**Gallatin County 4-H/FFA Market Livestock Committee Meeting**

**October 10th, 2023**

**6pm @ Extension Office**

**Attendance**

* Molly Yurdana, Gena Johnson, Wendy Ward, Kelly Pavlik, Melanie Duffin, Annabel Morgan, Ruth Carr, Shawna Oostema, Merle Farrier, Lee Nuss, Michael Braught, Tyler Noyes, Shawnna Taylor, Jess Woodring, Jodi Smith, Monica Samson

**Orders of the Meeting**

* President Kelly Pavlik called the meeting to order at 6:12pm
* Introduction of Guests: none - everyone introduced themselves as there were some new faces

**Minutes/Financial Reports**

* Approval of Meeting Minutes: August meeting
	+ Annabel motions to approve the August meeting minutes as written. Shawna Oostema seconds. Motion passes.
		- It was suggested that in the future, any family names that are discussed and disclosed at meetings, be redacted from the typed Meeting Minutes that are sent out to everyone.
* Treasurer’s Report: (Merle)
	+ Balance Sheet
		- Checking: $85,441.84
		- CD: $3,760.75
		- Grand total: $89,202.59
			* Merle believes all bills have been paid, minus some reimbursements. This total reflects the youth checks written out. Still owed approx. $10,000 from Market Sale. Merle notes that a week after the sale, we still needed to collect A LOT of money from buyers - stressful, slow this year. Next year, add cover letter to Market Sale Invoices to get buyers’ attention, get correctly addressed checks, ensure checks are mailed to correct address, update contact info if needed.
		- Profit of $9,525.48 on the 2023 Market Livestock Sale - it will be $19,000+ once remaining $10,000 is received in
		- MLC needs 2 non-signers to review the 1% paperwork for the Committee - Lee and Ruth volunteer. Budget will be reviewed at next meeting.

**Reading of Correspondence**

* Extension Office Report (Molly)
	+ Awards Celebration - 270 people attended, ice cream was a hit, cheaper than providing dinner, was able to purchase better volunteer gifts. MSU Concessions - need help! Animal projects please sign up, without Shelly McPhee as concessions manager this year, we will be working less events, but still need to fill the spots we commit to. Enrollment 2023-2024 now open - please get re-enrolled ASAP. Huge influx in new families enrolling, already over 150 members active in the system. Molly is offering TWO New Family NIghts in Bozeman and Belgrade next week. Fall Volunteer Training - Saturday, November 4th (8am-12pm) - returning or new volunteers please attend. First 1.5 hours will be dedicated to the State required modules.
* Fairgrounds Report (Lee)
	+ Soapbox = contact our commissioners. We are out of space and need to get creative on where/how we are going to fit all the animals. Possibly rent more tents to house animals, but other events conflict and its hard to get. Beef wash rack is a priority, but the Fairgrounds has issues with regulations/draining. Fairgrounds wants us to hire our own security for Friday night. Lee is asking for everyone’s help to make this fair happen for this many projected animals/members. Lee wants to walk the indoor arena with Sheep and Goat.
	+ Fairgrounds had fire marshalls walk the grounds and the 4-H Concessions stand is not up to code. The grill hood is not up to code - no hot food as of now. Fairgrounds does not want to replace at their expense for use for one week out of the year. We might be able to BBQ outside -fire suppression system?
	+ Federal Highway project coming through on I-90 this next year, millings will be stored at Fairgrounds and they will be stored in West Annex/Camping Area. Ben is going to try to see if he can store them in Oak St. lot or motorsports area. Amanda Hartman has quit - was our biggest 4-H Ambassador in the Fairgrounds office. 2 more years on the AgWest Tent contract. Lee anticipates they will not have any more help by next fair, so it will most likely require more volunteer/family help to set up/tear down fair. Fairgrounds is talking about the possibility that 4-H doesn’t need to be there on the last Sunday of fair - we will see what happens.

**Old Business**

* Behavior at Fair
	+ Molly sent a letter to the family in question after the last MLC meeting - it was not received well. Family complained to MSU HR and Molly’s bosses for feeling singled out. State 4-H Center and HR approved the letter and said we were within our grounds to send that letter based on their inappropriate behavior. Parent Code of Conduct in the works, not approved by the State or Extension Admin team yet. Shawnna asks if we can there be a county-only policy - state says no, too hard to track and back us - they would prefer a state-wide policy. If we want a loophole, we can add something about fair-specific parent behavioral expectations into the Fairbook. In the future, if anything like this happens again, we need to have the complaints/recollection of the incidents written down immediately, just in case they need to be used for proof. Melanie has written letters to the state, Molly will find out who we need to send letters of support to for the code of conduct.
* Post-Fair Market Project Survey
	+ Kelly sent a survey out to all Market Livestock/Fair responses - we only got 19 responses, which is disheartening. General feedback was on communication reminders, species-specific feedback, curriculum/workbook feedback. If you’d like to see the feedback, ask Kelly for the survey results if you want it for program planning. Overall positive feedback and positive experience for our families.
* MLC Officers/Membership
	+ Need Secretary, President-Elect and youth members. Can the secretary duty be shared? Gena and Ruth will share duty for 2023-2024. Tyler motions to accept the self-nominations of Gena and Ruth as Secretary for 2023-2024. Shawna Oostema seconds. Motion passes. Nominations for President-Elect will be tabled to the next MLC meeting. Youth member applicants will be interviewed by Molly and voted in at the Nov. meeting. Any new committee members will need to be present at the new meeting as well to be voted in (rabbit, sheep, goat)
* Account Signers
	+ Current MLC account Signers: Annabel, Kelly, Shawna Oostema. Remove Amy Brownell as she is no longer on the account. Melanie volunteers to be added as a Signer.
		- Annabel Morgan motions to remove Amy Brownell as a signer and add Melanie Duffin (Beef Leader) to the Market Livestock Committee checking account. Merle Farrier seconds. No discussion from the committee. Motions passes.

**New Business**

* Residency Rules
	+ The dual-residency issue from last year, is it still an issue? Do we want to proceed with the same dual-residency plan? Melanie asks that if we cannot technically tell them no, can we still hold them to certain expectations/contract and remove them if they don’t meet those requirements/expectations. Melanie motions to form a subcommittee to tackle the Dual-Residency Policy before the next full MLC committee meeting. Shawna O. seconds. Motion passes. Molly, Shawna, Melanie, Annabel, Kelly. Put on MLC agenda for November to share update.
* Replace/Update Curriculums
	+ Poultry has chatted as a committee - Level 1 and 2 books would still be utilized, Level 3 would not, and alternate activities would be created (12 or so activities). Beef will remain the same with some alternative activities when needed for advanced members. Sheep will remain the same and other activities will be offered on a case by case. Swine is under discussion - they’ve added the mentorship for senior members as a total substitution for the workbook. Goat is under review. Rabbit is staying the same, new things case by case.
* Market Livestock Contract
	+ Updated tagging dates, add 2-animal unit rule by Nov. meeting. Same subcommittee that is tackling the dual-residency policy will also draft the new 2-animal unit rule. The new rule will be added to the Market Livestock Contract either as a new bullet point (#12, 13 or 14). Add dual-residency supplemental contract mention under signature line (if applicable). Add liability statement to MLC contract as well.
* Planning for Fair 2024
	+ Tents- Can we get an additional tent for BBQ area to extend the shade/show space. Melanie has gotten complaints on the staging area for steers being in the sun - can the beef pursue options for getting more tents? Lee says yes.
	+ ShoWorks - Molly and Merle will update service plans and get laptops updated. No complaints were heard on having no online sale. Merle has purchased the ShoWorks computer from CONNECT to use for Sale Night.
	+ Livestock Judge - Lee could reach out to Disbain’s but they may have a conflict of interest due to a familial relationship to a popular local swine breeder. Lee suggests we reach out to a new judge. Annabel would like to suggest Caleb Boardman - Annabel will email Molly contact information. Caleb can judge all species with an assistant. If Caleb can’t, ask him for suggestions.
	+ Insurance - Catastrophic, limited liability waiver, and self-insurance options. Suggestion of encouraging families to insure their own animals with their own policies. Once animal sells on Friday night, it does not belong to family anymore. Deferred to either subcommittee or table until next meeting for timeliness.
	+ Processors/Trucking - Contact processors ASAP with fair/processing dates. King Meats can take other animals if needed (ex. beef). King Meats has an official cooler trailer - they’re good to go - confirmed by Lee. Food safety is high priority.

**Committee Reports**

* Market Sale
	+ Make contact w/ Auctioneers
		- Will meet to decide on online sale in the future
* Publication
	+ Thank you postcards - fall 2023
		- Missed deadline for 4-H week, but will go out soon. Kelly has it drafted for proofing
* Fairbook
	+ Subcomm. meet ASAP to fix the champion statement - meeting Wednesday, November 1st at 6pm at Gallatin Conservation District in Manhattan (Kelly, Shawna, Molly, Melanie and Annabel only)

**Announcements**

* Next meeting isat the Gallatin County Extension Office on **Monday, November 20th at 6pm at the Extension Office.**
	+ Record Books due: June 26, 2024
	+ Record Book Interviews: July 11-12, 2024
	+ 2024 Fair Dates: July 13-21
	+ Sale Night: July 19, 2024

**Adjournment**

* Melanie motions to adjourn, Annabel seconds. President Kelly called for the meeting to be adjourned at 8:25pm.