

Northwest Michigan Livestock Council

MINUTES

Monday, January 8, 2024

6:30pm Lake Ann Elementary School

OFFICERS: Nicki Brown, Leslie Campbell, Amber Pomper, Katrina Grose, *absent: Keri Bancroft*

TEEN REPS: Miranda Ashley, Kelsey Bott, Emma Brown, Raven Butler, Molly Dane, Addisen Harrand, Aiden Harrand, Colin Heuser, Holly Heuser, Darlene Wilcoxon

STAFF: Rosalie Collier, Kristy Oosterhouse, Ali Olson

PRESENT: See attached.

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30pm

PLEDGES: Led by Teen Reps

ROLL CALL (See Attached)

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

Change New Business item B: Education Expo to March 3<sup>rd</sup>, not the 4<sup>th</sup>. (Amanda Wilkins)

PUBLIC COMMENT\*

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approved. Motion by, Colin Heuser 2<sup>nd</sup> by Greg Bancroft

TREASURER'S REPORT:

(See Financial Report)

FAIRBOARD NEWS:

205 days until Fair!!

Frank shared that the Fair Board and Livestock Council will be attending the MAFE Conference together in Grand Rapids January 11<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup>. Hoping to gain new ideas for how to improve and learn from other Fairs.

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT:

### **Grand Traverse (Kristy O.) –**

We are still looking for a 4-H coordinator to fill Emily's position and this will be reposted soon, so if you or anyone you know are interested in this position please apply. We also wanted to let you all know that the MSU extension office will eventually be relocating to an unknown location. If you saw the Ticker Article then you are aware that the Fire Department will be moving back into the portion of the building that we are currently occupying, so we will begin looking for an alternative building, but we are not yet sure where that will be. Please be patient with the Grand Traverse office as we will be moving anywhere from 90 days to a year from now and we will be in a bit of a flux. Thank you.

### **Benzie County (Ali Olson) –**

We don't have much going on right now, but I do have an announcement that I won't be at NWMi Fair this year as I will be out on maternity leave, I am due at the end of June. We are working on plans now for support, so it will be ok, and you will all do great. The Benzie office will also possibly be moving in the next year, but we are not leaving the current building we are in, just relocating to a different room within that building. Details will be shared as soon as anything is determined.

### **Leelanau County (Rosali Collier) –**

- **4-H4ALL and Leelanau County 4-H Awards Celebration:** taking place this Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, with the 4-H4ALL expo from 2:00 to 4:00 pm, at the Cedar/Maple City Lions Club in Maple City, and our awards will follow from 4-5 pm. All are welcome to join in on the fun with goodie bags, prize drawings, club demonstrations and displays, crafts, animals, hot chocolate and snacks. Free entry.
- **Tanner 4-H Exhibit Building:** We will be offering a more competitive club booth display competition with the top three booths: \$100, \$75, and \$50 VISA gift cards to the first, second, and third place winners. This year's theme for the club booth displays is "Oh, The Places You'll Go with 4-H!". Every club can show what makes their club unique and how taking part in 4-H leads to amazing things. We will also hold our 4-H Clover Award top three finalist interviews, as well as offer our usual 4-H interviews and demonstrations. Cloverbuds may still take part in these, as well. And, we will still be offering cloverbud make-and-take crafts and activities in the building throughout the week, as usual. The big change we are making for this year is that we will not be offering independent judged projects for individual 4-H youth. The Evelyn Heim building will be the place for those this summer, for the chance to win premiums and ribbons. More information will be shared about the Tanner Building at the February meeting. If you are interested in serving on the planning committee, please reach out to Rosali or Kristy.

- **The Leelanau County 4-H Youth Association** is still looking for a new **Treasurer** to help us manage our budget and spending. We meet once a month, and we are a small but mighty group. If you know of anyone who has some basic bookkeeping experience, and would like to help us out, it's not a terrible gig. Just one meeting per month, and a few email/text exchanges in the meantime. Contact Rosali if you are interested.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- a.) 2024 Budget – discussion surrounding auction refreshments and keeping that line at \$500. Nicki explained that we brought that line item back to the council board and it was voted to keep that proposed amount of \$500. Any comments, questions, or concerns about that? None.

Motion to approve the 2024 Budget as presented = Colin Heuser, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Miranda Ashley. Approved.

- b.) 2024 Committee Sign-ups – Nicki has been in contact with leaders to discuss those who would like to stay on their current committees. We will also be adding to the Auction Refreshment Committee a “snack pick up person” to help organize the collection and delivery of snacks. Please see Nicki for what is available and for any questions.

Teen Reps will continue to lead the Teen Rep events during Fair Week and they had their first meeting tonight. We are so fortunate to have 10 Teen Reps to help this year!

#### SPECIE CHAIR UPDATES:

- **Differently Able – Beth Stephens**

Absent – (Jen Stephens shared there was no update).

Any questions, please Call (231) 883-6189.

- **Goat – Robin Gildner**

Be sure you are on a breeder list to reserve your project. You want a goat that is born after November 1<sup>st</sup> but ideally you are looking for one born between December through February because there is such a thing as an over-conditioned goat, and you want to make that minimum weight of 65lbs. You can tag a second goat, so keep that in mind when purchasing your projects. All goat documents on the website have been updated and there was one change this year – it used to be a rule that you couldn't show your

market goat in any of the breed classes, but we have changed that now so that you can show your market project in a breed class this year. Registrations are Due March 4<sup>th</sup>. Any questions please let me know, 231-883-2002 or [info@luckyfarmsmi.com](mailto:info@luckyfarmsmi.com)

- **Dog – Gretchen Sauvage**

No update. Take care of your dog.

Any questions please reach out: [ges5250@gmail.com](mailto:ges5250@gmail.com) or 231-883-3378.

- **Rabbit/Cavy – Lisa Ralph**

If you are doing a roaster pen (the 6 month project) the rabbit should be bred. If you are having trouble finding them let me know.

For the pen of 3 or single – your breed date is April 24<sup>th</sup>. The fluctuation of weather is tough on rabbits, I have already lost 6 of mine. Make sure your bedding is dry and not damp. Rabbits health can deteriorate quickly so keep an eye on them because there really isn't much you can do.

With the fluctuation in weather I have already lost 6 rabbits so keep a close eye on your animals.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call: 231-633-4492

Email: [r4rabbitry@yahoo.com](mailto:r4rabbitry@yahoo.com)

- **Large Beef – Haven Bouwens**

Large Beef Registrations are due tonight by 11:59pm.

Currently 89 market steers and 16 heifers are registered for a total of 105.

Reminder minimum weight of 1000 lbs. 208 days until fair so be keeping track of your weight. Once registration closes, we will start tagging in a few weeks. Please be flexible as we try to get so many tagged. You can tag a second animal for \$10. Your second animal does not have to be registered, just tagged and paid for. It can also be either sex (Steer or Heifer), it doesn't have to be the same sex as you registered. Record books have been updated and are available on the website, so it is a good idea to get those started right away.

Kelly Stockfisch and Trevor Alpers are offering hoof trimming – tomorrow (1/9) at a cost of \$30. Kelly will begin at 9am and once he is finished there he will go to Trevor's location approximately 12pm – 6pm.

Upcoming shows:

1/19/24 – Diamond Classic

1/26/26 – MSU

For any questions you can email or call Haven:

[havenmrobinson@gmail.com](mailto:havenmrobinson@gmail.com) 231-263-2217

- **Poultry – Lynn Henning**

(Absent – report given by Leslie Campbell)

Production pens need to be in possession by February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Turkeys this year will be 2 per market pen instead of 3, and this is due to the increased cost of Turkeys and feed.

Register your poultry projects early and final registration is March 4<sup>th</sup>. Contact Lynn if you have any questions, and please leave your name when you call.

Call or text with any questions, 231-357-5132.

Email: 4hchickenqueen@gmail.com

- **Large Dairy & Feeder – Greg Bancroft**

We currently have 5 Large Dairy registered. Minimum weight is 1,000lbs and born Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> – Mar. 1<sup>st</sup>

We currently have 18 Dairy Feeder registered. Cost is up this year for Dairy Feeders.

Let us know if you need any help locating and securing calves. They can be born anytime after Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>, have your pens ready ahead and keep an eye on them when you get them because they are typically only a day or two old.

If you have any questions, please call or email:

gbancroft1976@gmail.com 231-313-8063

- **Horse – Mandy DePuy**

Tack Sale is coming up on March 16<sup>th</sup>. We will have fliers coming out with details.

Don't hesitate to call or email with any questions: Mandy DePuy -

mandydepuy@gmail.com

231-649-3102

- **Lamb – Shayna Conger**

I don't have current numbers tonight, as they are still changing and we are a ways out.

Just a reminder that lambs need to be born after Jan 1<sup>st</sup>, so now is the time to call and

be on a breeder list. I would recommend being on at least 2 lists. There are lists on the

website, but if you need any help you can email me. Registration is due March 4<sup>th</sup> and

possession is May 1<sup>st</sup>. One change to our program this year is that the minimum weight

is now 100lbs instead of 105lbs. The reason for the weight change is that some 4-H

members had expressed interest in showing different breeds and this will allow a variety

of breeds to show and help grow our program. This is coming from feedback that I

received directly from the kids, and I am happy to see be here to accommodate the kids.

Any questions? Please don't hesitate to reach out.

Facebook page: Sheep Barn – NWMI Livestock Council

Feel free to reach out if you have any questions: 231-357-6898

Email: sheepbarn4hnmf@gmail.com

- **Jr Beef – Amanda Wilkins**

Registrations are Due March 4<sup>th</sup>. Calves must be born after January 1<sup>st</sup>, so get on a breeder list now. Possession date is May 15<sup>th</sup>. New this year is a minimum weight of 300lb and a maximum weight of 700lbs. Cloverbud and showmanship only can use smaller calves if they so desire. Don't forget to like the Facebook Pages as there is a lot of information posted on there. The website is updated with policy, procedure and record book updates.

The WorkBee link is also open on the website.

Call or text with questions: 231-357-0777, [jr.beef4h@yahoo.com](mailto:jr.beef4h@yahoo.com)

- **Llama/Alpaca – Renee Hobbins**

We are quiet and all good on the home front!

Take care of your animals with the fluctuation in weather. Fresh water, hay, grain, etc.

Education Expo March 3<sup>rd</sup>, be there!

If you have any questions, you can call: Kathy Easter 231-499-7434, [ndalpacas@aol.com](mailto:ndalpacas@aol.com)

Renee Hobbins 231-835-0441, [hobbins@centurytel.net](mailto:hobbins@centurytel.net)

- **Swine – Jennifer Davis**

Thank you for having me back again this year!

Currently 67 registered.

61 Market

6 CB

2 Seniors

1 Super Senior

1 DA

Registrations due February 5<sup>th</sup>. Please ensure that you are also registered on 4-H Online as well. Policies & Procedures as well as Record Books have been updated and are available on the website. Newsletters will begin this month around the 15<sup>th</sup>.

Reminder again that registrations are due February 5<sup>th</sup>, possession May 1<sup>st</sup>. Education Expo on March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

You can text or call with any questions 231-649-2443. Email: [swinebarn4h@gmail.com](mailto:swinebarn4h@gmail.com)

## NEW BUSINESS

- a. 2024 Animal Registrations – Large Beef and Large Dairy Beef due tonight by 11:59pm. No late registrations accepted. All registrations are live. Leaders have access to the updated registration lists, if you are having trouble accessing this, please contact Nicki. Next registration will be Swine on February 5<sup>th</sup>. Leaders if you are unable to access the registration page for 2024 please contact Nicki and she will ensure you have access to this.

- b. Education Expo March 4th – Grand Traverse Resort (New Location)  
Species Chairs are working hard to secure speakers. We have secured Ebels for 2 butchering sessions. Keep an eye on your email for updates regarding this and continued information as we get closer. We are hoping to have everything solidified by our February meeting.
- c. Teen Reps – Miranda Ashley, Holly Heuser gave report that they met for the first time tonight and are just starting to discuss Fair Week activities. We have ten total Teen Reps this year that will be helping the council and our 4-Hers, we are excited for the 2024 4-H year!

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Jennifer Gilbert – how will Ed Expo registration work? Will it be online?

Nicki – we haven't gotten as far as pre-registration, but everyone will sign in with a QR code at the Expo itself.

Lisa Ralph – which species haven't been updated on the website yet?

Nicki – Wow, you're really putting me on the spot here...

Dog, Llama Alpaca, and Rabbit but everything else should be good. We, as a council board, set the due date of January 1<sup>st</sup> for all species updates to be submitted so that we can have those current on the website. The exception to this would be our Livestock Council Policy Handbook and we are working on that.

Kelly Stockfisch – I know Frank said the Fair Board was going to MAFE conference, and my question would apply to both the Fair Board and Livestock Council: I am wondering about voting for next year going to a QR code instead of paper and pen ballots?

Nicki – For the Fair Board it would obviously be up to them. For Livestock Council, I would look to MSU about if that is possible or not.

Rosali – we would have to get back to you on that. But for example, we couldn't use QR codes tonight due to no cell service....so there are drawbacks. But, certainly something we can look into.

Nicki – anything else? None

#### QUESTIONS

None

Adjournment: Approved. Motion by Colin Heuser , 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kelly Stockfisch.

Time: 7:06pm

Next Meeting: February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 @ 6:30pm at Redeemer Lutheran Church