

Officer Application



Officer position for which you are applying *

- President
- Deputy Treasurer
- Secretary

Name *

Kayce Caugh

Phone Number *

2313422014

Email Address *

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Complete Mailing Address *

2101 Gina Marie Ln, Grawn, MI 49637

County in which you are a registered 4-H volunteer *

Grand Traverse

Leelanau

Benzie

Kalkaska

Antrim

Describe your experience with 4-H in general and with the 4-H Livestock Council in particular. What other experience do you have that would qualify you for this position?

I was a 4-H participant for 9 years as a child and have now been a 4-H parent for 11 years. My Livestock Council experience includes:

- Multiple years on the auction committee
- 2 years as President of the Livestock Council
- Planned, organized, and oversaw Education Expos in May 2015 and March 2020
- Helped to execute the 2020 Virtual 4-H Showcase for our area

Describe how you will actively develop and promote the 4-H Livestock Council, both during the fair and the rest of the year.

I believe the best way to promote our council is through the youth. By providing them with experiences that they are excited about, they will continue to be our biggest advocates for 4-H in our region. I will work to continue to develop educational opportunities that the youth enjoy participating in and hope to assist in bringing more hands-on show and learning experiences to our area outside of fair week.

I am constantly communicating with community members, businesses, donors, buyers, and supporters to find resources that benefit the youth and our programs.

What specifically do you plan to do to keep up-to-date with your officer position?

Communication and Networking have been the number one aspect of this role. I will continue to network with other individuals across the state who serve in roles that focus on developing livestock opportunities for youth. This network is built from attending conferences and writing countless emails to help develop a bank of resources that can be called upon when unexpected situations arise.

What do you see as the two most important issues currently facing the 4-H Livestock Council?

Retention - 2020 was a rough year all around and my biggest fear is that we will see a lot of the families that "took the year off" not come back to 4-H. We will need to work hard to get the youth and their parents excited again about the benefits of raising a 4-H livestock animal.

Long-term Planning - As I interact with members of our 4-H community I am reminded that for many of us, our time within the organization is starting to wind down. We need to start looking ahead and develop a system by which new volunteers can step into the leadership roles without feeling as though they are "being thrown to the wolves". I feel as though it is our job to ensure that we set the next round of leaders up for success. In order to do that, we need to start anticipating the changes that lie ahead and find a way to work toward those changes without losing site of the traditions of our past.

What specific ideas do you have for our 4-H Livestock Council program that you would like to implement during your term in office?

Another Education Expo - The last one was a huge success with relatively little planning...I am hoping that we will have the opportunity to take the Expo to the next level.

Local Show Opportunities - There are talks of bringing large show groups into our area for many of our species, but I want to ensure that every species has the opportunity to practice and refine their skills in front of certified judges BEFORE we get to fair.

What additional information would you like to provide?

As trying as this past 8 months have been, I can't imagine a better group of people to have gone on this chaotic, virtual journey with. Thank you for your patience as we all learned how to navigate 2020. I sincerely look forward to working with everyone as we find our way back to "normal".

In addition to this application, please be prepared to give a 2-3 minute speech at the November meeting of the 4-H Livestock Council. This should include comments regarding your willingness and ability to serve as a 4-H Livestock Council Executive Officer and what you feel you can contribute to the 4-H Livestock Council and its programs.

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