4-H State Advisory Board Summary
April 29-30, 2017
Chehalis-Centralia, WA

Treasurer’s Report
The investment account total is $36,262.45, which is an increase of a little more than $2,000. There is currently $37,668.72 in the checking account. A total of $29,782.27 in the checking account belongs to the Advisory Board. The 4-H State Horse Program funds are $6,898.91. A total of $987.54 belongs to the State Ambassadors. The only activity to the State Ambassador’s account was the purchase of jackets and shirts by the State Ambassadors. They personally pay for half the cost of their jackets/shirts and the other half comes out of this account. On April 24, 2017, the State Ambassador funds were transferred to WSU via the Washington State 4-H Foundation.

External Audit – The need for doing an external audit depends on the reason an audit is being done. Chuck Todd has been working to make the transition easier in case he can’t attend a board meeting. He has made a disk that contains his budget program/information and will send updates to Tony Dell. Chuck is working on a way to provide a backup to Tony. A Finance Sub-Committee was formed. Chuck will provide a deeper familiarization of the budget to the subcommittee members. Peggy Hirtz-Uhlorn, Katrina Fenimore, and Jean Lindsey volunteered to be on the board. Chuck Todd will be the chair.

State Director’s Report
4-H Grows National Marketing Campaign – This campaign is in progress. High resolution photos are available from Kristi Axtel as a result. A total of 319 Washington State alumni have signed up as a result of the campaign. It is Doreen’s hope that this campaign will result in more funding for the Washington State 4-H program.
Governor’s Summit on Career Connected Learning – WSU is being asked to be the coordinator of the Governor’s Summit on Career Connected Learning. This summit will look at what careers will be available in the state and how we meet the needs of those people wanting to be in these careers. There are 27 sites in Washington. The summit will take place from 10 am to 1pm on May 31. 4-H faculty will be bringing policies to be discussed. Doreen will put together fliers on 4-H that can be handed out at this summit. Staff and faculty will be facilitating at each of the summit locations. To find a location near you search for “WA Governor’s Summit 2017”.

Challenges – The new WSU president is asking for a zero-based budget. Budget cuts will be taking place across the board.
Associate Director for State 4-H Program - There is a soft hiring freeze in place that is not affecting the hiring of the Associate Director for the State 4-H Program. This position has been advertised nationally. Doreen handed out a copy of the position description. Applications are being received. We are in a very tight economic time. She hopes to have interviews take place in June or July of this year. This individual’s office will be located in Spokane, but they will also have office space in Puyallup. 4-H enrollment is equally divided between the east and west side of state.
State Fair Funding – The Senate and governor have included full State Fair funding in their budgets. However, the House eliminated funding for the State Fair. Because 4-H is funded with public money, we cannot use public list servers suggesting people contact their legislators.

State 4-H Fair Board – They are looking at activities for the upcoming State Fair. The State 4-H Fair is struggling financially. There will be a reduction in their funding from previous years.

State 4-H Foundation – Their money has been moved to accounts within the WSU Foundation. Because they will not have to spend time managing their funds, they will have more time to work on fund development for 4-H. They will be moving forward on the hiring of a Foundation Director. Interviews for a new dean are taking place.

Committee Reports

4-H Foundation – Their next meeting will be in May. A Foundation Director position is being looked at. They have been busy moving their money to the WSU Foundation and setting up accounts.

Adventure Ed – Erin Hightower has been asked to schedule a meeting room for them to use on Friday at forum. She is working on building a relationship with this group.

2017 (SW) Forum Report and Update

Don Ballard will check with Great Wolf Lodge to find out if Friday’s sandwiches can be put into a box. Don will rework the draft of the 2017 forum logo. Don will talk to Kristi Axtel about an icon for forum on the 4-H page that will make it easier for people to find the 2017 Forum information. There are eight (8) breakout rooms for workshops and a board room that will be used for auction storage. The hotel will rent a stage with a ramp for our use. There are three speakers. Lucas Doleman will speak on the inclusion of people with disabilities. On Sunday Baley Peters who ran for Miss Washington will speak. On Saturday night before the auction Gary Vetter will speak.

Audiovisual Equipment - Diane Ullery who is the Thurston County Program Director will arrange for the audiovisual equipment used during forum. Projection screens, projectors, and easels will be needed in all 8 workshop rooms. It was suggested that Tony Dell may have some equipment available in the state office.

Entertainment – Marilyn Brennan is going to have the State 4-H Talent winner perform at award ceremony.

Poultry Workshop – There will be a six (6) hour workshop on Friday with the chickens in a tent in the north parking lot of the hotel.

Window Display Contest – Katrina Fenimore will coordinate this contest. More information about this contest needs to go on the website. The attendees at Forum will be given the opportunity to vote on the winner. Photographs of the window displays will be sent to Katrina via our gmail account.

Food Drive – The board decided they wanted to do another food drive at this year’s forum. Erin Hightower volunteered to coordinate and promote the food drive.
2018 (NE) Forum Report and Update

The contract with Hotel RL at the Park by Red Lion has been approved and signed by WSU and Don Ballard. The contract has been signed by the hotel and received by WSU Contracts. The theme is Cascading Knowledge. There has been a discussion on the presentations that will be taking place at forum. Someone local needs to be found to help coordinate the forum. Katrina Fenimore will contact Jim Johnson with the names of local individuals she would recommend as the local contact/coordinator for the 2018 Forum. There will be a hospitality suite in Spokane and there may already be people to run it. The cost for a two (2) bed room is $119/night. On Thursday 21 rooms have been reserved, on Friday 91 have been reserved, and on Saturday 91 rooms have been reserved. There is a $17,000 food minimum.

Committee Meeting Reports

Grant and Recognition Committee – The board members discussed sending formal award packets with all submission forms to the county offices. This was done several years ago. This information has also been sent to the county offices via email. Neither method has been effective at getting responses from the counties. There was a discussion about the possibility of sending requests for award nominees to just the high population counties or counties that need an additional reminder to send in the award forms. Jim Johnson will work on the best way to communicate to counties the need for award nominees and get back to the board with his recommendation.

Fund Development Committee – Erin Hightower will get more information on 4-H and Estate Planning. There was a discussion about an on-line auction, solicitation letters including auction items, and donor letters requesting sponsors for meals, awards, and other things at forum. Any board member who knows companies or individuals to whom the letters could be sent is asked to give Doug Ballard that information. Erin Hightower will write the donor letter, and Carol Ervest will write the solicitation letter.

Erin Hightower made a motion that the following expenses be covered by the State 4-H Advisory Board for the chaperone of any teen member. 1) Lodging (half of the room rate) during the January and April meetings. 2) One paid meal at the Advisory Board’s per diem rate during the January and the April meetings. 3) The full cost of the award banquet meal at forum. The motion was seconded by Jim Johnson and unanimously approved by the Washington State 4-H Advisory Board.