Draft Council Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 23 rd, 2025
6:30pm – Sauce

1. Welcome
   - 6:36pm called meeting to order
   - **Board Members Present:** Keri Bancroft, Shayna Conger, Faith Grose, Katrina Grose, Nicki Brown.
   - **Specie Chairs Present:** Lynn Henning, Haven Bouwens, Amanda Wilkins, Robin Gildner, Kathy Easter, Renee Hobbins, Beth Stevens,Gretchen Savage, Gwyn Carter, Lisa Ralph, Rick Tallieu, Greg Bancroft.
   - **MSU Representative Present:** Sarah Bye, Ali Ballard, Danny Schaub.

2. Communication from Fair Board, LC Members, or Public
   - What's coming about the animal that went to the wrong processor and the fee they were charged?
   - This will be added to the agenda under new business.

3. Record Book & Thank You Check Off
   - Record books turned in at the last meeting if thank you notes were turned in please check that off as well
   - Try and send out a email before the next meeting reminding the thank you notes.
   - Next specie chair meeting bring to the specie chair meeting to send to farm bureau and for the livestock council award
   - Try for 3-5 record books.
   - Give any DA to Beth please

4. Upcoming Livestock Council Meeting

a. Species Chair Elections
   - One for Dairy Beef/Feeder one for Lamb one for Dog and one for Goat
   - Rabbit has 3 applications to prepare a few minute speech and we will have a vote with ballots run by MSU.

b. By-Law Proposals Review
   - One by-law asking for JR teen reps.
   - We have our 15 and up are so busy and some younger kids might be able to help fill the gaps.
   - This by-law proposal is on the website and sent to the membership.
   - Article 4 under membership there is wording from MSU that has changed that needs to come out
   - We will need a vote at the membership meeting to take that out.

5. Annual Meeting

a. 2026 Sponsorships Update

i. Project Give A Way Rules

- The year changed on the rules and there is not a large animal and small animal feed grant there are just two $50 and $100.
- They have until October 1st of that year to get reimbursed.
- There are 12 still outstanding that won last year.
- Sponsorships are being taken until October 1st.
- Do you still have specific needs for species/feed grants?
- We don't have a sponsorship for:
    - Lamb
    - Horse feed grant
    - Llama/Alpaca feed grant
- Shayna will make a post on facebook saying the above are in need of some help.
- Let the board know ASAP if you know of anyone that would like to donate.
- We will need help at the October meeting we just aren't sure yet. Nicki will be out at this meeting.

6. Premium Book Changes – Due by Dec 26, 2025

- Look through the premium book and changes are due before December 26th. Change comes to the livestock council board and then goes to the fair board.
- We are still working with Sonya to get superintendent & specie chair meetings scheduled and done in the month of October.

a. Ribbons

- Same thing with ribbons, get Keri that information as soon as you can, next meeting specie chairs will get the list for review and make changes.
- Final goes to Sonya in February

b. Species Rules & Classes

- Review and get adds and changes to the board soon to discuss, try to get done before the 1st of the year.

7. Education Expo – March 1, 2026

- We want Girl Scout cookies! The Date for the education Expo will be March 1st.

a. General Topics

b. Species Specific Speakers

- We need to get the fees in our budget ASAP, our membership wants more of this broken down.
- Typically the base starts at $5,000 just to get us there and with tech.
- Most people do love this and help their kids get their credits and love the event.
- Last year it was about $12 a kid each.
- Out budget we will be asking for extra funds for some projects that have been pushed back.
- The Johnson Foundation did not give donations to our general fund this year because they seen we have the money in our account.

- They did donate to the buyers lunch.
- New sound systems and new TV's and new laptops.
    - Ali- FYI as 4-H you have an opportunity to MSU on call. (This is more expensive)
- We need to work on check in for the education expo. Last year was crazy.
- Yes we will work on that will MSU, the check in will be run by MSU it won't be changed part way through the day. MSU staff will be there earlier for 2026.

8. Getting Ready for 2026 – All Due By December 26, 2025

a. Registration Form Review

Looking through premium book, recordbooks (the fees its only the %)

- Registration forms are done.
- They are on the website. (except Poultry, being worked on)
- Dates turned in for events that were communicated this far.
- Workbee dates were not turned in yet, need dates from Amanda.
- MSU Are you approving guidebooks this year?

Yes

- When do you want them by so they get out in January
- Are you reviewing them as you get them?
- Yes
- Haven- our program (large Beef) starts November 1st.
- Get to MSU by November 15th to get out by January 1st.
- Lynn- Website changes who do I send that to?
- Nicki. Send me the info you need updated.
- Are there anymore workbees happening this fall?
    - No
- When do they start in the spring?
    - May
- When will we have those dates?
    - Before the end of the year for the contract.
- Any extra or separate workbees let Keri know ASAP.
- Review the following documents for your program ASAP please and get changes to Keri.

b. Guidebook Review

c. Record Book Review

d. Policy & Procedures

9. Other???

a. Website
    - Ran by weebly MSU certified.
    - Someone needs to take over in November.
    - Lisa volunteered if not re-elected.
    - Workbees we had some kids that showed up to help take down horse stalls.
    - Some "workbees" that were ran by the fairboard those kids will be marked off for 2026 same for helping with the butchering.
    - New business

    - PamZinteck
- We need to have a vote if we are going to refund her for the fee
- Note on the bid card and there was a note on the invoice it was wrote, then it didn't get changed in the computer.
- We didn't know they charge for the fee.
- We understand why she was upset, we need to decide to reimburse the $60
- Motion to reimburse Pam Zinteck (Zinteck Swine Farms) the $60
- 1st Lynn Henning
- 2nd Gretchen
- Was that the only animal bought?
- No 2 others 2 went to Ebals and 1 self pick up
- We should change the processor to check at check out.
- We can't because some people wait until the next day or they are invoiced or they don't check out and call later on.
- Some complaints we have a butcher on the grounds.
- The alternative would be to have animals butchered before
- 2026 registrations
    - Manually entering, Sarah has an updated leaders sheet this will help get leaders access to the registration sheet for 2026.
    - Sarah will give viewing rights to those leaders in Grand Traverse County she has so far.
    - Registrations are opened and on the website.
- Robin- processors I would like us to talk about Lambs and Goats to get them out, it's been all over the board.
- We don't know until the processor gets there, we can ask them what their plan is.
- We are also trying to work on self pick up times.
- Lynn- when you have trucks coming in and people trying to pull campers out, coils we and the fairboard come up with a plan.
- According to the fairboard campers cant move out until animals are gone or processors are picking up.
- Is this in writing? We should follow up on this, maybe put this in the book.
- Same thing with load in day.
- Can we have some better information shared from the fairboard to the Livestock Council meeting.
- Sarah- we did get the contract back for dates that were turned in thus far, Keri will sign and send to the fair.
- Sarah- Thank you so much to all

10. Adjourn

7:54pm

- 1st Haven Bouwens
- 2nd Gretchen Sauvage