

Northwest Michigan 4-H Livestock Council

Minutes

Monday February 1, 2021

Officers: Kayce Caugh, Keri Bancroft, Megan Town, Leslie Campbell - Absent : Anna Fryer

Members in Attendance: Nicki Brown, Gwen Carter, Drew Alpers, Andrea Bedrick, Gretchen Savage, Dan Campbell, Nikki Merideth, Cassidy Meredith, Amanda Wilkins, Chris Barely, Audrey Town, Stacy Sieffert, Laurie Ashley, Kelly Stockfisch, Kathy Easter, Christine Snow, Shayna Coger, Melissa Rassel, Elaine Tahoe, Samantha Zientek, Sandi Pyle, Lynn Henning, Joann Boher, Rose Boher, Marylynn Robertson, Kim Franke, Brian Dreves, Kelly Kraeft, Beth Stevens, Jesse Milne, Dave Robinson, Anne Grant, Kelly Saxton, Will Grant, Jeremy, Kenneth, Emily Grant, Candace Rottman, Amanda Brooks, Renee Hobbins, Nancy Vanderstel, Amanda Brooks, Allison Witkop, Alicia Forton, Leslie Littlefield

Teen Reps: Waiting to Elect

Staff: Rosalie Collier, Susy White,

Ali Olson

Call to order: 6:33 pm -Pledges were recited. 27 4-h clubs were in attendance.

There are no additions to the agenda.

Minutes: The January minutes were sent out via email. Motion to approve minutes by Kelly Stockfisch, seconded by Gretchen Savage. Minutes - Approved

Treasurers Report: December 2020 Minutes were sent out via email. Balance Sheet totals read, total assets read, and net income read. Not sure why it's a negative number but will look into it. December income read and expenses read. Treasurer report not approved at this time as repairs to the report need to be made.

Fair Board News: Ivan Arnold is very sick, moved to ICU in Florida asking for Prayers the family would appreciate it. Fair is full steam ahead at this time via Mike Barley. They are trying to get things lined up for fair week at this time

4h/MSU Spotlight:

Staff Spotlight Notes for February 1, 2021

The 2021 Michigan 4-H Skillathon is open for registration.

What is a Skillathon?: A Skillathon is a comprehensive test of your knowledge about all things agriculture, especially livestock. Participants will complete multiple choice questions in the areas of: beef, horse, sheep, swine dairy, goat, dog, rabbit, poultry, and general knowledge (animal care and well-being, tools, crops, biosecurity, etc.).

Who is eligible to compete? All youth from our region for the chance to win prizes and the opportunity to advance to the State Championship on April 10th.

Competition Levels Include: Novice (ages 8-11); Junior (ages 12-14); Senior (ages 15-19); Adult (20+)

How to qualify for the State Championship: Contestants who finish in the top 20th percentile are eligible to

compete for the State Championship title.

No entry fee. All contestants will receive a Skillathon t-shirt!

Our north region event is Saturday, March 6th. Seniors and Adults start at 10 am and Juniors and Novices start at 12:30 pm. The contest will be held via Zoom.

Register at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/skillathon/>

### **Old Business**

**2021 Animal Registrations:** Megan filled us in and we have swine registrations currently at 181 total swine at the moment including clover buds. Swine due tonight by midnight. Large Beef - 69. Kayce will send complete club lists for all species for upcoming registrations to leaders hopefully by the end of the week.

**Teen Reps:** Check out the website and applications are due 2/19/21. Contact former teen reps to see what the jobs they did and what they thought could be changed.

**Education:** All MSU approved education sessions are always ok to count as education credits. Kids are still required to get 2 education credits; Multiple day education credits thru MSU will be counted as 2 credits. Please reach out to the council to see if it will count as 1 or 2 credits. Education page will be reactive soon. We are hopeful we can hold some small education events. A large Education Expo is not currently planned. We may have a virtual expo option but there will be a cost to that. We may have to look for some sponsors to cover the cost for a 1 day online expo. Anyone who has any info on speakers etc shoot us an email and we will look into it. We were asked if a sign language course could be used as an education credit. Gretchen said that it would possibly help with the differently abled program. Livestock Shows still count as credit and must have an education credit slip signed. For kids who do something virtually how do they show they attended. We will need to see a copy of a confirmation email. When we find links to webinars etc, we will ask them to answer questions or write a paragraph for what they have learned. YQCA counts as well. They can send in their certificate so we can see they passed the course. We will keep you posted as best we can with what is up and coming.

### **Specie Chair Information:**

Dairy Feeders- Animals are coming home now. Make sure they have fresh bedding and water. Please get those pens ready and warm. Stacy will help if you need a calf. March 1<sup>st</sup> Possession date

Horses- Nothing to report at this time. Looking in to online options for education.

Jr. Beef- Calves can start being born anytime. The new birthday is AFTER January 1<sup>st</sup>. Jr Beef weights have been changed to 700 lbs. maximum to be consistent with other areas within the state. Registration due March 1<sup>st</sup>. Farm list on the Jr Beef Website. The record book will be the same so go ahead and download to start working on it.

Large Beef- 60 steers, 9 heifers, 10 seniors. Tagging is underway. Half the barn population is in Benzie, Leelanau, West Grand Traverse County. Cold snap coming, bedding and water are good. Carson City kids did well at the in person beef show.

Swine- Registration is February 1<sup>st</sup>. Club registrations are due by June (or late June meeting). Super seniors were approved for this year, any senior that is 19 as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Individual breeders/exhibitors will need to get their own 840 tags. Nikki has called breeders in our area for this to happen. Once Nikki gets the list she will be sending out an email to all swine barn people. Nikki will send you a Google form so you can fill out a list of your breeders. Those breeders will be contacted to get a list. One weekend in May we will have a beginning weigh in and tagging verification. Guide book will be uploaded soon. Record book will be ready to be posted by March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Clover bud record book will be not changed too much.

Lamb- Get on lists to get lambs. Some breeders are thinking of NOT breeding/selling. Get pens ready very soon. She has new breeders who are popping up all the time so contact her if you need help finding a lamb

Rabbits/Cavy- Not Present

Poultry- Production hens by January 31<sup>st</sup>. Many hatcheries will not deliver until first week of February. Contact hatchery if you have DOA's, make plenty of documentation. Registration is March 1<sup>st</sup>. When ordering at this time, order as a group in advance. Lynn thinks there may be a poultry shortage. Prices are all over the board. Check numerous hatcheries online for prices. Chick Sickles = DOA. Please contact hatchery if you get frozen chicks. Most Hatcheries will replace frozen birds. Call, text, email with issues. HEAT is vital right now! PLEASE put orders in EARLY!

Llama/ Alpaca -Feed/Water, Vaccinate and worm your animals. Watch your animals with the cold snap.

Goats- Get into contact with breeders, and they should have received CDT shots. Be sure they are getting fresh/unfrozen water, keep them warm. Babies should be born Nov, Dec, Jan. If you do not have your market project secured, contact Beth and she has a few breeder options for you. She has a goat if you know of someone who may be struggling financially. Heat lamps, sweater, coat and fresh water are a must with the cold snap.

Dogs- Gretchen will be putting together education classes via zoom. If kids would like to have a topic please reach out to Gretchen. Get signed up now and start your project book.

Differently Abled-No Report

### **New Business**

**2nd Animal Registration** – Our Swine program has allowed the youth to register 2 tag numbers. When they get ready to unload at fair they chose which one to actually market. In talking with the specie chairs, it has been brought up as to why we do not allow it for all programs, Goat, Lamb, Jr Beef, Dairy Feeders, and Swine all will be allowed to purchase and register a second tag number until they unload at fair. There will be a \$10 Fee for the extra animal and allows us to put money back into the program for each specific specie. We will record both tag numbers and they will chose which animal will be their market project. If is NOT required but we will open it up. The \$10 goes back into the program in which you register the 2<sup>nd</sup> animal for. Lambs = Lambs etc? Siblings can share an extra animal so if you have 2 kids you can tag 3 or 4 swine. Emails will be headed out to leaders and the membership. You will pay the extra fee when your animal is tagged. Tagging and weigh- ins WILL be allowed. Minimum weights will be enforced and ALL animals will be sold by the pound. Each Specie chair will check their guidebook and make sure it fits their program. Please help us spread the word to others, we are desperately keeping the Facebook and website updated.

2021 Committees- Keri will be reaching out to determine who would like to be on which committee, and if they would like to repeat from the years prior. If we are virtual we will still be needing assistance. Once we are given the go ahead for in-person committees we will move forward.

Questions???: Record Books from Farm Bureau, hope to have back by 2<sup>nd</sup> week of March. Mike Barley said the possibility still exists that the livestock buildings will be closed to public and if a 4her is sick they may need to stay at their camper so just be thinking about that for during fair. Kayce fully expects that fair may be a bit different this year. Fair will probably be issuing new rules and we will share as soon as we have them. We will keep working with the fair board and will keep everyone as up to date as possible.

Kelly Stockfisch motioned to adjourn February 1, 2021 meeting, and Mike Barley to second, meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.