

Northwest Michigan Livestock Council

MINUTES - DRAFT

Monday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024

6:30pm Redeemer Lutheran Church

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

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

STAFF: Rosalie Collier, Kristy Oosterhouse, Ali Olson

PRESENT: See attached.

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30pm

PLEDGES: Led by Teen Reps

ROLL CALL

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

New Business

Mark Barley - for the Heather M. Barley Scholarship

Heather Heuser – design and gardening club opportunity

Correction to the May Meeting Date – it is May 6<sup>th</sup>, NOT May 1<sup>st</sup>

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Approved. Motion by: Ella Stockfisch 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Colin Heuser

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approved. Motion by: Amanda Wilkins 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Gwyn Carter

\*Correction to Poultry report - registrations due by March 4<sup>th</sup> not March 6<sup>th</sup>

TREASURER'S REPORT:

(See Financial Report)

PUBLIC COMMENT\* - Agenda Items Only

None

FAIRBOARD NEWS: Frank Guerin

New Bleachers have been ordered and should arrive in 6-8 weeks! We will be able to increase our seating capacity by 50%. Our goal is to sell out Friday night Demo Derby and Saturday night Rodeo, but with a lot more people. The new Jr. Beef wash rack is underway, and the old

equipment is out of there. The tree will be removed and we will get the concrete sorted out. Clarissa has a new Junior Homemaker program happening in the Evelyn Heim building. This will be similar to the adult program as far as entry requirements, along with a short essay and questions. Any boy or girl ages 5 to 17 years old can register. If you have any questions please contact Clarissa. Any Fair Board Members who had youth attend the expo had rave reviews about the Education Expo, specifically the Ebels Butchering and Llama/Alpaca sessions.

A big round of applause to those who put on the Expo and I'm sorry I couldn't be there but from everything I heard it was absolutely knocked out of the park so congratulations and well done.

Amanda – question about the wash rack, will there be a covering?

Frank – not at this time because that would require permits. We are building it to be able to potentially be added on in the future.

Kelly Stockfish - can we put up a temporary awning over the wash rack?

Frank – maybe, we will have to see.

#### STAFF SPOTLIGHT:

##### **Grand Traverse (Kristy O.) –**

There are a couple of record books from our last fair on the table tonight, so please claim those. There are several boxes of record books from prior years that are still sitting at the GT Office. If you believe your record book is at the office please come and get it, otherwise they will be destroyed at some point.

Updates from the GT 4-H Leaders Association: There are scholarships available and there are application forms available to any seniors. The forms are due back to the GT Office by April 26<sup>th</sup>. There will be another commemorative coin available this year and they will be doing a design competition. They will accept designs through June 3<sup>rd</sup>, and more information will be coming on this via email. The winner of the design contest will receive a \$50 gift card. They are also looking for sponsors to help cover the cost of the coins. You can send a check with your donation amount to the GT Office. If you have any questions you can contact the Heuser Family.

We are pleased to announce that our new 4-H Program Coordinator for Grand Traverse County will be Robin Gildner. Many of you are already familiar with Robin as the Goat Species Chair, and we are looking forward to her starting in this new role on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Until then, please still contact myself (Kristy) or the GT Office with any questions. Thank you.

**Benzie County (Ali Olson) –**

We have a Dog Rally and Obedience spin club that starts Wednesday (3/6) at Pleasant Valley Community Center and that's open to 4H youth ages 12-19 years old. You can register for this class at 4H online under the events tab. If you have any questions or are interested in signing up you can see me after the meeting and I'm happy to help. For the Benzie County clubs - I will not be at fair this year, so if you want a club booth let's chat and get that figured out. For the upcoming Exploration Days, we are looking for chaperones for the Benzie County youth.

**Leelanau County (Rosali Collier) –**

4-H Expo: I first want to give a big shoutout to our Council Board: our officers, species chairs, assistants, and our awesome 4-H Teen Reps. Yesterday was a fantastic experience, and I loved seeing everyone come together to provide that wonderful learning opportunity.

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. Please see the Exhibits Information packet with the Club Registration Form. Those can be turned into the Grand Traverse or Leelanau 4-H offices. We will have a fillable form on the Livestock Council website, as well.

4-H Tractor Safety: Leelanau 4-H will host an in-person 4-H Tractor Safety Program for 14 and 15-year-old youth on Sundays, May 5, May 19, and June 2 from 3:00-5:00 pm at the NW MI Horticulture Research Center (between Suttons Bay and Traverse City on County Rd 633). The written and driving test will be held in-person, by appointment, on Sunday, June 9 between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm. Rain date will be Saturday, June 15. Participants must attend all four days to become certified. The cost is \$60 per student, which includes the classes, manual, certificate, and snack on testing day. Scholarships are available if finances are an issue. Youth must be 14 years of age by June 1, 2024. Space is limited to 20 youth. The registration deadline is April 26, 2024. Registration is online-only in a two-step process. First, register and pay at <https://events.anr.msu.edu/TractorSafety2024/>, and second, become a 4-H member with Leelanau County and create a family account online at <https://v2.4honline.com/> choosing the Tractor Safety program as their club. Once registered, participants will receive more information about signing up for the testing day. For more information, contact Rosali Collier, Leelanau County 4-H Program Coordinator, at [collierr@msu.edu](mailto:collierr@msu.edu) or 231-256-9888.

Flyers available here tonight.

Leelanau 4-H Babysitting Club: Open to all youth in grades 6th-8th, and limited to a class size of 20, the club will meet on four Sundays, April 7, 14, 21, and 28, from 1-4:00 pm at the Suttons Bay Bingham Fire and Rescue Station. Cost is \$30, which includes the First Aid/CPR certification fee, snacks, and materials. Youth will learn about how children develop, safety while babysitting, ways to entertain children of different ages and stages, and about the business of babysitting. Youth will receive materials and a First Aid/CPR Certificate from the

American Heart Association after completion of the club. How to register: Register with 4HOnline 2.0 at <https://v2.4honline.com/> for the Leelanau County 4-H Babysitting Club, and then send your check made out to "Leelanau 4-H" to the Michigan State University Extension office at 8527 E Government Center Dr., Ste 107, Suttons Bay, MI 49682. Registration Deadline is Monday, April 1, 2024. Questions? Contact the Leelanau 4-H office at 256-9888 or email the coordinator, Rosali Collier, at [collierr@msu.edu](mailto:collierr@msu.edu).

4-H Exploration Days: Taking place this year from Wednesday, June 19th through Friday, June 21st, at MSU. Leelanau County is offering the usual bus ride down and back for \$30. This is open to all local counties. Cost for the event is \$220 for youth and \$130 for adults. Leelanau covers the cost of all of its adult volunteers. We have plenty of scholarship funds available. Just check with your 4-H county for more information on funding. For youth ages 12-19, with registration opening during Spring Break on Monday, March 25th, at 7 pm. You can ask a friend to join you and then room in the dorm with them! Registration is online, and a \$50 deposit is required. Sessions and the registration link are available on the website:

[https://www.canr.msu.edu/4\\_h\\_exploration\\_days/registration\\_information](https://www.canr.msu.edu/4_h_exploration_days/registration_information)

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Education Expo – 24 Education Sessions were offered yesterday on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Grand Traverse Resort. Many people thought it went well. The space was great, and the staff were incredibly helpful. There seemed to be several people who took advantage of the block of hotel rooms available and enjoyed making a weekend of it. New this year, we had Vendors that were on site selling their wares. We did not charge for Vendor space, but it seemed to be a nice addition. Thank you so much to all of our specie chairs for working hard to line up the speakers/presenters and thank you to the Executive Board for all their hard work in getting the schedule together. We are going to look into booking the resort for 2025.
- b. Animal Registrations – Dairy Feeder, Jr. Beef, Lamb, Poultry, Goat due tonight by 11:59pm. NO LATE REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.
- c. Remind App  
There are papers on the front table if you haven't signed up yet, please do. We are hoping this will be an effective means of communication, especially during fair week and we will try not to overuse it.
- d. Name Tags  
The link will be available on our website until April 1<sup>st</sup>. The cost is \$9 per tag. If you are a club lead, species chair, or committee member that needs a name tag, please visit the link of the website to get those ordered.

## NEW BUSINESS

### a. Heather Barley Scholarship (Mark Barley)

Applications are out and available on the website for Seniors.

This year again we will be offering \$6500, \$4500, and \$2500.

Requirements = min 2.5 GPA, 4-H member for 3 consecutive years, enrolled as a Senior in High School for 2023-2024 school year, must graduate and receive High School Diploma or equivalent.

Payments will be made to the institution they will attend for either their 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> year. Money shall be used toward tuition, room/board, class books, etc.

DEADLINE – May 6<sup>th</sup>. Applications can be dropped off to the MSU Extension office in GT or brought to the Livestock Council Meeting.

Recipients of the Scholarship will be announced at the Awards Ceremony at the 2024 NWMI Fair.

### b. Design Club & Gardening Club – Heather Heuser

I am looking at starting a couple of clubs as well as bringing back the gardening club that used to meet in GT County. I am looking to start, along with my daughter Holly, the gardening club and see how many people might be interested. I have a lot of lessons and activities planned, and we can go from there.

With my son, we are looking into looking into starting a board game design club. If that is something you would be interested in there is a piece of paper with my information on the front table that you can sign up on.

## SPECIE CHAIR UPDATES:

- **Goat – Robin Gildner**

Registrations due tonight by 11:50pm (3/4). Possession is May 1<sup>st</sup>. You should have already reserved your project with your breeder, if you have not done that please get in touch with me. Min weight = 65lbs. and you can tag 2 projects, with a \$10 fee for that second tag. Make sure your project comes home with a Scrapies tag from the breeder. You need that Scrapies tag unless you plan to tattoo them. Even with a pedigree you still need to tag them, and that is per the state vet. More education opportunities to come, so keep an eye on your email and FB page. One more thing, be sure to take your health form with you when you go to pick up your project from the breeder. That way you can get all the necessary information. Email updates will start once I receive my final

numbers tonight. I will not be resigning from my position as Goat Specie Chair with the new position as GT Coordinator. I verified with MSU before I even applied, that I would still be able to be the Goat Specie Chair as well. Thank you.

Facebook Page: Goat Barn – NWMI Livestock Council

Any questions please let me know, 231-883-2002 or [info@luckyfarmsmi.com](mailto:info@luckyfarmsmi.com)

- **Dog – Gretchen Sauvage**

Not much for dogs. Once Dogs-R-Us starts in May then we will plan some clinic dates for education, other than that just enjoy your dog.

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

- **Rabbit/Cavy – Lisa Ralph**

Registrations for Rabbits are Due May 6<sup>th</sup>.

6 market

11 cloverbud

Total – 27 Rabbits

Watch your Rabbits in this fluctuating weather for any signs of illness.

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**

86 Steers

14 Heifers

2 Show Only

Total = 102

Tagging is complete, so if you lose your tag then please reach out and we can come re-tag for you. We noticed a few without RFDI tags, make sure you're getting those before you bring the animal home, you should be getting those from your breeder. If you do need any help tracking one down, then just let me know. I have arranged a Hoof Trimming for April 20<sup>th</sup>. We are planning on doing 2 this year, but the first one will be April 20<sup>th</sup> and I will have a sign-up genius going out soon via email and Facebook. In order to come to the trimming be sure you have your RFDI. We will plan on having the scales open as well. There were many kids at the Expo and it was great to see everyone there. Thank you to the board, for the great success of that. If you were not able to attend the Expo and you're still looking for credits, like Amanda had mentioned there are still shows coming up. MI Show Points. Starting April 6<sup>th</sup>, there is a show every single weekend up until June 15<sup>th</sup> and there is a list on MI Show Points website. We will also be

having the Cherry Capital Beef Classic again this year and that will be May 18<sup>th</sup>. Keep an eye out for registration. A reminder that minimum weight is 1,000lbs.

For any questions you can email or call Haven:  
havenmrobinson@gmail.com 231-263-2217

- **Poultry – Lynn Henning**

Registrations are due tonight by 11:59pm (3/4). After I get my final registration numbers I will put together an email with everyone's contact. Please watch your emails closely for updates. I will be collecting orders in mid-March such as, peepers, turkeys, duck, geese, etc. Livestock Council website has tons of information for you, record books, policies and procedures, educational videos and links, etc.

Clinics will happen in mid-May and early June.

With the weather the way it is, protect your production hens. Heat lamps will be important if we are on this weather rollercoaster for awhile.

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

Email: 4hchickenqueen@gmail.com

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

Dairy Feeder Registrations are due tonight (3/4) by 11:59pm. Possession was March 1<sup>st</sup> and tagging will be in the next couple of weeks. Make sure to watch for signs of sickness like pneumonia. Keep your pen dry and clean. Clean water and feed in front of your animal always.

As of right now our Dairy Feeder numbers are:

34 market

4 show only

8 cloverbud

Total = 46

Large Dairy Beef numbers are:

2 Show Only

2 Market

Total = 4

If you have any questions, please call or email:  
gbancroft1976@gmail.com 231-313-8063

- **Horse – Mandy DePuy**

Reminder to sign up by May 6th on the Livestock Website under the horse specie tab. Make sure to get coggins and vaccinations scheduled.

GT 4H Horse and Pony Tack Sale will be March 16 in a new location of the VFW Hall on veterans drive. It is the one with the big tank outside. If you would like a booth let me know as we have limited space this year.

4H Horse Boot Camp is scheduled May 10-12 at the Fairgrounds. This is a great opportunity to get your horse out prior to show season and fair. We have several clinicians scheduled on a variety of topics. More information will be forthcoming.

This weekend (March 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>) is the Horse Expo at the MSU Pavilions. Over 25 clinicians are scheduled as well as vendors. If you are going down please be sure to let me know for your educational credits.

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

Mandy DePuy - mandydepuy@gmail.com

231-649-3102

- **Lamb – Shayna Conger**

Total = 63

46 market

7 show only

11 cloverbud

Registrations are due by 11:59pm this evening (3/4). Possession is May 1<sup>st</sup>. If you are not on a breeder list or have a lamb reserved, then please contact me and I can help you with that. Thank you to everyone who came out to the Education Expo. Thunderstruck Lambs and Auburn Moyer were a great hit and offered so much great information. Thunderstruck Lambs provided me with the slideshow from their presentation, so I have that posted on the website. That being said, if you utilize the slideshow as your education credit then I would like you to watch the presentation and submit a summary to me. Shows will still count and of course any general education credits. Education credits are due by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

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

Facebook page: Sheep Barn – NWMILivestock Council

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

Email: sheepbarn4hnwmf@gmail.com

- **Jr Beef – Amanda Wilkins**

Registration is due tonight (March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024) by 11:59pm. No late registration will be accepted. Register even if you are just thinking about it and then you can always drop later.

Numbers as of today:



Total = 92

Market = 46

Cloverbud = 30

Show Only = 16

Possession date is May 15<sup>th</sup>, make sure you are on a list with a breeder. If you haven't called on a calf yet I would do that soon. There is a list of breeders and farms on the Jr. Beef page of the website. Calves must be born after January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Reminder of program changes for 2024:

Market classes will mirror the large beef classes with steers and heifers having their own market classes with an overall market animal selection.

For market animals there is now a minimum weight of 300lbs and maximum weight of 700lbs. After possession date I will send out a form to have filled out and sent back to me to get the information that we won't have until then, like Heifer vs Steer, sharing of animals, etc.

Spring/Summer Practice Dates at the Fairgrounds:

Wednesday June 12<sup>th</sup> 6-8pm (Jr. Beef tagging if needed)

Wednesday June 26<sup>th</sup> 6-8pm (jr. Beef tagging if needed)

Sunday July 7<sup>th</sup> 4:30 to 6:30 PM

Wednesday July 17<sup>th</sup> 6:00 to 8:00 PM

#### Education

Hopefully many of you were able to attend the Expo at the resort to complete your education credits!

Current opportunities if you still need credit:

YQCA

Beef Quality Assurance

Upcoming shows for April:

April 6<sup>th</sup> Blanchett beef preview in Monroe County fairgrounds

April 13<sup>th</sup> Great Lakes showdown at Berrien County fairgrounds

April 20<sup>th</sup> Thumb Jackpot Beef Show Sandusky fairgrounds

April 27<sup>th</sup> Heart of Michigan beef show Reed city

April 28<sup>th</sup> Middle of the Mitten at Midland County fairgrounds

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

- **Llama/Alpaca – Renee Hobbins**

Registrations are due May 6<sup>th</sup>. We are working on June clinics. This is a good time to make sure your animals have what they need and start practicing with them and playing

with them outside. We had a great time at the Education Expo, thank you so much to everyone who had a hand in making it so great!

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**

Total = 190

21 Cloverbud

15 Graduating Seniors

10 Super Seniors

2 DA participants

With the total numbers being under 225, we are able to allow 7-year-olds to bring their own swine. 6-year-old members still need to utilize another 4-Her's swine project.

March and April are the months where projects start to be brought home. Be sure you are working with your breeder to ensure you have an 840 tag in your swine's ear. This is the breeder's job to place that tag in the ear for you. Also be sure to prep your animals home with adequate shelter, bedding, feed and watering systems. It is really too cold still in March and April for our little piggies, so make sure you have some heat lamps to keep them warm. Policies and procedures for the swine barn are on the website.

Remember you need to have 2 education credits and one workbee. Possession date is May 1<sup>st</sup>. We will be doing virtual tagging again this year, so that link will be coming out in the next couple of weeks as I prep that document.

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

### DIFFERENTLY ABLED REPORT

I don't have much tonight other than we had a really nice time out at the GT Resort for Education Expo and we had a great turn out for DA. I even had people who were not registered for DA but were curious about the program. I also have extra record books available if you would like one, please come see me.

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

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Work Bees

b. All 4-H members 8 to 19 years old who plan on showing an animal at the 2024 NWMI Fair will need to complete a two hour work Bee at one of the following dates. Clover bud and differently abled participants are welcome to attend but not required.

May 4<sup>th</sup> 9am – 11am & 2pm – 4pm (AM has 96 registered) (PM has 40 registered)

May 15<sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM (34 registered)

June 11th 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM (15 registered)

July 24th 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM (10 registered)

When signing up:

Please sign up one 4-H youth per line (this helps when making the sign in sheets)

Change the display name to the 4-H youth's name

In the comment section please put the animal being shown or the club name, this helps when checking youth off on the tracking sheet

Any questions, email: jrbeef4h@yahoo.com

c. Auction Committee

Our next meeting will be March 20<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at Mulligan's. We have ordered the bid cards already and we will be working on getting stuff ready. Swine and Large Beef are in show works, so I will be working on the rest and getting them to specie chairs this week.

PUBLIC COMMENT\*

Frank – 152 Days until Fair!

Adjournment: Approved. Motion by Shannon Baynton 2<sup>nd</sup> by Layla Zenner – CHECK SPELLING

Time: 7:23 pm

Next Meeting: April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 @ 6:30pm at Redeemer Lutheran Church

<b>Club List for 2024</b>	<b>January</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>March</b>
A Backyard Bunch	x	x	x
All Creatures Great & Small	x		x
Barn Busters	x	x	x
Beef & Bacon Bunch		x	
Benzie Cowabungas	x	x	x
Bits - N - Grit	x	x	
Boots & Roots	x	x	x
Caring Critters			
Carousel Club	x	x	x
Clover Bunch 4-H Club			x
Country Cousins			
Country Kids	x	x	x
Country Roots	x	x	x
Crazy Acres	x	x	x
Dirty Boots & Country Roots			
Dogs R Us			
Dusty Trails	x		
Excalibur Mazkaraders	x	x	
Farm and Fleece	x	x	
Farm and Freedom	x	x	
Forever Farmin'		x	x
Frontier Quest	x		
Gotta Lluva a Cool Critter	x	x	x
Green Acres	x	x	x
Happy Highlanders	x	x	x
Happy Hooves	x	x	x
Kaleidoscope Kids	x	x	x
Lake Ann 4H Livestock Club	x	x	x
Leaders and Lopers			
Leather-N-Laces	x	x	x
Living Livestock	x	x	x
Lone Wolves			
Long Lake 4H Livestock	x	x	x
Maple Ridge	x	x	x
Misty Meadows			
Northern Explorers			
Northern Lights	x	x	x
Northwest Classy K-9's	x	x	x

Pen Pals		x	
Proclites	x	x	x
Radical Rabbit Raisers N More	x	x	x
Rickety Ranchers	x	x	x
Round About Wranglers	X	x	
Showtime		x	x
Small Town Farmers	x	x	x
Sunshine Acres	x	x	x
TC Hooves and Wings		x	
Too Goat to be True	x	x	x
Twin Lakes	x	x	x
Two By Two	x	x	x
Walnut Acres		x	x
Windy Acres	x	x	x