports
4-H Foundation – Don Ballard – At this time audits are being done to put their paperwork in order so their funds can be transferred to the WSU Foundation. WSU is no longer contributing to the salaries of the 4-H Foundation staff and the 4-H Foundation is now required to do an expensive annual audit. These two changes made this reorganization necessary. There will now be an 8% administrative fee on 4-H Foundation funds.
State Teen Ambassadors – Katrina Fenimore – There will be no teen conference this year. The State Teen Ambassadors are looking at other options. WSU does not give 4-H a discount when events take place on the campus. Teen Conference costs a lot of money. An attendance level of 320 does not provide enough funding for this event to break even. Gear Up which also targets life skills usually partners with the Ambassadors to sponsor this event. Unfortunately, they are not participating the next 2 years which reduces funding 35-40%. The Summit on April 1-2 focuses on leadership training for middle school youth. High school youth at this event are teaching 100 middle school kids. The cost should be $95 - $100 and it will take place at Camp Koinonia. The State Ambassadors would like to have a state wide Super Saturday type event with interviewing skills, etc. An assessment of the teen program is going to take place later this year.

2017 Forum
Peggy Hirte-Uhlorn told the Advisory Board that Kendra Meek is the chairperson of the 2017 Forum. The theme for forum is “Make a Splash”. The Thurston County horse and teen club will be helping with live auction helpers and signage. They will also do centerpieces for tables during one of the dinners. Jefferson County will help with goody bags and provide helpers at the registration table. The planning committee will have a meeting in the very near future to discuss Forum. There has been some discussion about having shooting sports certification at Forum. The dates, logo, and hotel info needs to get to Kristi Axtel as soon as possible. Identification of speakers and presenter gifts needs to happen right away. Kristi needs to be kept in the loop regarding the receipt of workshop proposals and which workshops are accepted. Meals for forum will be identified and proposed meals will be presented to board at the April meeting of the
Advisory Board. There will be a hospitality room this year, possibly both a teen and an adult hospitality room.

2018 Forum
Red Lion at the Park ($133 for 1 bed/$143 for 2 beds) and Mirabeau Park ($95) both of which are in Spokane are possible sites. If the cost of rooms at the Red Lion at the Park could come down to about $100, the board felt that would be better place. The consensus of the 4-H Advisory Board was to use the Red Lion at the Park if they will give us a lower room rate.

State Director’s Report
Doreen Hauser-Lindstrom reported that although WSU is experiencing some financial straits, the Provost has approved the hiring of someone to fill the State 4-H Program Director position. A draft position description has been vetted and will be sent to the State 4-H Advisory Board for their information. The search committee will be reviewing the position description. Applications will be reviewed by the search committee. They will need to explain why each applicant does not meet the criteria. An initial committee of seven people will score the applications and select the top tier applicants. There will be a total of 14 people on the search committee. The committee will include representatives from the Fair Board, the 4-H Advisory Board, youth, Schools Out Washington, the 4-H Foundation, the 4-H Association, and OSPI.

Since July of 2016 we have had seven new county coordinators hired throughout the state. It is a little concerning to have a 30-40% turnover every year. This is a very difficult, demanding job but some fantastic people have been hired into those jobs. The positions are attracting people with some great skills.

WSU and 4-H are experiencing some funding concerns. Some funding is received from the federal government thru the USDA. A majority of the funding for 4-H comes from money received by WSU from the state funds for higher education. All three funding sources are stressed at the moment. We need to be diligent in finding new funding. Because WSU is in a financial shortfall, there will be a budget cut in the next few months. CAHNERS will experience a deficit of $4.6 million. At the Advisory Board’s April meeting Doreen will come to us looking for additional funding. We need to look at things differently. There is the potential for funding out there, but we need to find new funding.

Certified Leaders – When adults and youth participate in an overnight event, adults cannot be in the same room with youth. The State Fair dorm and camp are big sleeping rooms. The adults need to have some separation from the youth and need to be certified. All parents staying on the state fairgrounds need to be screened and certified in order to chaperone youth that are not their children. We need to be concerned with the safety of both the adult and the youth. Doreen needs our thoughts and ideas to ensure safety for all. She asked the Advisory Board members to contact her with further questions and their thoughts on this matter.