

Draft Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 8th, 2025
6:30pm – Redeemer Lutheran Church

1. Welcome & Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 6:35pm.

2. Pledges

- Pledges done

3. Roll Call

- Executive board members present: Keri Bancroft, Nicki Brown, Shayna Conger, Katrina Grose, Faith Grose.
- See attached for attendance

4. Additions to the Agenda

- Change 2025 in the box to the right not 2024
- Large Beef and Dairy due November 3rd
- Motion to approve the agenda
- Motion by: Diane Moyer
- Second by: Jason Gill

5. Approval of the Minutes from July 21, 2025

- Motion by: Gretchen Sauvage
- Second by: Greg Bancroft

6. Treasurer's Report

- Katrina gave the report.

a. Auction Update

- 28 resales
- Grand total \$1,389,280.67

7. Public Comments *

- Pam Zintek- registration and payment for the auction was disappointing this year, as a long-time buyer they were asked if we ever bought and couldn't find our name and handed us a plaque for \$200,000. Maybe something needs to be done to have people be more formal with the buyers and the animal was sent to the wrong processor and extra was charged and a charge from the processor to pick up in Traverse City.
- Numerous buyers had to be told we didn't have them in our system.
- Why didn't we have the table with returning buyers?
 - Faith- we didn't want to have to push buyers back further when their information was lost from last year.
- We thought this would go better than it did and we apologize for that.
- We will take the matter of the surcharge for the pick up amount she was charged to the council board and see if we can reimburse the buyer.

8. Fair Board News

- Laurie Ashley has the premium money if you didn't get those.
- Any premiums not collected by the November meeting will be considered donations.
- Does it have to be a leader to pick up?
 - It has to be a close relative.
- Generally if you received a blue ribbon, she would have money for you.
- Fairgrounds have started the winter storage process.
- Thank you for being flexible, we had to replace a pricey transformer.
- We are looking at how to get better airflow.
- Attendance was down 11,000 from the previous year but up from the year before, believe the hotter temps contributed to this.
- Arnold's numbers reflected this and other vendors.

9. 4-H Staff Spotlight – MSU Staff

- Jen Burke Special message- Thank several groups of people, 4-H Livestock Council, 2025 Specie Chairs, The Fairboard. Thank you so much!
- To the 2025 buyers, Thank you for providing this opportunity for the youth, Thank you buyers.
- Thank you to all the 4-H youth.
- Ali- Benzie update end of the year paperwork (ASFR) please turn that in by October 1st. That's what's going to get you access to the registration sheet for 2025-2026
- 4-H online is open so you can go register. Deadline? To vote you have to be registered, also by Fair.
- Danny- Leelanau link was set to sign up for 1 of the 2 leaders meeting 9/12 or 9/18, ASFR papers are due October 1st 2025.
- Next month hoping for a nutrition spin club.
- Sarah - GT 4-H online is ready or there are paper forms or a differently abled over the age of 18 will need a paper form.
- When signing up please acknowledge if you are in other clubs as well.
- Forms at the table, request to approve a new 4-H club, transferring the leadership, sign up for 4-H, disbanding of a club, post card about leader updates.
- If you have not signed up for the leaders meeting (Gold Level Volunteer) please use the QR code and tell us what sandwich you would like.
- Talking about the direction you would like to see MSU extension to go in, what kind of spin clubs, what would your club like?
- How can you close your club? There are no longer any full clubs. This topic will be talked about at this leader meeting. (Gold Level Volunteer)

10. Old Business

a. 2025 Fair Wrap up

- Hot hot week, overall good week!
- Good program changes.

- If anyone is missing pictures please see Sarah Youker.

i. Record Books Due

- Record books are due tonight.

b. Bylaw Proposal Changes Due at 11:59 p.m. TODAY!

- Email proposals to Kbancroft223@gmail.com.

11. Species Chair Updates

Dog – Gretchen Sauvage

- Nothing New.

Junior Beef – Amanda Wilkins

231-357-0777, Jrbeef4h@yahoo.com

- It was another great fair for the Jr. Beef program! Thank you to everyone that was flexible and switching to generators when the fair was dealing with the power issues.
- Record books are due tonight, and the copy of buyers thank you notes are due next month if you did not include them in your record book.
- Make sure you deliver your fair picture with your letter!
- Heart of Michigan Fall Harvest open beef show is Oct 4th in Reed City.
- We will have our Cattle team meeting with Sonya soon. If you have any feedback/concerns/about any of the beef programs. Send them to your species chair so we can discuss them.

Horse – Mandy Depuy

- Nothing to update.

Goat – Robin Gildner

- Nothing to update.

Lamb – Clayton Porter

- I just wanted to thank everyone for a great year at the 2025 Fair. It was a great learning experience for me and it was an honor to be trusted in this role.
- Moving forward, I am planning on stepping back and allowing someone else to fill this role in 2026 to ensure that I can be a father first and prioritize my family.
- I plan on staying on as an assistant if the new species chair would like me to.
- The lamb barn is the best because of all of the kids and the families in the barn and I appreciate each and every one of you and all of your hard work.

- Couple of quick notes-

- Please get me your record books asap and call me if you are having any issues.
- Get your thank you letters written and get me copies if you haven't already.
- Make sure that you get your pictures to your buyers with your thank you letters as soon as you get them.
- Start thinking about next years projects. Make a list of things that you learned this year and what you would like to do better next year.
- Even though your projects don't start until next year, there is a lot of research and preparation you can do between now and then to get ready.
- Thank you again for everything and hope to see you all soon!

Rabbit/Cavy – Lisa Ralph

- Thank you to everyone for a great year!
- Kids were amazing and the parents were very patient when we had to close the barn.
- There are a number of ARBA shows coming up that you can go to and see the different breeds and possibly purchase an animal for next year.
- They will also have cavy at of the shows
- Make sure with fall coming up your areas are prepared to keep your animal out of the winds to keep them safe and healthy.

Large Beef – Haven Bouwens

- When can we (leaders) have access to this to make sure our kids are registered?
- MSU we are going to try and get leaders to this ASAP we have to make sure they are admin leaders.
- 2nd week in October is the goal, we want to get the leaders meetings done and all information updated. We want changes to reflect the correct information. Send us emails not work hours. We respond as soon as we are in office.
- Why can't we hide the information we shouldn't see?
- We have tried this but it was confusing for others.
- All that is really needed is the child's name to ensure it's done.
- If anyone has questions today Nicki and haven can look at that tonight.
- If we already have something planned on the date of weigh in is there a make up?
- Haven discussed it with me after.

Poultry – Lynn Henning

- Great year! Wonderful kids and Families!
- Remember: send out Thank you cards and photo to your buyers

Llama/Alpaca – Kathy Easter

- Great year!

Dairy Beef/Feeder – Greg Bancroft

- 0 registered.

- We have the mandatory weigh in November 8&9 2025 at the fair grounds.
- Registration is due for Large dairy by November 3rd 2025.
- Possession for Large Dairy is November 1st 2025.

Swine- Jen Davis

- Fair went great! We had a great show day with Open, Showmanship and Market all in one day.
- Fair and Swine program Feedback- what are your 4Hers saying/Thinking? I want to hear it! Send me your notes and feedback and ideas from the week to swinebarn4h@gmail.com so we can make 2026 even better!
- Updates:
 - Swine Barn Youth Leadership- We will start meeting monthly in October. This group will lead the Swine Barn by reviewing prior events, improving how we all work together, creating new events as well as design bulletin boards, set up for shows, and lead special Swine Barn activities. If you're interested in being part of this group and helping make the best better in the Swine Barn, email me at swinebarn4H@gmail.com!
 - Special events-
 - New this year at the back of the Swine Barn- we had The Ultimate Rock Paper Scissors Tournament! We had prizes, fun, and the kids connected more with others in their barn and beyond...we hope to keep growing this year after year! All are welcome- kids, siblings, & parents!
 - Saturday evening- we had a Final Walk Event in Haberlein complete with music, photo uploads and slideshow from a bunch of 4Hers and families. This event replaces the Sunday 4Her load out of years past and will be the time where you can say goodbye and farewell to your project.

12. New Business

a. Project Sponsorship Give A Way – October 6th

- Voted last year to the October meeting from the November meeting.
- Sponsorships are due to Katrina by October 1st.

b. Executive Board Applications open for Vice President, Treasurer, Deputy Treasurer, Secretary (Due 10/6/25 by Midnight)

- Applications are open due by Due 10/6/25 by Midnight.

c. Species-Chair Applications Due by Midnight: Dog, Dairy Beef/Feeder, Rabbit, Goat, Lamb

- Open, Due by 11:59PM tonight

d. Teen Rep Applications Due by Midnight

- Holly - I have been a teen rep for 3 years now and I have enjoyed every minute of it. If you or a youth is 15 they should apply. I have so many experiences that have helped my confidence. We are looking for at least 10 members.
- Band app has the application link, it's also on the home page of the website.

13. October Meeting

a. Thank You Notes Due

- Due at October 6th meeting.

b. Checks Distributed

- Checks are distributed to Leaders.

c. Voting for Species Chairs

- Voting at October 6th meeting

e. Project Sponsorship Give A Way

- Sponsorships are due by October 1st 2025 contact Katrina.

14. Public Comments *

- Holly - I have 2 announcements. Teens reps have ½ the amount of the cans turned in that were collected during fair week.
- We also have left over 4-H coins.
- Megan Sullivan with Twin Lakes- kids show cattle this was my middle daughter in JR Beef the JR beef program was started to give younger kids a chance to show Large cattle, with that we have these older kids showing JR beef and beating these kids out of banners. Give them a chance to have an opportunity to get a banner.
When kids go to the judge and ask what can I do to do better and the judge says you would have bannered if an older child wasn't in the program.
- This has been brought to our attention and is being discussed with the board.

15. Questions?

- No questions.

16. Adjourn

Adjourn meeting at 7:43PM

- Motion by: Ella Stockfisch
- Seconded by: Shannon Baynton