August 15, 1955

To the Graduate Council:

I am submitting herewith a thesis written by Arvin Otis Ramay entitled "Organization and Operation of an Advisory Council for Vocational Agriculture in Lewis County." I recommend that it be accepted for nine quarter hours of credit in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science, with a major in Agricultural Education.

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Accepted for the Council:

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ORGANIZATION AND OPERATION OF AN ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE IN LEWIS COUNTY

A THESIS

Submitted to
The Graduate Council
of
The University of Tennessee
in
Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the degree of
Master of Science

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by

Arvin Otis Ramay

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CHAPTER I

THE PROBLEM AND ITS DEFINITION

Situation

The author found by checking with Dr. Wilson[1] and Mr. Freeman[2] that when this work was begun, there was not a single organized advisory council for vocational agriculture over the entire State of Tennessee. There were several unorganized groups that functioned in lieu of a council but there was no group organized with that as its responsibility.

Mr. Freeman[2] informed the author that councils were established in several departments some years ago but these were established in a haphazard sort of way and had long since stopped functioning.

At the time this study was begun, students studying agricultural education at the University came from high schools where no council functioned, went to a university where no council functioned, majored in an area where no council functioned and could not be shown a council within the state that was functioning. With that background, the students were expected to go forth and establish councils in departments of vocational agriculture over the State. Moreover, these students did not have a single report of study on councils done by a Tennessee man.

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[1] B. S. Wilson, D.Ed., Head, Dept. Agri. Educ., Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee.

[2] G. E. Freeman, Director Vocational Educ., Supervisor of Voc. Agri., Tennessee State Department of Education.

Lewis County in particular had no form of council for any phase of the school program. There was almost no contact between the adult citizens of the county and the school other than such indirect things as spectators at school activities. There was not even in operation a P.T.A. where contact could be made with the citizens of the county.

The Vocational Agricultural Department in Lewis County High School was comparatively new. It had been in operation only four years, thus, it had not built up a tradition of cooperation with the adults of the community. The F.F.A. Chapter was so new as to have no State or American farmers as members. The citizens of the county and the farmers in particular had not been accustomed to working with the school or having any part in the school program.

The Vocational Agricultural Department of Lewis County High School served the entire county. There was not another high school within the county and only five white and nine colored students attended high school outside the county. The county is located in the Western Highland Rim. A study of census[3] and county records showed it had a total land area of 182,400 acres most of which was covered with scrub oak. There were approximately 6000 people in the county. There were 585 farms in the county but less than half of those offered full-time employment to the operator. There were few large farms or large farm owners. Almost all of the farms had less than 100 acres cleared.

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[3]U. S. Census Report, Lewis County Tennessee, 1950.

There was one town in the county and eight communities. Five of these communities had a community club while the others did not.

The Problem Statement

With the situation in mind, the problem itself becomes simple although the solution was far from simple. The problem was to start with conditions as they were and establish an advisory council for vocational agriculture in Lewis County, study with the council members methods of operation, evaluate the work of the council, improve weaknesses and continue operation and evaluation of the council.

The council was to be set up following recommended practices for establishing an advisory council for vocational agriculture. The council members were to be organized under the authority of the County School Board with designated authority from the school board. It was to operate over at least a two-year period following whatever practices that seemed advisable. It was to act upon real problems in actual situations in such a manner as to obtain information that might be useful to others in establishing and using an advisory council.

This work was to continue for a term of at least two years and then a written report in the form of a thesis was to be turned in.

Importance of the Study

There are several reasons the study is important. The most important is to help the author establish a council to assist him in the Department

of Vocational Agriculture at Lewis County High School, Hohenwald, Tennessee. Second, this council is to be used to encourage and assist in the establishment of other councils over the State. Third, the written report of the work done will help future students at the University of Tennessee in their work on advisory councils. Fourth, this council will serve as an encouragement to school administrators to establish a similar council to be used for the entire school program.

Assumptions

The following assumptions were made:

1. That the public schools belong to the people of the community.

2. That the people of the community deserve and desire to help plan their schools' activities.

3. That the school board does not function in a departmental advisory capacity.

4. That an advisory council will assist the Vocational Agricultural Department.

Limitations

The study is limited to the organization, operation and evaluation of an advisory council for vocational agriculture in Lewis County High School.

Definition of Term

Advisory council. An advisory council is a group of lay citizens in the service area of the school who are organized to help the school plan, conduct and evaluate its activities. The term advisory committee is synonymous with advisory council.

Advisory council member. A lay person appointed to the advisory council by the school board for a given length of time.

Service area. That area and the people living in it that is served by the local vocational agriculture department.

Program of work. The program of work is a plan of activities of the department of vocational agriculture for a specified length of time.

Organization

The literature reviewed on advisory councils will be found in Chapter II.

The establishment of the council in Lewis County is discussed in Chapter III.

The operation of the council for the first year is given in Chapter IV.

Evaluation of the council and improvements are discussed in Chapter V.

Operation of the council during the second year after the improvements were made is discussed in Chapter VI.

Chapter VII takes up re-evaluation of the council and suggested improvements for continued use of the council.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

A review of literature was made to determine the advisability of establishing an advisory council, methods and techniques of establishing and operating successful councils in other states.

Reasons for Establishing an Advisory Council

Hamlin stated, "The Advisory council is not new in agricultural education. In Massachusetts the use of advisory councils proceded the passage of the Smith-Hughes Act; since 1911-1912 or for thirty-five years, every Massachusetts department of vocational agriculture has been required by law to have an advisory committee."[1]

Miner pointed out "There is nothing in the mandate or authority for the operation of public schools which has ever transferred responsibility it will do so thus making a much more favorable working understanding of school problems between the lay and professional educators."[2]

"The school and community are drawn closer together in the common

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[1]H. M. Hamlin, "Using Advisory Councils in Agricultural Education", Bureau of Educational Research Bulletin, No. 63, College of Education, University of Illinois, 1947, p. 72.

[2]Edwin H. Miner, "Are Schools Returning to the People", School Life, 30:20, 21, November, 1947.

cause," said Rodgers, "Resulting in a deeper appreciation on the part of the community for the efforts which the teachers are making and a better understanding on the part of the teachers and the administration of what their responsibilities are in developing the right kind of educational program in a community."[3]

Storen[4] said in 1946 that the public schools in America belong to the people, and justify their existence only if they serve the needs of the people.

Kotinsky[5] pointed out that councils stem from the ceremonials held in prehistoric times to decide what to do in the face of threat or danger--man realized early the value of combined ideas but present day councils are more difficult because objectives are less tangible and more complicated.

Scott[6] in his thesis points out that the use of advisory councils is generally accepted as a sound method for democralizing education, and for planning and evaluating school programs.

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[3]Virgil M. Rodgers, "Educational Advisory Helps," American Board Journal 111:34, July, 1945.

[4]Helen F. Storen, "Laymen Help Plan the Curriculum," Washington, D. C., Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, National Education Association, 1946, p. 19.

[5]Ruth Kotinski, Adult Education Councils, American Association for Adult Education, New York, 1940, p. 167.

[6]Marshall Jewell Scott, "The Use of Advisory Councils in Vocational Education in Agriculture" (Unpublished Ed. D. Thesis, Department of Education, The University of Illinois, 1950) 233 pp.

Scott[7] brought out in his discussion of the history of advisory councils that during the depression and in the years following there was an increase in the number of evening classes for adult farmers. Evening school advisory committees were used by many agriculture teachers to increase the effectiveness of adult farmer instruction. He went on further to say that the idea of using advisory groups for the entire program continued to be unpopular with the majority of teachers of agriculture, particularly those with little or no training or experience in the use of the advisory groups.

Scott[8] declared that in recent years there has been a growing interest in the use of advisory councils in educational institutions but in the past their use has been spasmodic and sporadic.

Grieder said, "No devine revelation is conferred upon school board members at their induction into office. While they may, in general, be regarded as a competent group, they should welcome, nevertheless, the council of especially interested and qualified persons who for one reason or another are not members of the board . . . . There can never be a surfeit of good ideas."[9]

One objection to some advisory groups was brought to light by

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[7]Ibid., pp. 138-140.

[8]Ibid., p. 159.

[9]Calvin Grieder, "Citizens Advisory Committees--Have They a Place?" Nations Schools, 28:29,30. September, 1941.

Hanson[10] when he pointed out that there is a danger that self-appointed advisory groups may wish to exert too much power. It is noted that he did not make this claim about school-board appointed advisory councils.

Struck said, "Advisory committees can be of much help in keeping programs of vocational education geared to the vital problems of the present and the emerging demands of the future."[11]

Hamlin[12] gives the alternatives to a system of advisory councils as these:

1. Public apathy toward the schools.
2. Periodic development of pressure groups to secure particular reforms when conditions become intolerable.
3. Persistent operations, year after year of minority pressure groups which often oppose each other and the school.

Campbell[13] described the use of public relation committees in two Illinois schools. The outcomes from these groups were reported as follow:

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[10]Earl H. Hanson, "Should Non-Elected Lay Advisory Groups Organize About the School Boards?", American School Board Journal, 109:23,24, October, 1944.

[11]Theodore F. Struck, "Vocational Education for a Changing World" (John Wiley and Sons, Inc., 1945), pp. 18,19.

[12]H. M. Hamlin, "Safeguards in the Use of Advisory Councils", American School Board Journal, 110:31-2, May, 1945.

[13]C. M. Campbell, "Illinois Committees Set Up Advisory Boards," School Executive, 65: 52,53, May, 1946.

1. The tenure of teachers was improved.

2. Misleading stories were nipped in the bud.

3. The public had greater faith in activities and purposes of the school.

4. Salaries were kept at a high level.

5. Progressive change could be undertaken without unfair community criticism.

6. Citizens became more interested in children and school activities.

7. Faculty members were stimulated to improve themselves professionally.

8. Relationships in general between the schools and communities were immeasureably improved.

Campbell[14] also brought out the advantages of an advisory council over the P.T.A. He listed these advantages as follow:

1. Members can be changed and topics can be discussed which, if brought out in the open at large meetings might leave the wrong impression with some citizens.

2. More men are encouraged to take an active part in school affairs.

Scott[15] in his work on advisory councils lists reasons given by teachers for organizing councils. These reasons were taken from 24 councils,

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[14]Ibid., p. 53.

[15]Marshall J. Scott, "The Use of Advisory Councils in Vocational Education in Agriculture," (Unpublished Ed. D. Thesis, Department of Education, The University of Illinois, 1950). p. 151.

11 in Illinois and 13 in other states. There was a combined record of 73 years experience with advisory councils represented in this study. These reasons are listed below:

1. Canvass community interest in adult education.
2. Improve community service.
3. Recommended by Dr. Hamlin.
4. Help organize program to fit needs of community.
5. Study needs of community.
6. Provide advise on evening classes.
7. Furnish information and advice.
8. Help plan class instruction.
9. Help plan program.
10. Help select objectives.
11. Aid in evaluating program.
12. Assist in administration of adult program.
13. Need for advice and suggestions.
14. Help department of vocational agriculture.
15. Coordinate efforts of the school and home.

Hamlin[16] in his pamphlet "Advisory Councils and Committees for Agricultural Education" lists fourteen things that may be gained by using advisory councils. Below are listed some of the ones not found in Scott's study that was just quoted:

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[16]H. H. Hamlin, "Advisory Councils and Committees for Agricultural Education," Interstate Printers and Publishers, 19-27. N. Jackson Street, Danville, Illinois, pp. 3,4.

1. Represent the laymen of a community.

2. Guide and support a teacher of agriculture, making it possible for him to be more efficient, to gain more satisfaction from his work and to advance more rapidly in his profession.

3. Provide a continuous program when teachers change.

4. Assist in adjusting a department's program to emergencies and to gradual changes; thus, keeping it more nearly up to date and able to serve the future rather than the past.

5. Correlate the work of a department with agencies such as agricultural extension and the soil conservation service, with which council and committee members may have close contact.

6. Support and give direction to a high school program including class work; supervised farming programs and the F.F.A. Chapter.

7. Develop council and committee members, particularly the younger ones into valued community leaders.

8. Draw minority groups into participation in programs of school and community as a result of their representatives on councils or committees.

9. Assist in disseminating new agricultural ideas since the council may be "our best evening school".

Organizing an Advisory Council

Three steps are listed as being desirable in organizing an advisory

council according to Hamlin.[17]

1. Organize a general council for the agricultural department, and add as needed, committees on various phases of work, such as F.F.A. supervised farming or program planning.

2. Secure authorization of a council and related committees by the school administrator and board of education.

3. Secure approval of a constitution for the advisory council by the school administrators and board of education.

Wilson[18] lists twelve steps as a guide in establishing an advisory council. These are as follows:

1. "Convince yourself that you want one . . . You must want to use the council as a lay group to help you plan, conduct and evaluate a program of education based upon the needs of rural people and not as a pressure group to get what you want."

2. Obtain the support of your principal and county superintendent. This is the best means of preventing suspicions that the council is to be a pressure group. The principal and superintendent can be very valuable to you since they often have been in the community for a long time and although they usually have not had experience with advisory councils as such, they have worked with lay people.

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[17]Ibid., p. 4.

[18]B. S. Wilson, "Organizing an Advisory Council for a Department of Vocational Agriculture," (Unpublished paper by Head of Agricultural Education Department, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee), 4 pp.

3. Obtain the approval of the board of education. The board of education is the legal body authorized to operate the schools. You must quiet their fears that their prerogatives will be encroached upon by explaining that the job of the council is not now being done; if it is there is no need for an advisory council.

4. Ask the board of education to appoint a committee to screen nominations and suggest a list of names for appointment. This committee should likely consist of a young farmer, an adult farmer, a board member, an administrator and the teacher of vocational agriculture. The responsibility of selection of members is thus spread. The real value of the committee though is that the committee members know the community and its people better than any one man, thus, a better selection of members is likely.

5. Ask the board of education to establish policies that will govern the activities of the council. The council is an instrument of the board of education. The statement of policies contains such things as: The official title of the council, its responsibilities to the board of education, its duties and responsibilities, its limitations, means of liaison between council and board, how members are to be selected and how long they shall serve.

6. Publicize these actions of the board of education. This publicity about the board's action can serve to inform the citizens of the service area as to what the council is and what kind of people are needed for members.

7. Secure nominations for membership. This is a job for the entire committee appointed by the board. Contact many people and get

nominations from as many places as possible.

8. Select the exact number of members wanted. This should be done by the screening committee. This selected list is then turned over to the board who may appoint the entire state or strike off as many names as they wish. If names are struck off new selections should be made by the screening committee to fill the exact number needed. These new names are then turned over to the board for approval or disapproval. This continues until the desired number of members have been appointed. Dr. Wilson points out in a footnote that nine members seem to be the best number for a council. Too many is difficult to handle and fewer leaves too small a group if some are absent. He also states that three years seems to be the best length of time to serve after the council is well established.

Some may ask why not give the board more names than are needed in order to let them have an opportunity to select. "In the first place the committee of which you are a member was appointed by the board to bring back a suggested list of names for their approval and appointment. In the second place and probably the most important reason, you may encourage the board to engage in petty politics if you force them to select from a larger list." The screening committee should have the facts upon which to base a decision, the board does not.

The committee should decide who and what should be represented on the council and then select names from the list that best fill the need. "The council should be represented insofar as possible in proportion to

their number in the school community of the following: large and small farmers, young and old farmers, new residents and older residents, types of farming, religious groups, veterans and non-veterans, men and women, farmers and business men, members and non-members of farm organizations, educational levels, parents and non-parents, geographical location and farming status. Council members should not all be 'key' farmers."

Paid professional workers should not be members of the council. Neither should members of the board of education. These people may, of course, be used as resource people as needed by the council.

9. Appointment of members by the board of education. This makes the council an official and responsible group of citizens given the job of working with them to improve the educational program.

10. Inform members of their appointment. This should be done by a letter from the board of education or superintendent. The teacher of agriculture should follow up this letter as soon as possible with a personal visit to the new member. Publicity should be given the new member in the local papers and over the local radio station.

11. Call the first meeting. This should be done soon after the council is appointed.

12. Elect officers, adopt a constitution and by-laws and outline the work of the council. This cannot all be done at the first meeting but work should be started on each at that time.

Wilson[19] states that these are only general procedures but that

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[19]Ibid., p. 4.

they have been used by many people.

Some things that should be included in the constitution of an advisory council were given by Hamlin[20], when he said, "Only the minimum provisions for the functioning of a council should be included in a constitution. These include the following items:

1. The persons and agencies to whom the council is to be advisory.

2. The field within which the council may operate.

3. The purposes and duties of the council.

4. The number of council members.

5. The manner of selecting and replacing council members.

6. The terms of council members.

7. Provisions for eliminating inactive members.

8. Conditions under which council members may be reappointed.

9. Representation of the school administrator and the board of education at council meetings.

10. Persons excluded from council membership.

11. Council officers and committees; their duties.

12. Requirements of council minutes, persons to receive copies of minutes.

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[20]H. M. Hamlin, "Advisory Councils and Committees for Agricultural Education," The Interstate Printers and Publishers, Danville, Illinois, p. 4.

The constitution is one of the things that keeps an advisory council from acting as a crowd instead of a group. Hall[21] said that the difference between a group and a crowd is the closeness of personal relationship that exists within a group.

Three special rules in the constitution for the advisory council at Fisher, Illinois, were listed by Scott[22] as:

> 1. A council member who misses 3 consecutive meetings without some explanation is automatically dropped from the council membership list and is replaced at the earliest convenience of the local board of education.
> 2. At the end of 3 years of regular membership, a member can not be reappointed for another term until one year has elapsed.
> 3. If a council member has been elected to fill a vacancy on the council, he may be re-elected for another term without the customary lapse of one year.

Each advisory council may make rules of its own to add to or clarify the constitution. These rules may be considered to be the by-laws of the council. Of course, any such by-laws must be subject to constitutional provisions. Hamlin[23] gave some rules that need to be set up by each council. These were as follows:

1. Number and frequency of meetings.
2. Time and length of meetings.

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[21]D. M. Hall, "Lets Appoint a Planning Committee," The National County Agent and Vo.-Ag. Teacher, Vol. 6, No. 2, February, 1950.

[22]Marshall J. Scott, "The Use of Advisory Councils in Vocational Education in Agriculture" (Unpublished Ed.D. Thesis, Department of Education, The University of Illinois, 1950), 233 pp.

[23]H. M. Hamlin, op. cit., p. 5.

3. Method of calling special meetings.
4. Method of notifying members of meetings.
5. Preparation of meeting agenda and persons delegated to prepare agenda.
6. Standing and special committees.

In a bulletin from the U. S. Department of Education, Johnson[24] pointed out that meetings should be regular and that no meeting should be over two hours long. He also stated that minutes of all meetings should be kept and a copy given to council member and the board of education.

Cook[25] states that nine or more members should be provided and that one-third of the members should be replaced each year.

In selecting members for an advisory council several factors should be considered. As pointed out by Scott[26] the most often considered factors are farming status and geographical distribution of prospective members. He listed the following additional things that were considered by at least some in choosing members:

1. Business status.
2. Age distribution.

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[24]E. J. Johnson, "The Advisory Council for a Department of Vocational Agriculture," Federal Security Agency, Vocational Division Bulletin, No. 243, Agricultural Series Bulletin, No. 60, 1951, p. 17.

[25]G. C. Cook, Handbook on Teaching Vocational Agriculture, The Interstate, Danville, Illinois, 1947, p. 119.

[26]Marshall J. Scott, op. cit., p. 153.

3. Educational achievement.

4. Veteran.

5. Friendship.

6. Religious affiliation.

7. Lodge membership.

8. Nationality.

9. Political affiliation.

These are listed in order of decreasing frequency of use.

Cook[27] points out that a chairman and secretary are needed as officers of any council. He also states that arrangements with the superintendent or principal should be made so that one would meet with the council at every meeting.

Members for an advisory council may be obtained by several processes but the most often recommended method is one given by Hamlin[28] when he suggests that nominations be secured from 50 to 100 persons in the community. This list should then be checked to determine how representative the ones most often nominated are. By using a list of points to be considered, the nominees are then selected that come nearest to being most representative and most often nominated. This slate of nominees is then sent to the board for approval or rejection. The exact number needed is all that is sent. This prevents the board from having to act without enough facts.

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[27]G. C. Cook, op. cit., p. 120.

[28]H. M. Hamlin, op. cit., p. 5.

Cook[29] gives another method of selecting members that has been used by many teachers. He said have the members of the council nominated by the teacher and the superintendent or principal and chosen by the board of education.

Johnson[30] in recommending the same method suggested by Cook points out that only public spirited citizens should be nominated, for only they will devote adequate time to the council.

Johnson[31], Cook[32] and Hamlin[33] all warn against getting "key" farmers only on the council.

Hamlin[34] warns that it is extremely dangerous for a teacher to choose his own council without considering nominations from a large and representative segment of the community. He points out that it is also just as dangerous for him to rely upon a school administrator or any other individual, because councils with members so obtained are almost always unrepresentative and that most such councils turn out to be useless.

Once the members have been nominated and chosen by the board, they must then be notified of their appointment and their services

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[29]G. C. Cook, op. cit., p. 119.

[30]E. J. Johnson, op. cit., p. 15.

[31]Ibid., p. 15.

[32]G. C. Cook, op. cit., p. 119.

[33]H. M. Hamlin, op. cit., p. 7.

[34]Ibid., p. 7.

obtained. Hamlin[35] suggests that they be "drafted" by simply sending them a letter from the school board or superintendent stating that after much consideration and thought that you have been chosen to be a representative of the people on an advisory council for vocational agriculture and give the time and the place of the next meeting. The teacher should then follow up this letter with a personal visit to explain the council and the new member's responsibility. He states that by this method 100 per cent acceptance is common and acceptance seldom falls below 85 per cent.

Inactive members can be eliminated in any one of several ways. Scott[36] found that the following ways were used by teachers eliminating inactive members:

1. Automatically dropped after three consecutive meetings are missed without explanation.
2. Members not notified of meetings.
3. Council decides.
4. Members just not re-elected.
5. New members named.
6. Personal visitation.
7. Ask him if he wishes to drop.
8. Just drop them.
9. No action, let situation work out.

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[35]Ibid., p. 8.

[36]Marshall J. Scott, op. cit., p. 153.

[37]H. M. Hamlin, op. cit., p. 9.

Hamlin[37] warns that some standard rule should be adopted by the council before any specific case is brought up.

After a council is in operation, it should be consulted regarding new members but Hamlin[38] warns that it should not be a self-perpetuating body.

Operation of Council

Cook[39] suggests that advisory councils meet six times per year while Hamlin[40] states that the council should meet every month throughout the year.

Differences are brought out in council meetings but as Hall[41] pointed out differences are not bad, they are not something to be avoided. They should be cherished and integrated. He brings the idea that the reason we appoint the council in the first place is to get differences of opinions.

Some favorable conditions for operating an advisory council were

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[37] H. M. Hamlin, op. cit., p. 9.

[38] Ibid., p. 9.

[39] G. C. Cook, op. cit., p. 120.

[40] H. M. Hamlin, op. cit., p. 9.

[41] D. M. Hall, "Lets Appoint a Planning Committee," The National County Agent and Vo.-Ag. Teacher, Vol. 6, No. 2, February, 1950, p. 13.

listed by McClusky[42] in his study of community councils. These he listed as:

1. Clear-cut goals understood by members.

2. Based on broad and inclusive membership.

3. Have continuity of leadership.

4. Have high quality leadership--democratic leadership.

5. Have good communication of information.

6. Use sub-committees to secure facts, diagnose community needs, etc.

7. Occasionally (at least) "let" council work at some tangible outcome which the community can see.

8. Use resources both within and without community.

Johnson[43] lists several specific activities in which most local advisory councils participate. Some of these are as follows:

1. Advising a new teacher about local customs, attitudes, community nationalities and community events.

2. Advising and assisting in emergencies. This might be in case of drouth, storm disaster, war or other.

3. Assisting new teacher to continue program started by previous teacher.

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[42]Howard Y. McClusky, Twelve Years of Community Councils In Michigan, The University of Michigan, School of Education, 20:113-115, May, 1949.

[43]E. J. Johnson, op. cit., p. 21.

4. Assuring teacher as to the practicability of the program offered.

5. Assisting teacher in developing both annual and long-time program.

6. Assisting in unifying program with programs of other groups and agencies working with and for agriculture in the local service area.

7. Studying problems presented by the board of education and then making recommendations.

8. Advising on the educational program that the department should offer including community service.

9. Advising on supplies and equipment needed.

10. Assisting in determining adult farmer and young farmer classes needed in the community.

11. Assisting in organizing evening school classes.

12. Advising school authorities on selection of new or additional staff members in the vocational agriculture department.

13. Visiting the supervised farming programs of students.

14. Visiting classes, including those in the classroom, shop and out of the department, and making recommendations for their improvement.

Some additional activities suggested by Colston.[44]

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[44] H. C. Colston, "Organization and Operation of Advisory Councils for Vocational Agriculture," (Unpublished thesis for M. S. Degree, The University of Tennessee, 1954, p. 78).

1. Visit other councils.

2. Socials.

3. Yearly council program.

4. Suggest organizations in which the teacher should participate.

5. Suggest literature to teacher.

Others suggested by Hamlin:[45]

1. Determining purposes of agriculture department, the territory to be served, the people to be served.

2. Learning the resources of the agriculture department, the sources of its funds and their uses.

3. Evaluating department.

4. Surveying the opportunities for agricultural employment the community affords.

5. Attending F.F.A. meetings.

Scott[46] used the advisory council at Fisher, Illinois, during the first year primarily for organization and clarification of appropriate purposes and activities. They were able later though to get into a study of the community situation and work out a list of specific objectives.

Limitations of Advisory Councils

Scott[47] formed his council with the understanding that the council

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[45]H. M. Hamlin, op. cit., p. 11-12.

[46]Marshall J. Scott, op. cit.,

[47]Ibid.

would be an idea group and not an action group.

Hamlin[48] lists several warnings on the limitations of advisory councils. Some of these are as follows:

1. An improperly set up council can not function properly for any extended length of time.

2. A teacher not trained in the use of advisory councils will often have difficulty because he is too independent. Few councils could weather such a condition.

3. Inaction or action upon only minor things does not hold the interest of council members.

4. An advisory council should not be used as a teacher's personal crutch or a pressure group.

Summary

It was found in the review of literature that advisory councils are not new; that in several states they have been in use for over 25 years.

Advisory councils seem to be useful and appreciated in most places where they are used. Councils are a good way to get the citizens of the service area into program planning to help in other ways with their program.

There are definite procedures in setting up and operating councils that apparently are in use or have been in use in every successful

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[48]H. M. Hamlin, op. cit., p. 13-14.

council. Improperly organized or operated councils have had little value and have soon ceased to function.

Councils that have been successful in the past have had most, if not all, of the following things in common:

1. The teacher wanted an advisory council.

2. The principal and superintendent supported the council.

3. The council operated with the approval of the board of education.

4. There were written limitations on the council's function.

5. Publicity was given to the actions of the council and to individual members as well.

6. The membership of the council was representative of the people in the service area.

7. Held regular meetings.

8. Had standing and special committees.

Advisory councils for vocational agriculture have a few disadvantages but only if they are improperly organized and/or operated. Among these disadvantages are such things as follow:

1. Council might attempt to take over the administration of the vocational agriculture department.

2. Poor representation might cause one or more fragments of the citizens of the community to not be considered.

3. Local politics could become involved.

4. The school board might feel that its authority was being usurped.

5. Untrained persons might misguide a poorly trained teacher.

CHAPTER III

ESTABLISHING AN ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE IN LEWIS COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

In September of 1951, the vocational agriculture teacher contacted the high school principal and county superintendent and discussed the organization of an advisory council for vocational agriculture. At this conference the teacher left literature about advisory councils with each of the administrators. He took suggestions of the few men that the administrators thought might do as members. Before leaving this meeting an appointment was made to meet again with the County Superintendent one week later to discuss additional nominees.

During the week between the meeting the agricultural teacher contacted the few men mentioned during the previous meeting and explained an advisory council to them without mentioning that he was being considered for membership. He was asked to make nominations himself.

At the second meeting with the County Superintendent members were nominated by the superintendent and the agriculture teacher and seven members were agreed upon. It was further agreed that upon completion of a year's work, two additional members would be chosen to bring the final total members to nine.

The superintendent under the authority granted him by the board of education as their representative notified each member by letter that he had been chosen. The agriculture teacher was asked to help word the

letter so that both would know what was in it and could agree upon its content.[1]

Members of the council were nominated and chosen only after careful consideration. Following is a list of qualifications that were set up:

1. Farming status--care was taken to get large and small farmers, mechanized and non-mechanized farmers, livestock and crop farmers, part-time and full-time farmers.

2. Geographic location--members were chosen from as wide an area of distribution over the County as it was possible to obtain them. Not only was location considered in geographic location but also whether the nominee was located on a creek, river, in the outer basin or on top of the highland rim.

3. Business status--a business man from the local town was included.

4. Age distribution--consideration was given to be sure young and old men were on the council. The age distribution in this case also took care of members who had been farming for many years and those who were just starting out.

5. Educational achievement--some members were obtained with very little (three years) formal education and some with college work completed.

6. Religious affiliation--care was taken to make certain that all members were not the same denomination although the majority were Church

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[1]A copy of this letter may be found in the appendix.

of Christ members. This was considered proper since over 50% of the County citizens were of that denomination.

7. Farm Bureau membership--since the farm bureau was the only active farm organization in the County, membership in it or not was the only farm organization considered. Care was taken to include both members and non-members.

8. Nationality was considered only insofar as to consider only white people since they were the only ones served by the school.

9. Political affiliation--consideration was given to elimination of the ones known to be irrevocably antagonistic toward the school and the school administrators.

10. Sex--it was decided to start with men only but the way was left open to having female members if and when they become nominees at some later date.

11. Civic minded citizens--attention was given to get no members who had for years refused to take any interest in civic or public affairs. No one was eliminated though when there were little or no facts known about his civic mindedness.

12. Veterans--veterans of both the first and second world wars were included as well as non-veterans. One was a member of a class in the On-The-Farm Training Program while one had completed four years training in that program.

13. Future Farmers of America--no adult farmers in the County were members or past members of the F.F.A. at that time; thus, none were chosen for the council though some were wanted.

14. Parents of all-day students--both, parents of all-day students and non-parents of all-day students as well as men with no children and those with children out of school or not in the all-day classes were included in the council.

In determining these facts, the County Superintendent and the high school principal were used. Each of these men had been in the County for over 30 years and know almost every person in the County by first name.

During the week between the time that the letters notifying the members that they were chosen as advisory council members were sent out and the date of the meeting, the agriculture teacher made an effort to visit each chosen member to explain the council to him and remind him personally to be at the school for the meeting the next Saturday.

At the first meeting, all seven of the members, the superintendent, the principal and the agriculture teacher were present. The agriculture teacher took charge of the meeting and talked to the group on the advisory council.

A discussion of the purposes, values and functions of the advisory council was held in which the following points were brought before the group.

1. The council would determine the needs of the county by establishing a standard, determining the present situation and subtracting the situation from the standard. They would also help formulate surveys that would be used.

2. The council would be used to correlate school work with that of other agencies such as the P.M.A., extension service, mobilization committee, county advisory committee and Rural Electrification Association.

3. The council would guide the vocational agriculture teacher. It was pointed out that association with council members helps the teacher think somewhat as they do; therefore, more like the people in his service area. The teacher would get help on difficult decisions; thus, helping insure wise decisions. The council would fill in the teacher's "blind spots" making for more service to the people of the County. They would serve as a clearing house for community reactions to various activities. They would be in a position to help the teacher profit from the reactions of the citizens, either favorable or non-favorable. Since the teacher was in his first job as a vocational agriculture teacher, the council's maturity would help make up for his immaturity.

4. The council would, through their contact with the school administrators, help them understand their agricultural constituency.

5. The council would sponsor adult classes. It was shown that less than 5% of the people eligible to use the vocational agriculture department were doing so and that by evening school only could this per cent be increased.

6. The council members would visit all-day classes, see the supervised farming programs and attend F.F.A. meetings. From information obtained from these activities and others, they would then advise the teacher as to how he could improve the all-day program.

7. The council would stand ready to help the department adjust to emergencies such as drouth, wars and turmoil after wars as well as the gradual changes in agriculture.

8. The council would help provide a continuous program in event of change in teachers. It was pointed out that the council should help make a good teacher's tenure longer and a poor one's shorter.

9. The council would help keep local control. It was brought out that state and federal funds were used to support vocational subjects more than many other subject and unless safeguards were established the control of the program might get out of the hands of the local people and be vested in some state or federal board or committee. The council would be used to bring the program closer to the people of the community.

10. The council would give an overview to the program. They would work out guiding policies and not be burdened with details.

11. The council would help develop new community leaders both of its own members and by using on committees others not in the council.

12. The council would operate somewhat as a publicity committee to help disseminate new agricultural information and help publicize the work of the vocational agriculture department.

The field of operation for the council was then discussed in which it was stressed that the council was an advisory group and not a pressure group for one department within the school system. It was also stressed that they obtained their authority from the board of education and were

subject to its rulings in all their actions and in no case were they to do more than offer advice to the board, certainly they were not to attempt to supersede a board ruling at any time.

A discussion as to the number of members was held in which it was said that the seven would be increased to nine the following year and kept at that figure thereafter--new members would be nominated by the council members, school administrators, vocational agriculture teacher and appointed by the superintendent. Each member would serve three years. Because of the odd number it was decided that all seven original members would serve the first two years, then three would be replaced each year by new members until all members would be serving a straight three-year term. The members with the short terms would be decided by drawing straws.

During the discussion of rules of procedure, it was decided that the council itself would work out the following:

1. The frequency and times of meetings to be held.

2. The officers and committees that would be needed.

3. What would be done with members not attending regularly.

4. What records would be kept and what use would be made of these records.

5. Who would make up the agenda for each meeting.

The vocational agriculture teacher pointed out several general rules that had proven useful in successful councils of other states.

Some of these are as follows:

1. Keep the organization simple. Try to keep the number of officers and committees to the minimum that would function effectively.

2. The officers should be an executive committee for the council with specific designated authority.

3. Standing committees should be set up on adult work, Future Farmers of America and Supervised Farming Programs.

4. Regular monthly meetings should be held and special meetings should be called whenever needed.

5. Minutes of every meeting should be kept and copies should be distributed to the principal and superintendent.

6. The first year the council should devote time to discussion of its functions, visit other councils and other agriculture departments, study situation and needs of county and evaluate the present program. The council should get started on a project that would be completed in one year.

Five topics and activities were suggested for consideration the first year. These are listed below:

1. What is our vocational agriculture department for? How good is it? How many people is it reaching? What terrritory should it serve?

2. What is the agricultural situation in Lewis County? What are the principal needs of the farm people?

3. Plan an adult program for the year.

4. Review the all-day program. Are the supervised farming programs

as good as they should be. Is the shop program meeting the needs of the boys?

5. Evaluate the work of the council during the year.

The agriculture teacher read a poem from Dr. Hamlin's book, Agricultural Education in Community Schools. The poem is quoted below:

> Stand off by yourself in your dreaming,
> And all of your dreams are in vain;
> No grandeur of soul or spirit
> Can man by himself attain.
> It is willed that we dwell as brothers;
> As brothers, then, we must toil;
> We must act with a common purpose,
> As we work in a common soil.
> And each who would see accomplished
> The dreams that he's proud to own,
> Must strive for the goal with his fellows,
> For no man can do it alone.[2]

The council nominated three officers: a chairman, a vice-chairman and a secretary. Following this they set up a committee of three to work up a proposed constitution and by-laws by the next meeting. This committee was to meet at the agriculture teacher's house the following week.

A discussion of the newly formed county agricultural advisory council came up and one member was elected to represent the vocational agriculture department's advisory council on this county council.

On a motion from the floor, the regular meeting date was set at 1:30 p.m. on the second Saturday of each month.

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[2]Anonymous. Suggestions for North Dakota Vocational Agriculture Instructors in Organizing and Using Local Vocational Agriculture Department Advisory Committees, p. 14, Department of Agricultural Education, North Dakota Agricultural College. Fargo, N. D., 1940.

As this meeting closed an organized advisory council for a vocational agriculture department in Tennessee became a fact instead of a dream.

Summary

The vocational agriculture teacher took the initiative in establishing an advisory council. He first went to his principal, then his superintendent to explain an advisory council to them. After getting their approval and support, seven members were nominated and chosen for the council. These members met and the aims, purposes and functions of an advisory council were explained to them. The council elected officers to serve for one year. It also appointed committees to draw up a proposed constitution and set of by-laws.

CHAPTER IV

THE OPERATION OF THE COUNCIL

As pointed out in the previous chapter, the council itself began to function and act upon certain matters the first meeting. They elected officers and representatives to meet with other organizations. They also set up a committee to work on the constitution and by-laws. This beginning method of committee action was a key to the final method of operation. The council liked the idea of smaller groups bringing in pertinent facts and information and letting the entire council discuss and debate the issues at hand after a committee report.

The constitution and by-laws committee met with the author to draw up the proposed constitution and recommended by-laws for the council At this meeting the agriculture teacher gave each member of the committee a copy of two sample constitutions from advisory councils in Illinois and a list of recommendations in drawing up a constitution which the author had made up from the study of advisory councils as reported in Chapter II.

With these as guides to study the committee with the agriculture teacher's help started working out the constitution article by article. With the list of general rules and recommendations as to what should and what should not be included, the members of the committee were able to use the sample constitution and work out the proposed one by a process of accepting parts of the sample as given, rejecting other parts, rewording some phases, and adding completely new ideas in other places.

A second meeting of the committee three days after the first meeting was necessary to complete the work assigned to it but upon completion of the work, it was a well thought through and discussed document. Very few changes were necessary when the entire council met to consider adoption of the constitution and by-laws.[1]

The changes by the entire council after hearing the constitution and by-laws read, amounted to adding the definition of a quorum in Article XIII and a change of meeting date from the second Saturday of each month to the third Saturday in the by-laws, Section II.

The entire council considered this business by having the document in typewritten form given to each member and guest present, then having it read in its entirety. After this was done to acquaint the members with the whole paper each article and section was considered separately to let any member bring new ideas into the document which was to be the guide for all future action.

After the council approved them, they were re-typed and a copy sent to the superintendent for approval. This approval came readily since this paper was merely a formal detailed outline of what had been discussed with him before.

During the first year of operation, the council considered several things of major importance. Among these were the following:

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[1]For a copy of the constitution and by-laws, see Appendix B.

1. The organization and operation of advisory councils for vocational agriculture in Lewis County.

2. The farming situation in Lewis County.

3. The program for all-day vocational agriculture students in Lewis County High School.

4. The place for adult classes in the vocational agriculture program in Lewis County.

5. Improving the Hohenwald Chapter of the Future Farmers of America.

There was a committee appointed to obtain information and study the local problems, then make recommendations to the council for action.

In addition to these major areas, there were many items brought up and discussed that did not require as much study at that time as the major areas. Some of these included:

1. Helping Mt. Pleasant citizens organize an advisory council.

2. Improving the forestry situation in Lewis County.

3. Planning radio programs.

4. Shop tools and equipment.

5. A pig chain for the F.F.A.

6. Placing graduates of agriculture department.

7. Telephones for farm families.

8. Holding a fish fry in connection with the advisory council of Mt. Pleasant.

9. Possibilities of a soil conservation district for Lewis County.

10. Nomination of new members for council.

An effort was made during the first year to train the officers in their work so that they would feel more competent and the meeting would function more smoothly. The secretary was given special attention in order to help get the minutes needed without the author having to take notes.

After each meeting the secretary filed the minutes in a filing cabinet in the vocational agriculture room. The agriculture teacher would at his convenience, get the minutes and type them, making copies for the file, the superintendent and principal. These would then be mailed to the men who were to get them. At the time of typing a few changes in structure would be made but no basic changes made in the minutes.[2] The normal method of operation for the council was to get a report of a problem area from either a member or more often the vocational agriculture teacher, discuss it to determine if enough facts were at hand to make suggestions without further study. If such was the case often no more was done than to give simple informal recommendations at that time. Occasionally, a formal motion was made and passed to add more strength to the recommendations. When a problem was presented that required more information or facts than was at hand, a committee

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[2]A copy of a representative sample of minutes kept will be found in the appendix.

would be appointed to have special meetings to gather the information and study the problem, then report back to the council.

Some council meetings were used to study facts, usually presented by the author and act as a committee as a whole rather than breaking down into smaller groups.

Whenever committees met at special meetings, minutes were kept and read at the next regular meeting of the council.[3]

While working with the officers of the council and the members, no chance was overlooked to follow Engelking's[4] suggestion to praise the officers and members for work well done. With the amount of work done, it was never any trouble to find something to praise about each member.

At the last meeting of the year when two additional members were nominated, time was taken to look back over the year's work and see what had been accomplished. This brought a great deal of discussion as each member pointed out the things done by the council that he had done the most work on or was interested in. This review brought questions on progress and pointed out areas where additional work was required. This, of course, led into a discussion of work for next year where the following list was made of things to take up the next year.

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[3]A copy of a representative sample of committee minutes will be found in the Appendix, Section C.

[4]H. F. Engelking, "Using an Advisory Council", Agriculture Education Magazine, September, 1949, p. 56.

1. Visit other councils in operation.

2. Have fish fry again.

3. Push the F.F.A. program.

4. Study the shop program for adults in Dickson County to see if a similar setup could be used in Lewis County.

5. Set up more adult classes.

6. Keep the Indian Creek adult class going.

7. Evaluation of vocational agriculture program.

8. Program of work for vocational agriculture department.

9. Visit all-day classes in local high school.

10. Visit other vocational agriculture departments to get new ideas on what might be done at home.

11. Promote the movement to get a soil conservation service district for Lewis County.

Summary

During the first year with only seven members, the council got its "feet wet", so to speak, by taking hold of problems as they were presented. Some of the problems had tangible results while others did not. The council made progress toward helping the vocational agriculture department of Lewis County High School reach more people effectively.

Some improvements were suggested and some changes were thought necessary. These will be taken up in the next chapter.

CHAPTER V

EVALUATION AND IMPROVEMENT AT THE END OF ONE YEAR'S OPERATION

Introduction

Without checkups or evaluation of some sort, progress is at best slow and haphazard. The time spent in seeing where one is and where he has been is necessary before he proceeds to plan where he is going. This is true of a group such as an advisory council as well as an individual; perhaps even moreso for in a group many minds are at work, each with its own interpretation while an individual has to console but one. It has often been said that self-evaluation is the best evaluation. This is true and the advisory council for vocational agriculture in Lewis County High School evaluated its own progress but did not stop there. They sought outside help also.

Findings

The most profitable thing done by the council in evaluating its progress was to schedule a meeting for discussion of the year's work and planning the new year's activities.

In this evaluation meeting the council started by listing the tangible things that were done during the year upon which it had worked. This list is as follows:

1. Set up two adult classes.[1]

2. Helped get needed shop equipment.

3. Held a fish fry.[2]

4. Helped change the grading system for vocational agriculture students.[3]

5. Put on a radio program.[4]

6. Had ten articles in County paper.

7. Helped Mt. Pleasant set up an advisory council.[5]

8. Started study of agricultural situation in Lewis County.

9. Furnished transportation for F.F.A. boys to go to State Fair.

10. Helped hold County Fat Calf Show for F.F.A. and 4-H boys.

11. Visited on the home farm of several F.F.A. boys to see their supervised farming program.

12. Increased the number of people served by the vocational agriculture department.[6]

13. Improved the pig chain owned by the F.F.A.

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[1]See minutes of meeting November 17, 1952, Appendix, Section C.

[2]See minutes of meeting May 17, 1952 and June 20, 1952, Appendix, Section C.

[3]See recommendations in minutes of meeting, February 16, 1952, Appendix, Section C.

[4]See minutes of meeting March 15, 1953, also script of radio program March 26, 1952, Appendix, Section C.

[5]See minutes of meeting November 17, 1952, and December 15, 1952, Appendix, Section C.

[6]See minutes of meeting December 15, 1952, Appendix, Section C.

14. Had an average attendance of 5½ members at every meeting.

As the list of tangible things accomplished grew, there were numerous intangible resluts brought out. Among these were:

1. Helped advertise the vocational agriculture department.

2. Helped make the program the program of the people being served.

3. Encouraged a new teacher to do a better job.

4. Recommended an increase in salary for the teacher of vocational agriculture.

5. Guided the teacher into teaching some enterprises to the all-day students which he had not planned to teach.[7]

6. Furnished places to take students on field trips.

7. Helped spread new agricultural information.

8. Became friends with people who were before just acquaintances.

9. Learned how to conduct and carry on a meeting.

10. Learned how to keep minutes.

11. Encouraged all-day students to become farmers.

12. Guided boys into vocational agriculture who belonged and guided boys out who did not belong.

13. Helped the administrators make decisions about the vocational agriculture department and its program.

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[7]See minutes of meeting, November 17, 1952, Appendix, Section C.

14. Enjoyed working with other people to improve the public school.

With so many things accomplished in one year, it was felt that the year was successful but several ideas for improvement were advanced by the members and guests as to ways to improve the council for the following year.

Among the improvement suggested was a point which was included in the original constitution to have nine members of the council. This was done by keeping the seven old members and adding two new ones.

Another suggestion from one of the members was to elect another secretary. One of the new members was elected to fill the vacancy. The chairman and vice-chairman were re-elected.

A third improvement recommended was that more committee work be used to take part of the load of finding facts off the agriculture teacher.

It was agreed to try harder to get a school board member to meet with it each meeting. In addition to the effort to be made to get a board member to attend, invitations were to be sent to councils around Lewis County to have their members meet with the council whenever possible. It was thought that guests from out of the County at some meeting added interest and prestige to all the meetings.

Dr. Wilson[2], Head of Department of Agricultural Education, suggested

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[2]B. S. Wilson, Head of Department of Agricultural Education, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee.

that news items featuring individual members be run in the County paper. This would help publicize the work of the council and the vocational agriculture department as well as give needed recognition to individual members.

It was decided that the two additional members should be men of somewhat the "key" farmer type to strengthen the confidence of the group in itself and to add to its effectiveness. It was also decided to use more men between the ages of 25 and 50. This did not mean that men over or under those ages would not be members but that the majority of the members would fall between those ages.

Outline of Changes Put Into Practice

All of the suggested changes were not put to test the second year because after due consideration, the council felt that a few of the changes were not practical at that time. These changes were made though in hopes of improving the council.

1. Number of members increased from seven to nine.
2. A large percent of the members were part-time farmers.
3. The new members were from the higher education level farmers.
4. At the end of each meeting an outline of the planned agenda for the next meeting was made by the council.
5. Some members of the council met with and either were in charge of the program or introduced at every type of meeting that was conducted

by the vocational agriculture department.

6. Personal contact by three members and the agriculture teacher were made with a board member in an effort to get him to attend meetings of the council. A promise was obtained that he would attend every meeting that he could get away from his work to attend.

7. Personal invitations were extended to councils at each of the schools in surrounding counties to meet with us.

8. Personnel of the State and District offices of vocational agriculture were invited to attend meetings of the council.

9. Personnel of the Department of Agricultural Education at the University of Tennessee were invited to attend meetings of the council.

10. More committees were used to study specific problems.

11. The secretary was changed.

Summary

It was found upon evaluating the year's work that progress had been made. That some tangible and some intangible things had been accomplished and that on the whole the organization was functioning very well; yet, it was felt certain changes would serve to improve the council and its work.

These changes were suggested by the council itself and by others interested in the Lewis County advisory council.

CHAPTER VI

OPERATION OF THE COUNCIL AFTER IMPROVEMENT

Introduction

At the first meeting of the council after the changes were put into effect a noticeable increase in the interest and eagerness of the members was evident. If no other result had been obtained this rejuvination of eagerness would have been sufficient reward for the effort taken to bring about the changes. This added ardent desire to progress did not dwindle with the adjournment of the first meeting.

Results of Improvements

The addition of the two new members was the spark needed to get the council to review the aims and purposes of the organization and to review the outline of procedure. This was done to acquaint the new members more fully with the council but it had another beneficial result. This time the agriculture teacher was able to stay somewhat in the background as the members discussed the council; while the first time this was done, a year previous to this meeting, the agriculture teacher had to do all of the talking.

With two new members making a total of nine, the absence of two or three members was not so drastic. For example, the number of members needed to make a quorum was changed only one member from five to six. The

psychological effect of more men present at the meeting added prestige to the meeting also.

The increased average educational level of the members improved the membership participation in discussion and committee work. The members were able to do more themselves with written reports and ideas from other sources and not depend upon interpretation by the agriculture teacher or someone else for information.

By outlining the agenda for the next meeting at the end of each meeting, all members were informed a month ahead of time what the major discussion would be and could use the time to think about the coming discussion, talk to others in his community and read about it before returning to the meeting. This prevented council members from having no opportunity to find information or get their thoughts collected on a subject before having to express opinions upon it.

Even with the added effort to get a board of education member to attend the meetings no board member attended regularly.

Visitors to our council meetings were more numerous the second year than the first. Guests came from other advisory councils, the district office of vocational agriculture and the University of Tennessee as well as other citizens of Lewis County.

By using more committees where a council member was chairman and non-council members were members several renumerations were acquired. First more people were brought into the program to help the department. In this way new friends were made for the school, the department and the

people connected with those two activities. Prospective members of the council were, unknown to them, put on trial, so to speak, to determine their acceptability. These committees were able to take some of the load of responsibility of interpretation of information off the shoulders of the vocational agriculture teacher. These committees did not take the work of finding factual information from his shoulders though. In fact, more of this type of work was required of him.

These committees were able to do several things that the teacher without their help would not have done. Among these were organizing three adult evening classes, determining the agricultural situation in Lewis County, bringing the County Agent into the vocational agricultural program, taking the initiative in getting a soil conservation service established and helping eliminate non-farm boys from all-day classes.

It was most encouraging to find that almost one hundred percent of the people, whether a member of the council or not, called upon to be a member of a committee and donate time and effort to the committee's work, were willing to do so. Many of these people had to drive as much as thirty miles for each meeting but to have someone refuse to help was not common.

During the second year of operation of the council, the agriculture teacher spent more time meeting with special committees of the council. The teacher did not have to call the committee meetings but it was expected that he be present at every meeting.

During the summer of the second year of operation of the council,

the Hohenwald council met with the councils of Mt. Pleasant, Hampshire and Columbia for a combined recreational meeting for members and their family. This meeting was a fish fry as the recreational meeting of the Hohenwald and Mt. Pleasant councils the year before had been. Each of the four councils thought that a fish fry was more appropriate than any other form of social meeting.

Throughout the course of the second year's operation, the accomplishments of the council were not things done instead of the things done the first year, but rather, they were in addition to the things done the first year. Of course, the organizational meetings were not held nor were any results obtained from work done in connection with getting a council started. This time was used in continuing operation and improving the council.

The council felt that one of its indirect accomplishments during the time they had been in operation was the encouragement of and assistance in establishment of other advisory councils.

Summary

Accomplishments the second year were increased because less time had to be spent getting started, more people were involved in the council's work, committees were used more freely and the members were more confident in their ability to advise.

There was still much hesitancy on the part of the council to take the initiative and work out a program of work for the department of

vocational agriculture. This same hesitancy was evident on each problem the council members attempted to do by themselves. They felt that their purpose was to look at the program worked up by the teacher or at whatever else was done and suggest changes or improvement.

CHAPTER VII

EVALUATION AND SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS FOR CONTINUING COUNCIL

Introduction

This study of the advisory council for vocational agriculture in Lewis County High School has continued over a four year period. During that time many things have been attempted; while some of these things worked well, others failed miserably. No attempt is made here or elsewhere in this dissertation to claim that the failures faced by the author and the Hohenwald council would be faced by any council attempting such things: inversely no claim is made that the successes will be successes in all cases. The people involved, the place and the times will have much to do with what will or will not succeed. It is believed though that certain things have been determined to be practical while others seem to be impractical under a given set of circumstances. With these limitations in mind, the author shall try to bring out some of the successes and some of the failures of the Hohenwald Advisory Council during its first four years of operation and suggest improvements for the continuation of the council.

Accomplishments

Many successes have been discussed in the previous chapters and

little would be accomplished to repeat them here, therefore an attempt will be made to eliminate most of the ones previously mentioned.

Perhaps the biggest single accomplishment of the advisory council was bringing citizens into the planning and discussion of the program of vocational agriculture in an area where extremely little citizen participation in the school program had been the custom. This very fact brought so many indirect and tangible results that only years of patient study could ever hope to list them all. Among the most outstanding though are better understanding of the vocational agriculture department's place in the school program, influencial support of the F.F.A. and agriculture department, information distributed over the County, outlaying communities brought closer to the central high school and guidance to a new teacher.

Although the council has at no time acted as a pressure group to demand anything from the school administrators or others of authority, several things have been obtained with the council's help. Among these the largest simple item is a new vocational agriculture building separated from the main school building and sufficiently large to take care of the needs of Lewis County for some years to come. Equipment and tools have been bought in a larger amount than would probably have been possible without the support of the council. With the recommendation of the council, the author has found it easier to obtain salary increases.

The council has been a source of satisfaction to both the author and to the members of the council. Each member is now a better citizen because of his council activities. A feeling of pride goes with having

done a job well and also from helping promote better education and improved citizenship.

During the four years of operation of the council no complaint from the school board or from the school administrators has been issued about the advisory council trying to exceed its capacity as an advisory board.

The council's encouragement and recommendations have helped the F.F.A. hold folk game parties in school buildings where such parties had not been held for years. From this start a more broadminded attitude of the citizens of the County toward recreation may be developed.

By informal conversation and by discussion recorded in minutes of meetings, the council members have helped the school administrators to see that the agriculture teacher's teaching does not stop at the classroom door or at 1:30 p.m. when the last all-day class is finished. In this matter their job was not difficult though, because of an understanding principal and superintendent.

Through the advisory council's efforts to coordinate the activities of all agricultural agencies in the County, a County agricultural leaders' addociation has been organized to bring the agricultural leaders of the County together for combined action on common problems. From observation it is evident that Lewis County is one of the few counties in Tennessee where all the agencies cooperate fully with each other without any agency or organization not joining in 100 per cent. The advisory council for vocational agriculture is one of the major reasons for this.

One of the major areas of activity of the council has been adult education. They have suggested where the classes should be taught, when they should be taught and what enterprises should be taught. Not stopping there, they have formed committees in each community where a class was scheduled. This committee organized the class and kept the teacher informed as to the progress being made. The agriculture teacher has not had an adult class since the council was formed but the council has had many that the teacher taught. Council members have been filled in as teacher on nights when the vocational agriculture teacher had to be absent.

The council sponsored a registered pig chain for the Future Farmers of America which is in operation and increasing in size. In addition to the pig chain started the council encouraged the F.F.A. to take a "Sears" bull.[1] One of the members even helped his son, an F.F.A. member, take the bull on his home farm.

Successful Procedure

Many of the things the council accomplished likely were accomplished in spite of the way it did them; yet, during the four years several things were found to more often get desired results than certain others.

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[1]The registered Mill Iron Ranch Hereford Bull Calves bought by Sears, Roebuck and furnished to the State F.F.A. association for distribution to chapters on a contract basis.

It was found that the school administrators and the vocational agriculture teacher could get good members nominated and in certain situations this method could be used. It was further found that the council members could be used very successfully as a nomination committee after the council was in operation.

The amount of work successfully done by using appointed committees indicates that forming committees is the best way to get work done.

These committees also can and should use people not members of the council as members of the committee. This enlarges the scope of the council without the danger of getting a group so large as to be unweildy and inefficient in its operation.

Advisory councils can function quite successfully without ladies as members but the use of ladies as committee members should be encouraged. No ladies were nominated for council membership in Lewis County; therefore, no first hand information on the advisability of such a practice is available to the author.

Meetings once a month are very desirable and two hours per meeting should be a limit as to time to hold meetings except at such special recreational meetings as a fish fry. As in all meetings a starting time should be observed.

Efficient officers should be obtained for three offices--chairman, vice-chairman, and secretary. This can not be overemphasized since many groups function with figurehead officers only. There is a tendency at times for new councils to not take the officers seriously and nominate

men unsuited for some particular office. The council should elect the officers but guidance must come from the vocational agriculture teacher for the first set of officers. After the council is in operation no thought need to be given to this point for the members soon learn that no officer has an "honary" title.

Council members should be chosen or appointed by the board of education or its representative. The council should not be started without prior approval of the board of education or its representative. The constitution of the advisory council should clearly state that the council is subordinate to the board of education, and that the council may give advice to the school administrators, teacher of vocational agriculture and the school board but that this advice may be accepted or rejected as the advisee so desires.

No prospective member should be asked if he will serve on the council. He should be chosen and notified by the board of education, or its representative that he has been chosen to serve. The only person the Hohenwald council asked if he would serve refused while no one refused after he was chosen and notified.

The vocational agriculture teacher must plan to use some of his time and energy obtaining facts and information for the council's use. This added labor will offset somewhat the time saved elsewhere in operating the council. The extra time spent on all the council activities will more than offset time saved for the teacher in such things as organizing adult classes. The teacher must allow extra time for this.

A social or recreational meeting should be held for the council members each year. This meeting may profitably be in connection with other advisory councils in schools nearby. Many ideas may be exchanged this way.

Guests from outside the service area as well as inside should be encouraged. The guests add prestige to the council. Guests are often valuable as resource persons also.

Members should be representative of as wide a crossection of the citizens as is possible to get them but none should be led to believe that he is a personal representative of any one group of people but rather all members should represent all citizens, each in his own manner.

An evaluation meeting once each year proved to be useful as an inspiration to do more after seeing what had been accomplished the year before. Each time a list of accomplishments is completed and put before the council the members are amazed at the length of the combined list. This evaluation meeting also points out places for added emphasis for the next year without the agriculture teacher being called on to ask for the council's actions on some subjects.

It is advisable that the council engage in no fund raising activity but to make such contributions to the F.F.A. program that F.F.A. funds or other departmental funds may be spent for the cost of the social meetings, the refreshments and any other expenses of the council.

Time consuming detail work should be done by the vocational agriculture teacher or special committees and not by the entire council. The

council as a whole should be asked to listen to and look at reports and then advise the proper persons.

Publicity should be given to the council as a whole and to individual members. This publicity may be in the F.F.A. newsletter, local paper, school paper or over local radio and television stations.

The advisory council is very useful in adult work. It may be used to organize classes as well as advise about them.

A new teacher in a department will find a council extremely useful in helping him get started. They can help him stay out of unfavorable positions until he becomes familiar with local customs and morays. The personal closeness of teacher and council members can not be achieved in any other way.

A third of the members should be rotated each year; this keeps new ideas coming into council meetings and helps prevent the department of vocational agriculture's program from becoming stagnant. This system also keeps some new and some old members in the council at all times.

The Hohenwald council found that rather informal discussions with the members arranged around a large table was the most successful way of getting more members to speak out on all subjects.

The agenda should be given to each member before the meeting time. Several ways of handling this were tried by the council but none were entirely successful. The following ways were attempted:

1. No notice of agenda given to members.
2. Notice of agenda given to officers only.

3. Agenda for next meeting discussed by all members at end of each meeting.

4. Agenda put on chalk board before meeting.

5. Agenda memeographed and given to each member at meeting.

A suggestion for improvement will be found in the next section of this chapter.

Committee meetings should be held in the most convenient places for the meeting. Successful committee meetings were held by the Hohenwald council in such diversified places as the agriculture room, the County court house, the County agent's office, the home of the agriculture teacher, homes of council members, churches, community elementary school buildings and homes of committee members that were not council members. One meeting was held under a shade tree at a spring by the side of the road.

The council wanted to look over the program of work each year and discuss it with the teacher and administrators. At least one meeting a year was set aside for this. In addition to this meeting time was taken during the May meeting to look over the teacher's plans for summer activities. This was found to be helpful in combating the lack of information on the part of many citizens as to what the vocational agriculture teacher's duties were.

Failures Encountered

There wereseveral things which the author classes as failures that were encountered by the council during its first four years of operation.

Some of these things might not be properly classed as failures of the council but merely as failures in the eyes of the author.

The one field in which the council has to date note reached the original expectations of the vocational agriculture teacher is program planning. The council has from the beginning insisted that their responsibility was to look over the program and advise not to originate a program. After several different approaches to this problem, the author is inclined to think that perhaps the council is right and that this should not be considered a failure since they have advised informally and evaluated the programs presented by the teacher. They have been very helpful in determining the agricultural situation in preparation of program planning.

After four years the Hohenwald council is still entirely too dependent upon the vocational agriculture teacher for its actions. The teacher has tried keeping notes to help the secretary with his. This "backfired" because the secretary left it entirely to the agriculture teacher to keep them. The teacher tried keeping no notes on proceedings and some meetings went unrecorded. The teacher has at times intentionally failed to remind the secretary to notify members of regular meetings and no meeting was held and no member came or called about the meeting. Meetings are not held in the absence of the teacher. They are either postponed or advanced so that he might attend. Often obvious problems are overlooked by the council until pointed out by the teacher. This one factor, dependence upon one individual, is the greatest weakness

of the Hohenwald council.

The council has tried unsuccessfully to get at least one board of education member to attend council meetings regularly. The principal and superintendent occasionally attend meetings but the attendance of a board member is a rarity.

Even with the council working on the problem, many of the citizens of the County are still uninformed as to the duties and responsibilities of the vocational agriculture teacher. The council has failed to reach, at least, those who still are uninformed.

The council has not to date set up a formal list of policies for the vocational agriculture department. Of course, informally many policies are mentioned and implied but no list has been compiled as such.

To date no satisfactory method has been used to get the agenda of the meeting to the members when they need it. The most nearly successful means has been the discussion of the agenda at the previous meeting but this does not give the smaller current problems that come up from one month to the next.

Recommended Changes

These are suggested as changes instead of improvements since they are untried in the given situation and thus, may not be improvements. In light of the failures, keeping in mind the successful practices, changes within limits can and should be tried.

In order to bring the council members into the changes again this year as they have been in the past, the last council meeting before new m members replace old ones should be set aside for an evaluation--planning meeting. A month before this meeting a committee composed of two council members, the principal, the superintendent and the vocational agriculture teacher should be appointed to study the problems and report back to the council. The three new members should be invited to this meeting as guests so they might get the "feel of things" before their term of membership begins and they are expected to voice opinions on various subjects. This meeting would also be a good place for them to review past work and future plans. This would eliminate the necessity of spending time at their first meeting explaining the functions of the council and their duties.

The vocational agriculture teacher should stop trying to get the council to plan a program for the department and plan the program in light of the council's suggestions and have the council study it and advise as to its changes.

In order to help the council become more independent, the teacher should meet at a special meeting of the officers and discuss the problem. At this meeting the officers' responsibilities could be discussed and the objectives of the council could be reviewed by the most influential members of the council. In addition to that, regular monthly meetings with the chairman and secretary could be planned for one week before each council meeting. At this meeting the final agenda for the council meeting could be settled, the secretary reminded about the notices and both advised

as to needs for the next meeting. This would also enable the final agenda to be put on the notices so that all members would have some time to think about what was to be discussed before meeting time. A duplicator of some form such as a small hectograph would be needed to duplicate the agenda to be sent to the members and standing guests.

To further remove from the council their dependence upon the agriculture teacher, Section 3 of the by-laws should be changed so that only the chairman may call a special meeting. In addition to this change, Article IV should be changed to state that the secretary only is to notify members of the meeting.

To enable a board member to attend council meetings, consideration should again be given to evening meetings instead of the regular Saturday afternoon meetings. In addition to that, Section 9 of the constitution should be changed to state that the principal, superintendent and a board member are expected to attend all meetings of the advisory council. These standing guests should also be sent the agenda for the meeting. Increased use of the County paper, school paper and F.F.A. Newsletter should be made to publicize the council's actions. Some of the articles should be so written as to help explain the duties and responsibilities of a vocational agriculture teacher and to publicize the objectives of the Lewis County Vocational Agriculture Department.

The F.F.A. Chapter of Hohenwald should elect the most helpful members of the council to honorary membership and recommend the most outstanding to receive the honorary State Farmer Degree. This would give recognition

to men who deserve it and encourage other members to work for similar honors.

In the program planning meeting to be held in September, the vocational agriculture teacher should encourage the council to include in its program for next year a meeting on general policies for the vocational agriculture department. This would insure at least a partial list of policies and consideration of a formal list to be used by the board of education and school administrators as well as the teacher. This list could also be used to help show what the department should do.

As the schools move from segregated to non-segregated instruction and the vocational agriculture department begins to serve the colored citizens of the County the council should start including members of the negro race by first using negros on committees for problems mainly concerned with the negro citizens; then, gradually into committees whereever they could be of value. Later as prejudices decrease, members of the colored race should be included as members of the council where they are nominated and elected.

To help insure democratic nomination of members, each council member, the superintendent, the principal and the vocational agriculture teacher should contact at least five other citizens of the County and ask for nomination for membership. Those nominated in this way would then be considered by the council as nominees to suggest to the school board. By this process over 70 people would have a share in nominating each new member of the council. This system would also help spread information as

to the nature and function of the advisory council since each person contacted should demand information about the council before he suggested a person to serve on it.

Summary

The Hohenwald council has met successes and failures. The overall operation has been successful because the successes have outweighed the failures. Some procedures have produced desired results more frequently than some others and have thus become almost standard procedure with the Hohenwald council. The council is still working and learning while it helps make the vocational agriculture department of Lewis County High School more nearly the department wanted by the citizens of Lewis County.

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APPENDIX A

Lewis County Schools
Hohenwald, Tennessee
J. H. Warf, Superintendent
September 14, 1951

Dear

You are hereby notified that you have been chosen by the board of education of Lewis County to be a member of the Advisory Council for Vocational Agriculture Department of Lewis County High School.

The first meeting will be held at the High School Saturday, September 22, at 10:00 a.m. at which time the functions of the Council and your duties and responsibilities will be discussed.

Mr. A. O. Ramay, the Vocational Agriculture Teacher plans to see you on your farm before the meeting date. Please feel free to discuss the Council with him and ask any questions you have.

I am looking forward to seeing you at the meeting. Until then, if I can be of any help to you, please call me.

Very truly yours,

J. H. Warf,
Superintendent of Schools

APPENDIX B

Page 81 omitted through error in numbering

possible for them to be more effective and to gain more satisfaction from their work.

(e) Provide a continuing program of vocational agriculture in Lewis County.

(f) Assist in adjusting the vocational agriculture department's program to changes; then, keeping it more up to date and able to serve the future instead of the past.

(g) Correlate the vocational agriculture department's program with that of the other agencies working in Lewis County.

(h) Assist the school administrators by proposing policies for the agriculture department.

(i) Sponsor classes for young farmers and adult farmers. (Helping choose subjects, enrolling class members, planning arrangements as to time, place, etc.).

(j) Assist the agriculture department in resisting inappropriate and unreasonable demands from officials from outside the County.

(k) Develop council and committee members, particularly the younger ones, into valued community leaders.

(l) Draw minority groups into participation in programs of the vocational agriculture department.

(m) Help in disseminating new agricultural ideas.

IV. The number of Council members shall start with seven (7) the first year. The next year two more shall be added to bring the total to nine (9) members. Thereafter, there shall be nine (9) active

members of the Council.

V. Each member shall serve a term of three years. In order to start a rotation system of three new members each year, the original nine members shall draw lots at the end of the second year (November, 1953) to determine the three members who shall be replaced the following year (1954) and which members will be replaced the next year (1955). The remaining three members shall be replaced at the end of the next year (1956). Thereafter, each member shall be replaced at the end of his term of three years.

VI. Members shall be nominated by the vocational agriculture teachers, the Advisory Council members and the school administrators and appointed by the County Superintendent of Schools. These points should be considered in selection of nominees:

(a) Obtain a variety of interests and problems by choosing men who differ in such things as (1) size of farm, (2) type of farm, (3) membership in various clubs and organizations, (4) geographic location, (5) age.

(b) Consideration should also be given to nominating men who are willing and able to work with other members of the Council.

VII. Any member who fails to meet for three consecutive meetings without a valid reason may be replaced by going through the regular procedure of appointing a new member (Section V). This member, thus appointed, is to fill the unexpired term for the replaced member.

VIII. No member shall be reappointed after being appointed for one full three-year term whether he serves the full term or not until an elapse of at least three years. In case of extreme emergencies, this rule may be by-passed by a majority vote of the Council members at any regular meeting.

IX. A standing invitation is extended to the school administrators to meet with the council whenever possible. The administrators in this case include the principal, the superintendent and any member of the school board designated by the administrators to meet with the council or any of their guests. The administrators shall have no vote in the council but are encouraged to participate in the discussions.

X. These persons shall be excluded from council membership:

(a) Salaried professional workers such as County Agents, County Superintendents, teachers and ministers. These may be called in as consultants on various problems though.

(b) High school boys--the work with the high school boys will be done by committee working with the F.F.A. executive committee.

XI. The officers of the Advisory Council shall consist of a chairman, vice-chairman, and secretary. These three together shall constitute the executive committee of the Advisory Council.

The duties of the chairman are to conduct the meetings and to see that the Council progresses while living up to its constitution and by-laws.

The duties of the vice-chairman consist of substituting for the chairman in his absence.

The duties of the secretary are to keep accurate minutes of all meetings and to notify each member and standing guest of proposed meetings by card or letter just prior to each meeting.

XII. The minutes of the meeting shall include the date, time, members present by name and a record of all business conducted.

A copy of the minutes shall be submitted to the principal of Lewis County High School, the County Superintendent of Schools, the vocational agriculture teacher and a copy kept in the vocational agriculture office or classroom.

XIII. The constitution and/or by-laws of this organization may be amended by a majority vote of those present at any regular meeting when 2/3 of the active members are present. A quorum shall be 2/3 of the members.

BY-LAWS

(1) There shall be 12 regular meetings of the Council per year. These shall be scheduled one per month.

(2) The regular meetings shall be held on the third Saturday of each month at 1:30 p.m. inthe vocational agriculture room of Lewis County High School. The executive committee or the Council may change this date or time to suit the local conditions by notifying each member previous to the meeting date. The meeting shall last one and one-half hours.

(3) A special meeting may be called by the vocational agricultural teacher at any time to consider some phase of the program that demands attention before the next scheduled regular meeting. Each member shall be notified of said meeting by card or personal visit.

(4) Members and regular guests shall be notified of meetings just prior to each meeting by a card or letter or personal visit from the vocational agriculture teacher or the Council secretary.

(5) At each meeting the Council shall determine the topic to be discussed at the next regular meeting by a majority vote. These topics may be changed at the following meeting if the situation so demands and a majority of the Council members vote for the change.

APPENDIX C

MINUTES VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE ADVISORY COUNCIL

NOVEMBER 17, 1951

The regular meeting of the vocational agricultural advisory council for Lewis County met on November 17 at 1:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by the vice-chairman, Mr. E. B. Dyer, Sr., in the absence of our chairman, Mr. E. M. Adcocks. Members present were Mr. E. B. Dyer, Sr., Mr. Tim Rasberry, Mr. T. W. Haley, Mr. Burt Tatum and Mr. Billie Hinson. Also, Mr. A. O. Ramay was present.

We had a visitor, Mr. Henry Colston, the vocational agriculture teacher from Hay-Long High School, Mt. Pleasant, Tennessee.

Mr. Dyer opened the meeting informally to answer questions brought by Mr. Colston who is in the process of starting an advisory council in his department. Mr. Colston brought a wire recorder along and recorded the answers to his questions and comments by the members of the council. Each member present made a contribution to Mr. Colston's questions on the organization, purposes and operation of our council.

At the completion of this informal part of the meeting, the regular business was taken up.

As suggested at the previous meeting, the discussion of what to teach the all-day students was continued. Mr. Dyer suggested that selection of Beef Animals for Breeding be stressed. Mr. Haley suggested that the production of alfalfa be taught. Mr. Rasberry brought out the fact that alfalfa often is hard to hold in Lewis County and the reason for this and its remedy should be stressed. The council agreed that all jobs in the

enterprise should be taught. Mr. Rasberry suggested teaching the production of Lespedeza. Mr. Hinson and Mr. Rasberry suggested teaching the production of peanuts.

Mr. Dyer brought up cover crops. Mr. Hinson and Mr. Haley suggested that Crimson Clover, rye and vetch be stressed. Mr. Dyer suggested that inoculation of all legumes be stressed.

Mr. Ramay asked the council about spending three days in Nashville at the Fat Calf Show and sale. All agreed that it was time well spent and that the vocational agriculture teacher should be with the boys there.

Mr. Dyer brought up working on the calves at Nashville to fit them properly in order to get experience and to profit financially.

Mr. Ramay brought up a new topic, "Adult Classes in Lewis County". The members agreed to check into the possibility of adult classes each in his own area and report at the next meeting. Adult classes were accepted by the advisory council as a project to investigate and help establish where they are needed and wanted.

MINUTES OF ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

DECEMBER 15, 1951

The advisory council for vocational agriculture for Lewis County High School met for its regular meeting at the vocational agricultural room at 1:00 p.m. The following members were present--E. M. Adcox, president, E. B. Dyer, vice-president, Billy Hinson, secretary, T. M. Lawson, Thurl Haley, Burt Tatum and Tim Rasberry. Mr. A. B. Sisco and Mr. A. O. Ramay were also present.

A report on the progress of the Mt. Pleasant council was given by Mr. Ramay. Following this, a discussion of the major work areas of the vocational agriculture department was held. The Utah classification of "Big Tent", "Side Show" and "Popcorn Stand" was used which added interest.

Motion made by Mr. T. M. Lawson, seconded by Mr. Thurl Haley that we spend as much time in the "Big Tent Area" as possible and as little time in the "Popcorn Stand" as we could get by with. Motion passed. Following is a list of activities as they were placed during this discussion.

UTAH STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION CLASSIFICATION

ACTIVITIES OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE TEACHER*

(Tentative)

BIG TENT

Activities of Primary Importance

	Young Farmer	Adult Farmer
1. Individual Farm Surveys	1. Class instruction	1. Class instruction
2. Class instruction	2. Individual farm surveys	2. Promote enrollments
3. Farm supervision	3. Farm supervision	3. Farm supervision
4. F.F.A. adviser of standard activity program	4. Y. F. Adviser of standard activity program	4. Reports of program
5. Reports (all day)	5. Promote enrollments	5. Program planning
6. Reports (F.F.A.)	6. Reports of program	
7. Faculty meeting	7. Y. F. area conferences and state convention	
8. Professional conferences	8. Program planning	
9. F.F.A. member attendance at area conferences, State convention and National convention		
10. State farmer candidate		
11. American farmer candidate		
12. Keep permanent records		
13. Inform public on vocational agriculture		
14. Program planning		
15. Keep inventories		
16. Dept. maintenance		
17. Adequate library		
18. Order needed equipment and supplies		

* From Nichols, Marc, "Help! This Teacher Overload is Killing Me," Agricultural Education Magazine, September, 1950.

UTAH STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION CLASSIFICATION

ACTIVITIES OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE TEACHER*

(Tentative)

SIDE SHOW	POPCORN STAND
Secondary Activities	Third Rating Activities
1. Coach F.F.A. judging teams	1. Coach F.F.A. Basketball, Wrestling or Softball
2. Conduct F.F.A. fundation activities	2. Teach non-agriculture classes
3. F.F.A. summer trip or camp	3. Class or club adviser
4. Family night--carry in supper	4. Helper in atletic activities
5. Chapter cooperative recognition	5. Procure war surplus
6. Fairs and exhibits	6. School maintenance handy man
7. F.F.A. Chapter contest	7. Sweetheart contest
8. Y. F.: young farmer of year; Chapter of year; public speaking	8. Hall duty
9. F.F.A. chaptercontest	9. Adviser of school publications
10. F.F.A. glee club and band (National)	10. Substitute teaching during release periods

* From Nichols, Marc, "Help! This Teacher Overload is Killing Me," Agricultural Education Magazine, September, 1950.

MINUTES OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

FEBRUARY 16, 1952

The advisory council for vocational agriculture in Lewis County met for its regular meeting at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, February 16, 1952. Members present were Mr. E. M. Adcox, chairman, Mr. E. B. Dyer, Sr., vice-chairman, Mr. Burt Tatum and Mr. Tim Rasberry. Mr. A. O. Ramay was also present.

The meeting was called to order by the chairman and the problem of adult classes in Lewis County was discussed. The members all felt that adult classes were needed and that some steps should be taken to get them started. Mr. Tatum wondered how one hundred percent participation could be obtained. The other members felt that one hundred percent participation of any community would be impossible but that we should work with those interested in starting and continuing a class even if the number was no more than five or six in a community.

Mr. Adcox suggested that we go into each community and ask the farmers what they wanted. Mr. Dyer suggested a meeting be called and from those present organize a group. Mr. Ramay outlined two methods of organizing. The council voted to have each member of the council help organize a committee for adult work in his own community where the committee members felt that an adult class had any chance of succeeding. The council thought that pastures should be the area in which the first work should be started and from that, lead into the other areas of

interest of each community. Mr. Adcox offered his lodge as a meeting place for his community if the people wished to use it.

From this problem, the council went into a discussion of giving grades in vocational agriculture at the end of the school year before record books are turned in. Mr. Ramay quoted the law under which vocational agriculture is taught and explained the custom of other schools in regard to grades and the past method used here.

Mr. Adcox said that giving an incomplete until the record book was turned in seemed to be the only practical thing to do. Mr. Dyer brought out the fact that some method should be devised where seniors could get a grade to graduate. Mr. Ramay explained that senior boys who wished to turn in a record book on six month' work with an animal enterprise could do so and receive a grade in May. Mr. Dyer then agreed with Mr. Adcox that this was the only practical way. Mr. Rasberry said that something certainly was needed to get the record books in and that this seemed to be the best way. Mr. Tatum thought that an incomplete until the records were finished would be fair to all.

A short discussion was then held on what should interest senior boys with the world situation being what it is. Mr. Adcox pointed out that the army taking boys as soon as they finish high school caused most of the boys to want to get out of the farming business. He also pointed out that the parents are partially to blame in Lewis County. He explained that every boy needed responsibility and an income from his farming program. He pointed out that often the parent does not let the boy share

in either so the boy gets a job off the farm to make him some money. All agreed that this was all too often the case. Mr. Rasberry said that the boys should see where education was helpful, army or no army. Mr. Adcox agreed but pointed out that it was hard to get boys to understand that. Mr. Dyer brought out another fact that many of the vocational agriculture students were not farm boys. The council agreed with him that vocational agriculture should be limited to those boys who could carry out a supervised farming program. Mr. Dyer explained the method he was using to let his son have a hand in the total farm program on his home farm.

Signed_____

MINUTES OF ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 15, 1952

The regular meeting of the advisory council for vocational agriculture in Lewis County met at the vocational agriculture room at 1:30 p.m. with the following members present: E. M. Adcox, E. B. Dyer, Sr., Billy Hinson, Sr., Thurl Haley, Burt Tatum and Tim Rasberry.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Discussion of planned program for Noon Time Neighbor was held and Mr. Adcox was elected to go to Nashville with Mr. Ramay to put on the program March 26.

Plans for spring F.F.A. activities were discussed by Mr. Dyer. These included combined F.F.A.-F.H.A. party, convention at Nashville, and boxing tournment.

Mr. Rasberry asked about the progress on the Duroc Pig Chain and report was given by Mr. Ramay.

Motion made, seconded and passed we adjourn.

Signed_____

NOONTIME NEIGHBORS - SCRIPT

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 1952

MAC: We have with us today Otis Ramay, Agriculture Teacher from Hohenwald, Mr. E. M. Adcox, a member of the Advisory Council for Vocational Agriculture in Lewis County and Donnie Beatty, a high school student. They're gonna tell us how the Advisory Council plans to work with the F.F.A. in Lewis County. But first, Otis, how about checking us out on this Advisory Council for Vocational Agriculture. Just what is it?

RAMAY: Well, Mac, I could talk all day about what the Advisory Council has done for me in its short life in Lewis County but I believe Mr. Adcox can give you a less prejudiced picture of what the Advisory Council is. Since he's the chairman of the council, he can give a full report of its purposes.

MAC: Well, good. We'll just let him give us the whole picture. How about it, Mr. Adcox?

ADCOX: Mr. Mac, the Advisory Council is made up of seven adult farmers in Lewis County. We meet regularly each month to discuss problems of the vocational agriculture department and to help direct Mr. Ramay's work in such a way as to offer to the people of Lewis County the things they need and want most. This is for the entire agriculture program rather than just for the high school boys. Recently, we've spent most of our time helping start adult classes rather than on the high school program but we're planning some

action directly connected with the F.F.A. for our next meeting. Donnie Beatty, here, can tell you some of the things we're planning.

MAC: O. K., Donnie, move in here a little closer and tell us what you fellows are planning.

DONNIE: Mr. Mac, we members of the F.F.A. are expecting a great deal of help from the Advisory Council . Right now the chapter is in the process of changing the pig chain from its present unregistered stock to registured stock. One of the Advisory Council members, Mr. E. B. Dyer is particularly interested in this phase of the work. He's made a fine offer to help us get started. We're looking forward to our first meeting with the committee for F.F.A. work.

MAC: Just what do you expect from the committee, Donnie?

DONNIE: Well, for one thing, we want some help pretty soon in setting up a new prize list for the F.F.A. exhibits in the county fair this year. We need some help in emphasizing the more important phases of agriculture in our country. We also want to talk down some of the less important things. Of course, we want more help in establishing the registered pig chain. Some of the boys have been talking about a system to help some of the members who want beef calves. All of the details will still have to be worked out, but we feel that the Advisory Committee will help us come up with

some system that'll be workable. The monthly F.F.A. News Letter and farming news we're planning to put out should help a lot in solving some of our problems. Mr. Ramay probably has some other ideas on the help of the Advisory Council on that, too.

MAC: What about that, Otis--do you have anything to add?

RAMAY: I sure do, Mac. In fact, I have more ideas than we could possibly work out in the next year. I believe the most important thing Donnie left out is the opportunity we'll have in setting up our goals in community improvement work. Take Mr. Adcox for example. I'll bet he could list several things our F.F.A. could do in the line of community improvement.

MAC: How about it, Mr. Adcox?

ADCOX: Well, I don't know about a list of things but for one thing, I do believe that the F.F.A. might sponsor some form of entertainment for the young people of the county. Then, there are the tennis courts that need to be entirely reworked at the park. Such things would really help "sell" the F.F.A. to other people of the county.

MAC: Which would please you very much, wouldn't it, Otis?

RAMAY: That's right, Mac, and if there's one thing we need at home it's a better understanding, by the folks outside of the F.F.A. of what the organization is and what we're trying to do. Since the chapter has only been in operation less than 5 years, many people are still unfamiliar with the set up.

MAC: Now, Donnie, you come back up here. You mentioned a News Letter a few minutes ago, which interested me. Tell us how you plan to print and distribute it.

DONNIE: Well, we plan to start at least with a mimeographed one-page news letter that'll be mailed to the farmers of the county. We finally got hold of a mimeograph machine for our agriculture department and are planning to publish our first edition next month. We're gonna expect a lot of help on our news letter from our Advisory Council.

MAC: Donnie, I believe your chapter is the first one I've heard of trying a news letter and here's hoping it works out fine. Mr. Adcox, these boys really do things, don't they?

ADCOX: They sure do, Mac. Our Vocational Agriculture Department has made a lot of improvements in the past four years but we've only scratched the surface. We're on our way up and we fully realize that it takes a lot of time to get what we want.

MAC: Well, I know it'll take time but I'm sure that with the help of that fine Advisory Committee, the F.F.A. Chapter will accomplish a lot. I've enjoyed talking to you folks. When you get back home, give my regards to Mr. Tom Defoe.

MINUTES OF ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 17, 1952

The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Mr. E. M. Adcox. Members present other than Mr. Adcox were Mr. Dyer, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Haley and Mr. Rasbury. Mr. Ramay was also present.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The plans for the advisory council fish fry in connection with the Mt. Pleasant advisory council were brought up by Mr. Ramay. It was explained that the Mt. Pleasant council suggested June 20 as a date. This date was approved. Mr. Adcox offered his lodge as a meeting place and this was approved. A discussion of the menu followed and these things were suggested: Fish, hush puppies, slaw, coffee, tea, cold drinks, light bread, and sliced onions. A committee composed of Mr. Adcox and Mr. Ramay was appointed to handle the details.

Mr. Ramay explained some of the general problems being faced by the F.F.A. and asked the council to take some action on these. Mr. Lawson moved that a standing committee be appointed to help with the F.F.A. This was seconded and passed. The committee appointed consists of Mr. Dyer, Mr. Lawson and Mr. Haley. The first time and place of meeting was set at Mr. Ramay's house, May 20 at 8:00 p.m.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn.

Signed_____

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE FOR F.F.A. OF ADVISORY COUNCIL

MAY 20, 1952

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Dyer. Members present were Mr. Dyer, Mr. Haley and Mr. Ramay.

The first problem discussed was the County Fair. The committee suggested increasing prizes for livestock and decreasing prizes for row crops.

The second problem discussed was how to go from non-registered to registered pigs in the pig chain. Mr. Dyer made the following offer to help us get established.

1. Sell us a registered, spotted, Poland China guilt for $35.00.

2. Breed the guilt at the proper time free of charge.

3. Keep for service a registered boar that is not related to any in the pig chain.

4. Charge $2.50 for service to any F.F.A. or 4-H club boy while the regular fee would be $5.00.

The third problem discussed was taking all boys to the State Fair at Nashville this fall. The committee suggested taking only members of the F.F.A. who had paid dues for the new year. They also suggested that each boy who went pay fifty cents toward the cost of transportation for the trip.

The fourth problem taken up was summer activities for the F.F.A. Mr. Ramay explained that one meeting per month was planned for the entire summer. This was approved by the committee. They suggested that some form of recreation be included with each meeting and special recreational

meetings be held during the summer.

The fifth problem discussed was some form of calf chain being set up for the F.F.A. No solution to this problem was presented but a suggestion of each boy financing his calf through the banks was brought out by Mr. Haley and Mr. Dyer.

The meeting adjourned and refreshments were served by Mrs. Ramay.

Signed_____

The following was mimeographed and sent to the people listed on the invitation. Accompanying the invitation sent to out-of-town guests was a map showing how to get to the fish fry from Hohenwald.

FROM: Vocational Agriculture Teachers, Hohenwald--Mt. Pleasant

TO: All concerned with joint advisory council fish fry at Hohenwald, June 20, 1952.

SUBJECT: Advisory Council Members and Guests of Members of Hohenwald Advisory Council.

The families of all council members are invited.

MEMBERS OF HOHENWALD ADVISORY COUNCIL:

Mr. E. M. Adcox, chairman
Mr. E. B. Dyer, vice-chairman
Mr. Billy Hinson, secretary
Mr. Burt Tatum
Mr. W. T. Rasberry
Mr. Thurl Haley
Mr. T. M. Lawson
Mr. A. O. Ramay, teacher
Mr. A. B. Sisco, principal
Mr. J. H. Warf, Superintendent of Schools, Lewis County
Mr. Marvin Patton, Member of Board of Education

MEMBERS OF MT. PLEASANT ADVISORY COUNCIL:

Mr. Mack Edwards, chairman
Mr. Charles McKissack
Mr. Herman King
Mr. Fred Rolater
Mr. Skelton King
Mr. Jim Pitts
Mr. D. W. Cecil
Mr. Lucius Edwards
Mr. Raymond Massey
Mr. Henry Colston, Teacher & Secretary
Mr. J. B. Smith, principal
Mr. W. G. Hardin, Member of Board of Education
Mr. J. R. Baker, Superintendent of Schools, Maury County

STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TEACHER TRAINING:

Mr. G. E. Freeman, State Supervisor, Vocational Agriculture
Mr. J. W. Brimm, Asst. State Supervisor, Vocational Agriculture
Mr. S. L. Sparks, Asst. State Supervisor, Vocational Agriculture
Mr. T. J. Hendrickson, District Supervisor, Vocational Agriculture
Dr. Bonard S. Wilson, Prof. Agric. Education, University of Tennessee

OTHER GUESTS:

Mr. Hal Herd, Farm Editor, Nashville Tennessean
Mr. Jesse Safely, Farm Editor, Nashville Banner
Mr. Louis Finney, Farm Editor, Daily Herald, Columbia, Tennessee
Mr. Ernest Pollock, Editor, Lewis County Herald, Hohenwald, Tennessee
Miss Dora Dean DePriest, Teacher, Home Economics, Mt. Pleasant
Miss Annie Mai Edwards, Teacher, Home Economics, Hohenwald
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bell, Hohenwald

MINUTES OF ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

JUNE 20, 1952

The fish fry was held at Mr. Adcox's lodge. Following is a list of expenditures for the fish fry:

Fish 56½ lbs.--semidressed @ 55¢ lb.	$31.05
Watermelons, 6 melons @ 5¢ lb.	6.53
Ice, 250 lbs.	1.71
Cups, hot, 6 doz.	1.44
Meal, 25 lbs.	1.55
Tea, 1/2 lb.	.49
Bread, 2 loaves	.30
Paper towels, 1 pkg.	.22
Napkins, 1 pkg.	.15
Mayonaise, 1 qt.	.90
Tomatoes, 1 doz., medium sized	.80
Cabbage, 6 medium head	.73
Lard, 50 lbs.	7.60
Forks, wooden	.72
Spoons, wooden	.68
Onions, 3 large	.23
Coffee, 1 lb.	.82
Salt, 2 pkg.	.24
Sugar, 5 lbs.	.55
Potatoes, 35 lbs.	3.45
Brillo soap pads, 1 pkg.	.12
Bell pepper, 3 large	.28
Carrots, 4 large	.13
Soft drinks, 1 case	.90
Strainer for dipping fish and hushpuppies out of grease	.50
Total	$72.87

Mt. Pleasant's share	$36.43
Hohenwald's share	36.44

There were 39 people present from the following families:

E. M. Adcox
E. B. Dyer
Burt Tatum
A. O. Ramay
A. B. Sisco
J. H. Warf
C. E. Bell
Mack Edwards
Charles McKissack
Fred Rolater
J. B. Pitts
Lucius Edwards
Henry Colston
J. B. Smith
J. R. Baker
G. E. Freeman
S. L. Sparks
B. S. Wilson
Jesse Safely
Dora Dean DePriest

The outstanding cooks were Goaty and Goody Fite who worked from 10:00 a.m. until all the guests left at 10:30 p.m. Mrs. E. M. Adcox and Mrs. A. O. Ramay worked all day preparing the tea, slaw and other things. Mr. Adcox had his truck haul the tables and chairs from the vocational agricultural department and the pots to cook in, from farms in the area as well as the fish, ice and tubs from town.

The meal started at 6:00 p.m. There were comments made by Mr. Freeman, Dr. Wilson, Mr. Warf, Mr. Baker, Mr. Sisco, Mr. Smith, Mr. Adcox, and Mr. Edwards, between the supper and the watermelon cutting.

Mr. Colston showed two movies. One entitled "How Not to Conduct a Meeting" and the other "What Price Freedom". After the movies the meeting was adjourned.

Signed_____

MINUTES OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

JULY, 1952

The regular meeting was called to order at the vocational agriculture room at 1:30 p.m. by Mr. E. B. Dyer, acting chairman. The following members were present: Mr. E. B. Dyer, Mr. Billy Hinson, Burt Tatum, Tim Rasberry, T. M. Lawson.

Mr. Lawson discussed the work of the extension service vs. the work of the vocational agricultural group. The council agreed that there was a place for both in Lewis County and that each should help the other.

Mr. Ramay discussed progress made toward a SCS District since the last meeting. He explained that Mr. Adcox was doing a fine job in helping in this respect. All present agreed to "push" SCS in Lewis County.

A motion was made seconded and passed to adjourn.

Signed _____

MINUTES OF ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

AUGUST 16, 1952

The meeting was called to order 30 minutes late at 2:00 p.m. by chairman E. M. Adcox. Members present were Adcox, Lawson, Dyer, Tatum. Others present were A. B. Sisco, Dr. B. S. Wilson and A. O. Ramay.

At the start of the meeting the members absent were discussed and it was found that Mr. Rasberry was sick in bed, Mr. Haley was out of the County for the week and Mr. Hinson was in Nashville.

The chairman appointed Mr. E. B. Dyer to act as temporary secretary. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

A report on the Adult Class at Indian Creek was given by Mr. Dyer. He said that there was a large turn out for the meetings and that questions were asked by the men which were discussed by the group. He explained that the last lesson was on mastitus and that it was well received by the group. He said that after the class was over several questions were asked summer pastures and what should be put out now.

Mr. Adcox said that people always enjoyed getting together and talking about problems that they were facing.

Mr. Dyer said that he thought that each community in the County should have an adult class. He then gave a report on the Sears Bull, in which he pointed out that the bull was progressing satisfactorily.

Mr. Ramay presented new business to the council when he asked if the vocational agriculture department should have a long time program of work. Mr. Dyer said "yes". Mr. Lawson explained that agriculture itself was a

long time thing thus we must plan for a long time in the future to enable us to do the job expected of us. Mr. Adcox said that he would see that the council helped plan a long-time program of work.

Dr. Wilson spent eight minutes talking about the purposes of vocational agriculture. He explained that it was set up for adults in 1914 but that the ready set high school agriculture boys were taken in at that time and that since then more and more time has been required to keep up the all-day program. He said that vocational agriculture should be for out of school people as well as high school students. He pointed out that there were 10 adults in the County to every one high school student. He showed that adults want, need and can profit by education.

Following Dr. Wilson's talk a general discussion of adult work was led by Mr. Adcox. During this discussion a committee was appointed at Mr. Lawson's request to help him organize an adult class in his community. The following men were put on this committee: Mr. Lawson, chairman, Mr. Staggs, Mr. Reeves, Mr. Nelson. These men were to organize a class in soils for Lomax Crossroads Community.

Mr. Adcox asked Dr. Wilson to help outline the way to get a long-time program of work started. This Dr. Wilson did.

The chairman outlined the history of agriculture in Lewis County. Following this a short discussion of the canning plant was held. During this discussion Mr. Lawson warned the teacher to go slow in pushing the plant because some people in the county still had a bad feeling toward the cannery from the previous owners' actions.

A committee to work on the situation in Lewis County was appointed to meet at the County Agents office at 7:30 p.m. the following Wednesday. This committee was composed of Mr. Lawson, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Huffine, Mr. Bell, Mr. Ramay and Mr. Rasberry.

Mr. Adcox explained the action of the County Keep Tennessee Green Committee and asked that all members help in the program of promotion.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn.

Signed_____

MINUTES OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

FEBRUARY 19, 1955

The meeting was called to order by Mr. E. B. Dyer at 1:45 p.m. in the vocational agriculture shop. Members present were Mr. Dyer, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Rasberry and Mr. Tatum.

Progress on the new vocational agriculture building was discussed and plans to meet in the new building as soon as heat could be obtained were made.

The Lewis County Agricultural Workers' Association was discussed.

Mr. Ramay gave a favorable report on the cooperative action of the extension service, SCS and vocational agriculture department within the County. It was brought out by Mr. Lawson that in many places the three services could not get along while here in Lewis County all work together on many projects.

The Beekeepers' school was discussed and members with bees made plans to come to the school. All the members felt that this school was a needed thing.

Plans to attend Paul Agee's sale of Duroc hogs with several boys was discussed. The council agreed that such a use of school time was worthwhile when boys needed hogs and were going on the trip to buy hogs, not just for the ride.

Signed_____

MINUTES OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 21, 1955

The meeting was called to order by the chairman at 1:30 p.m. in the vocational agriculture building. The following members were present: Adcox, Bell, Dyer, Rasberry, Tatum, Lawson and Nicholson.

Discussion was held as to reasons for no meetings the previous two months. Mr. Bell promised to get cards out for the next meeting.

The new vocational agriculture building was shown to the members. All of the members were highly impressed with the new facilities. Mr. Ramay explained additional improvements that would be made. The council voted unanimously to send a vote of thanks to the superintendent of schools for his help in getting the very nice new building.

Mr. Ramay explained his summer plans showing that he would be away much of the summer at school, F.F.A. camp, vacation and conference. The council agreed that all these things were essential.

The plans and progress of the County fair were discussed and Mr. Ramay asked for help. Mr. Adcox suggested several people as good ones to get to help. James Adcox, E. B. Dyer, Sr., Mr. Freddie Kittrell and Reece Bell were all mentioned.

A discussion was held in which it was brought out that the merchants were backing the fair even better than the farmers. Mr. Bell moved that the council attempt to get more interest built up in the farmers.

The work of the Lewis County Agricultural Workers' Association was discussed by Mr. Ramay and all council members were invited to attend the

meetings of the association.

A report was given on the progress of the F.F.A. pig chains. Information was obtained that only one registered Spotted Poland China boar was available in the County.

Signed_____

MINUTES OF ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

JUNE 18, 1955

The meeting was called to order in the vocational agriculture room by the chairman, Mr. Adcox. Members present were Mr. Adcox, Mr. Dyer, Mr. Rasberry, Mr. Tatum, Mr. Bell and Mr. Lawson.

Discussion of the County fair was held. Mr. Ramay gave a report of the progress on the catalog, fence and premium lists. All of these things were almost up to schedule.

Premiums were discussed and an explanation was madc as to why some items had been omitted.

All agreed to support the fair with their presence, advertisement and where possible with entries in the various departments.

Plans for the free show were discussed. It was explained that more help was needed in the fiddlers contest. The council made plans to help promote the contest.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn.

Signed_____