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

**December 17th, 2024**

**6pm @ Extension Office**

**Attendance**

* Molly Yurdana, Amy Brownell, Brittney Harwrood, Annabel Morgan, Shawnna Taylor, Dakota Woodring, Jess Woodring, Alexa Smieja, Cassie Smieja, Lee Nuss, Merle Farrier, Rachel Colton, Monica Samson, Kelly Pavlik

**Orders of the Meeting**

* Kelly called the meeting to order at 6:17pm
* Introduction of Guests:

**Minutes/Financial Reports**

* Approval of Meeting Minutes: October Meeting
  + Annabel motions to approve the October meeting minutes as written. Monica seconds. Motion passes.
* Treasurer’s Report: (Merle)
  + Balance Sheet
    - Checking: $98,126.90
    - CD: $3,773.92
    - Grand total: $101,900.82
      * Fair tents are ordered and paid for approx. $7000
      * Tags have been ordered/purchased for 2025 Fair
  + 2024-2025 Budget Proposal = **$78,635 budget** 
    - 1% Fee estimated at $1000 (it was $897.63 in 2023-2024)
      * Dan usually only charges $150
    - Added items:
      * Farm Fair donation ($1000)
      * Tableware, Water, Soda, Lemonade line items added
    - Notes:
      * Self-insurance was kept at $3000, we spent $538 last year to buy the 2 resale pigs to cover the 2 that died on load-out day
      * AQA building rental fees not used due to hosting on campus for free - flexed the $150 into the AQA supply line item for a total of $350
      * Adjust Poultry Judge to $750, leave Dairy Cow at $250, leave Rabbit at $250 and leave Dairy Goat at $250
      * Increase Caterer to $10,000
    - Monica motions to approve the 2024-2025 Budget proposal. Annabel seconds. Motion passes.

**Reading of Correspondence**

* Extension Office Report (Molly)
  + Enrollment Update = 625 active youth (24 pending) + 116 active volunteers (16 pending)
  + Winter Volunteer Training Series - Molly is offering a series of volunteer training/development opportunities January 15-Feb 5 on Wednesday evenings at 6-8pm at the office. The volunteer survey found that shorter, weeknight evening trainings were preferred. She is bringing in external facilitators to teach the topics. Flyer was handed out and emailed to all volunteers recently. RSVP required to plan for materials
  + Newsletter blurb reminder - Colyn sends a reminder every month. Blurbs due on the 23rd of each month. If you cc’ the office on emails to your projects/clubs, we can snag them and use them for newsletter blurbs.
  + Fundraising - there are MSU Concessions events throughout the winter/spring that Molly has confirmed for 4-H. Sign up asap and raise money for fair, prizes, judges, etc.
* Fairgrounds Report (Lee)
  + Red Sale barn - no update from Commissioners Public Meeting on Dec. 10
  + Concessions - Molly lost our concessions managers - they no longer want to manage the load. Lee can get most of the labor and materials
    - Annabel, Lee, Jess, Rachel, Brittney = cc’ on email with Caitlin to schedule the concessions kitchen walk through
* Youth Report
  + Dakota Woodring and Alexa Smieja - nominated/recommended by Youth Rep interview panelists based on their application and interview. Long-time 4-H/FFA members, looking for growth opportunities, wanting to serve in a larger capacity.
  + Brittney motions to accept Dakota and Alexa as our two youth representatives for the 2024-2025 4-H Year. Annabel seconds. Discussion: Lee notes how hard these kids have worked, always willing to help others, he thinks they will be a great asset. Motion passes.

**Old Business**

* MLC Officers/Membership
  + Annabel motions to temporarily amend our MLC bylaws to allow a non-voting member to serve in the officer role as Secretary for the 2024-2025 4-H Year. Rachel seconds. Motion passes.
  + Rachel motions to accept the self-nominations of Shawnna Taylor and Jess Woodring as shared Secretary roles for the remainder of the 2024-2025. Merle seconds. Motion passes
* Species Needs
  + So far Caitlin (Fairgrounds Director) has only received species’ use/needs lists from Poultry, Rabbit, and Dairy/ Market Goat. Please **EMAIL** your species’ feedback to her ([Caitlin.quisenberry@gallatin.mt.gov](mailto:Caitlin.quisenberry@gallatin.mt.gov)) ASAP!! This will help the Fairgrounds better understand your species’ annual needs and Fair needs for the Fairgrounds now and into the future. Include the frequency and times of year that your project uses the Fairground facilities, space needs, special requirements, etc. for your species. These are not official facility requests for use, they just want a better idea of how often we use their space, how often live animals are here, what facilities are most used, etc.
* Market Livestock Contract
  + Contract was finalized after species edits - contract was sent to all market animal species members/families
* AQA Format
  + Pig Pool is scheduled for Apr. 12 - will that conflict with AQA? Merle’s pig sale is week prior. Beef weigh-in and demo of control is that same weekend on Apr. 13.
  + Committee elects to keep proposed dates of Sunday, February 2nd 1pm-4pm and Saturday, April 12 9am-12pm. Encourage large animal species to attend the February training to avoid conflicts in April.
  + Molly will have youth committee reps, Ambassadors and MSU students teaching stations at AQA this year. Keeping regular format for now - 2 workshops, all species, no dog/cat for now. Once as a junior, recertify at age 14 for seniors.

**New Business**

* Subcommittees - Update rosters
  + Market Sale Committee
    - Cody, Amy, Annabel, Lee, Merle, Brittney,
  + Publications
    - Kelly, Alexa, Sheep
  + Fairbook
    - Molly, Kelly, Monica, Rachel
* Market Livestock Contract
  + Annabel motions to allocate (2) $2000 scholarships to the Foundation for higher education scholarships. 4-year degree track, any degree field, 4 years of high school participating in market livestock project. Merle seconds. Motion passes.
* Planning for Fair 2025
  + 2025 4-H Theme
    - “The Magic of 4-H” - use for booths, advertisements and prizes
  + Schedule
    - Review the current schedule and bring any changes/updates to the January meeting
  + Tents
    - Tents have been reserved and paid for in full. Annabel hand delivered the check to Gallatin Event Rental. Lee is still waiting to hear back from the other company on the 40x80 tent. Lee is looking into updating the sound system with the fairgrounds and event rental
  + Barn Layout
    - Sheep and goat were happy with the layout last year, improvements will continue. Rabbit was more blocked off from foot traffic - Lee will help figure out better flow or signage.
  + Livestock Judge
    - Caleb Boardman contract offered - haven’t heard back yet
    - Other species please confirm your judges as soon as possible
  + Processors/Trucking
    - Send contracts to Molly first for review, not using MSU contract process yet. Amsterdam waiting to hear from Beef and Sheep. Other beef processors and swine done
  + BBQ
    - Offer the catering gig to Lone Peak Provisions. See if quote increasing from last year.
  + Other
    - FSB Buckle redesign - Molly working with Fairgrounds on upping the FSB sponsorship to account for price changes.
    - Novice buckles - consistency between species. Plans for 2025? Give prizes, stuff to support their projects, bigger rosettes instead? Table to January meeting when sheep, goat and poultry are more represented.

**Committee Reports**

* Market Sale
  + All 3 auctioneers confirmed - John, Scott and Travis
* Publication
  + Save the Dates - thank you postcards. Alexa will work with Kelly to get that sent out soon.
* Fairbook
  + Molly will send the Fairbook out with tracked changes to start the review process of the General Rules section, addition of the Family Code of Conduct, cleaning up rules and redundancy.

**Announcements**

* Next meeting isat the Gallatin County Extension Office on **Monday, January 27th at 6pm at the Extension Office.**

**Adjournment- none**

* Rachel motions to adjourn the meeting, Monica seconds. President Kelly called for the meeting to be adjourned at 7:49pm.