

POST-CONFERENCE CATA GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 26, 2025 – 12:00 PM

Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo – Building 10, Room 226

A. Call to Order – Judy Aschwenden

Meeting called to order at **11:51 AM**

Judy thanked all members for their hard work and dedication in making the conference a success.

B. Roll Call / Introductions – Gene Lieb

Members introduced themselves; attendance was noted.

C. Executive Director Report – Matt Patton

- Acknowledged the successful adoption of new bylaws—made possible through active member engagement.
 - Recognized individuals stepping up to fill vacant positions in support of Summer Conference operations.
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D. State FFA Advisor Update – Jill Sperling

- Working on the replacement process for Regional Supervisors.
 - Continued alignment with Career Development Events (CDEs) moving forward.
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E. Conference Debrief – Heather Thomas

Things That Went Well:

- Strong professional development in Ag Mechanics
- Centralized registration location
- Positive conference energy
- Approval and communication of new bylaws
- Online session registration
- Curricular code website updates

- Industry-led workshops
- Sufficient time allotted for workshops and Hall of Fame
- Regional Presidents successfully relaying information to members

Areas for Improvement:

- Low attendance at Hall of Fame session
 - Disruptions due to phone usage during sessions
 - Need clearer notification of session fees
 - Improve clarity around Curricular Code opening/info
 - Update and improve the guidebook
 - More workshops geared toward mid-career teachers
 - Better coordination with post-secondary schedules
 - Clarity around General Session requirement for credit
 - Workshop presenter info centralized in a shared Google Drive
 - Opening session traffic control
 - Seek a larger venue for the Prayer Breakfast
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F. Regional Reports – Substituting Awards Night for the Awards Banquet

Led by Judy Aschwanden

San Joaquin: Keep banquet; consider sponsorships, alternate venues, hired planner; no teacher set-up

Superior: Open to awards night but value the formal banquet experience

South Coast: Keep banquet; propose committee from each region; CATA increase contribution via registration

North Coast: Support an awards session with formal dress

Central: Favor awards session

Southern: Maintain banquet with changes—new venue, central stage, statewide volunteers, improved food

Post-Secondary: Will explore options

G. Governing Board Action – Awards Night vs. Awards Banquet

Motion: Chris McKenna moved to refer the matter to a **committee of regional presidents** to investigate the banquet vs. awards session and report back at Winter Governing Board.

Second: Lori Marchy

Discussion: Consider regional flexibility, banquet format definition, required elements.

Amendment: Clarify the committee’s charge to define “What is a banquet and what is required of the region.”

Second: Sara Aralljo

Vote on Amendment: Passed – Yes: 9 | No: 6

Amended Motion: Refer to a committee of regional presidents to investigate banquet vs. awards session and report back at Winter Governing Board, with a focus on “What is a banquet and what is required of the region.”

Vote: Passed – Yes: 9 | No: 5

H. Predecessor Training – Heather Thomas

Breakout sessions between outgoing and incoming officers:

- Develop guidebooks of responsibilities
 - Create calendars in collaboration with predecessors
 - Clarify officer roles and expectations
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I. Past Officer Dismissal and Thank You

Outgoing officers were recognized for their service and commitment.

J. Role of Governing Board – Matt Patton

Presented the organizational structure and clarified roles/responsibilities within CATA governance.

K. Planning for 2025–2026 – Judy Aschwanden

Discussion topics included:

- Officer and regional responsibilities
 - Region meeting logistics
 - Objectives for the coming year
 - Emphasized the importance of communication with CDE and instructional staff
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L. Governing Board Member Goals – Morgan Rourke

Board members were asked to submit:

- One **personal** goal
 - One **professional** goal
 - One **other** goal for the 2025–2026 year
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M. Calendar – Judy Aschwanden

Outlined:

- **CATA Activities Calendar**
- **Golden Slate Responsibilities**
 - Monthly articles
 - Book reports
 - Region and chapter updates
 - Member-focused content

Monthly Assignments (to be filled):

- August –
 - September –
 - October –
 - November –
 - December –
 - January –
 - February –
 - March –
 - April –
 - May –
 - June –
 - July –
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N. Membership Goals

Each region was asked to identify and submit membership goals for the upcoming year.

O. Thank You Notes

Gerry Brooks

Cal Poly, SLO: Dr. Jeffrey Armstrong, Dean Thulin, Ben Swan, Erin Gorter, Nicole Ray, Kari

Roose

Chico State: Dean Hssenzahle

Fresno State: Dean Hilaire

Modesto JC: Troy Gravatt

Merced College: Dean Tasse

UC Davis: Dean Dillard

Reedley College: Dean Clark

Consumnes River College: Dean Hubbard

Shasta College: Dean Klever

CATA Staff: Cari Brown, Heather Casjens

P. Meeting Wrap-Up & Additional Motions

Motion: Morgan Rourke moved to change **student teacher Summer Conference fees to \$25, with no late fees.**

Second: Heather Thomas

Vote: Passed by voice vote

Additional Discussion Items:

- Teachers receiving credit without payment—options for billing or formal letter
 - Consider adjusting schedule for more family/personal time between sessions
 - Begin planning for **2026 keynote speaker**
 - **North Coast Region** recommended investigating a **dues increase to support a co-executive director**
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Adjournment – Judy Aschwanden

Meeting adjourned at **2:38 PM**