



Epsilon Sigma Phi – Alpha Iota Chapter

**Annual Business Meeting
4-H Center, Ferndale, Arkansas
March 15, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by President, Mary Ann Kizer at 9:00 am. The pledge was led by Diane Clement. Mary Ann presented a welcome and opening remarks. Special guest present were lifetime member Don Plunkett as well as past state presidents-Terrie James, Don Plunkett, Renee Myers and Pia Woods.

A quorum was declared. There were 15 members in attendance (see attached copy of sign-in sheet).

Mary Ann asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes. Diane Clement made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, motion was seconded by Valerie Turner. Motion passed.

Mary Ann asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. Terrie James made a motion to approve the agenda as printed, seconded by Pia Woods. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Becky Bridges, Treasurer presented the treasurer's report. The current balance is \$8,721.20. The \$1000 for the national 4-H Congress trip scholarship was not paid. The legislative event was paid out of the main account and was put back in legislative account. The treasurer's report was approved as presented (copy attached).

Membership Report:

Becky Bridges presented the membership report. She stated we currently have 66 members.

Committee Reports:

Annual Meeting - Keith Perkins gave a report on the Annual meeting. A Razorback basket has been put together for the silent auction with help from Diane Clement.

Budget & Audit – Alicia Hugen, committee chair stated the committee met by Zoom on Thursday, March 9 with Becky, Keith, Mary Ann and Alicia participating. (Blue sheet attached) They reviewed the 2017 budget proposal showing 2016 and 2015 actual income and expenses with totals as well as a 2018 proposed budget. Alicia made a motion to approve the 2017 and 2018 budgets as presented. Motion passed.

Constitution and Bylaws: Keith Perkins, President-Elect said there are no changes at this time. However, there may be some at the end of the meeting but these will require a vote 30 days after.

Membership: The treasurer, Becky Bridges serves as chair with each of the district directors. Delta District – 10 members, 3 new members, Ozark District – 5 members with one new; Ouachita District – 4 members; LRSO- 16 with 4 new members. Her report is submitted above with a copy attached.

Legislative and Resolutions: Sherry Beaty-Sullivan said there was nothing to report. If members have any resolutions, please get them to her. She will work on these at the end of the meeting.

Professionalism: Laura Hendrix, chair had no report. Renee reported the national organization offers a \$1,000 grant for professional development. Our association applied for the grant for the speaker books for Galaxy.

Awards and Recognition: Renee Myers reported this is her first time on the committee as chair. She encouraged all members to check ESP national.org for awards and to apply. The major awards will be presented at the banquet. There will be a Distinguished team award presented to Diane Clement, Mary Ann Kizer, Michelle Carter and Jane Newton on Navigating the Financial Journey and Friend of Extension is the owner of a newspaper, Britt Talent, submitted by Diane Clement. Other awards to be presented are DSA-Keith Perkins, Early Career-Dianna Bowen, Meritorious Support-Nora Terry.

Nominations: Diane Clement gave the nominating committee report.

2017-2018 officers

President: Keith Perkins

President Elect: Sherry Beaty-Sullivan

Vice-president: Susan Pickle

Secretary: Laura Hendrix

Treasurer: Becky Bridges

Diane found a discrepancy in the by-laws, the treasurer should be elected in uneven years and the secretary in even years. There for, Becky will serve 2 years and Laura's term will be one year. Diane made a motion that the slate be elected by acclimation. Motion carried.

Memorial and Tributes: Terrie James presented the report. There were 7 members deceased this year: Woody N. Miley, Betty F. Oliver, Carreather Perry, Randel Price, Rubye Talbert, Vernon Wills, and Lloyd Westbrook.

Global Relations: Joe Waldrum was not present and there was no report.

Retiree/Life Members: Don Plunkett – membership has fallen off over the years. Associations do not get information about who has retired. He said many did not receive a letter about this meeting. He expressed concern that those who retire should not be left out, there should be a list either email or snail mail for notification.

The Extension Cord newsletter has changed in the last few months with no information on new retirees.

Terrie James stated she is working on getting information with Brian Helms.

Web Page: Becky Bridges and Amy Cole – Becky is working on getting information to go on the site. Please send what you have to her.

Fund Development: Nita Cooper and Renee Myers. Their committee had not met and has no report.

Caucuses by District were held to elect directors and alternates.

District Director Reports:

The discussion by district was about getting more members and added benefits, possibly developing a list.

District Caucuses and reports:

The Delta and Ouachita District and the LRSO need to elect both Directors and Alternates:

- Ozark: Director, Alicia Hugens; Nita Cooper, Alternate
- Retirees: Don Plunkett only retiree present
- Ouachita: Director, Terrie James; Alternate, Diane Clement
- Delta: Director, Pia Woods, Alternate, Valerie Turner
- State Office: Director, Teresa Hensen; Alternate, Beverly Sims
- 1890 – None

Renee reported that she did get an email back from National and it may be 2-3 weeks before we hear about the grant for the Galaxy speaker.

National Reports:

- ESP National Conference – Keith Perkins attended in Cape May, NJ on the ocean in October, off season. He was able to find a roommate from Pennsylvania-bird watcher vs bird hunter but made friends. The scholarship available received \$500 plus \$400 as voting delegate and \$200 for attending a national committee meeting. There are several national committees you can serve on. He attended a program on employee evaluations. A donation of rusty

horse shoe cross made for the auction sold for \$150. New members needed nationwide with more lifetime than active members. They are working on it. The Southern Region has the largest membership. The National Conference in 2017 will be October 8-12 in Wilmington, NC and 2018 in Manhattan, KS. The total attendance about 400. We could possibly hold in Arkansas with bids 2-3 years out. There was discussion on the national dues. All dues will be paid online in 2018. Check will be sent back to the state for extra dues. Diane asked about changes in awards application. Must be a member at least how many years before you can apply? For scholarships you may have to have a letter of support with it. We can recruit members year round.

- JCEP: Keith attended in Orlando. The motivational speaker was on balance of work and family. He attended several other workshops. Innovation in Ext Webinar will be presented with Karen Ballard as moderator, suggested you set aside 4 hours a week on your calendar just to dream. There were several people from Arkansas at the meeting presenting.
- PILD: President, Mary Ann Kizer attended in Crystal City, Virginia. She applied for scholarship and received \$600 and \$200 national committee as well as \$800 from the state. The Texas head of Extension spoke on what is going on and how to speak/meet with policy makers. Senator Cotton and Boozman's assistants gave a tour underground and of the capital. We had lunch in the Senate dining room.

Unfinished Business:

- Legislative Event report, Diane Clement. ESP did decorations and had good representation from Extension. It was Mardi gras night with several other events during the evening. It was a good chance to come meet legislators.

New Business:

Resolutions – Discussion on several possible resolutions was held- 4-H license plate and tractor supply money taken from county to state with no notice; mentor program support, peer-peer training like ag agents for FCS and 4-H; faculty leadership program internal. Sherry will prepare to submit them. Sherry made a motion that the resolutions discussed be accepted. Motion carried.

Dues Increase – Becky Bridges presented information stating we are only in the positive by \$684 because no 4-H scholarship was paid. We were over \$1,000 deficit in 2017. Fundraisers could make a difference or an increase of \$25 specific for 4-H scholarship to \$95. Becky made a motion to increase dues from \$70-\$95 with \$25 going to 4-H scholarship trip. Valerie Turner seconded the motion. Discussion – concerns that this will discourage new members, this will not be assessed on new members. Fundraising takes lots of time and money. A vote would also be needed to address by-laws changes on this motion. Motion carried.

Years of Employment required for membership – Keith Perkins – He learned at National that other states had 3 or 5 years required for membership but some had no requirement. The concern is do these individuals stay employed after 3 years. No change made at this time.

Webinars – ESP is sponsoring lots of these through the Community of Practice. These can be accessed in Learn.Ext.org

Initiation of New Members was conducted by Terrie James. Valerie Turner was recognized as a new member with a pin, creed and certificate. Terrie reminded us that ESP also stands for Extension Service Professional.

Installation of new officers was conducted by Pia Woods.

Mary Ann presented special recognition to 2016-17 officers. There were no other announcements or business.

Meeting adjourned at 10:53 am.

Submitted by:

Susan Pickle, Secretary