

4-H Livestock Committee  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
February 26, 2018

In attendance:

Josh Stroh, New Horizons  
Pat Ward, Denton Sunnyside Shiners  
Casey Willmore, Denton FFA  
Shannon Ruckman, Lewistown Livewires

Shawn Grindheim, New Horizons  
Lance Heggem, Winifred Mustangs  
Jared Long, Lewistown FFA  
Emily Standley, Extension Office

Emily called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was held in a basement meeting room of the Sheriff's Complex.

Elections – Jared nominated Josh Stroh. Jared moved to close nominations; Pat seconded the motion, and the motion passed. Josh accepted the nomination as Chairman. Larry said he'd stay on as vice chair again, and Shannon said she'd serve as secretary again.

Minutes – Jared moved to accept the minutes. Casey seconded the motion; the motion passed.

Finance report – Emily said the Livestock Awards funds had a balance of \$5,843.50 and the Livestock Committee account balance was \$30,392.09. She said the committee is current with bills but has not paid for powder-coating of the new swine pens yet.

Announcements – Emily announced there would be a horse workbook workshop at 10 a.m. on Saturday, March 3 in the Sheriff's Complex, and a swine health workshop at 10 a.m. on Sunday, March 25, at the Sheriff's complex.

Old Business:

1. Panel update – Half of the panels have been built and are at HCR waiting to be powder-coated.
2. Judge – Caleb Boardman has been confirmed as a judge for Fair 2018. He comes from the University of Wyoming.
3. Fair book changes – All the changes were submitted for the fair book at the beginning of February, including the new livestock showman dress code, which is only in effect for cattle, sheep, pigs, goats and dairy. Emily said the Small Animal and Horse committees have both opted to keep the dress code of white shirt, black pants and black tie.
4. Job Descriptions – The committee reviewed the Superintendent's job descriptions and made appropriate changes – see draft for list of changes, which include eliminating language for the open class beef and adding language for scrapies tag inspection on sheep and goats.

New Business

1. Additional pens – Jared moved to submit a Central Montana Foundation grant application to pursue buying 72 more new pens. Casey seconded the motion; the motion passed.
2. Wash rack – Emily said the fair board was asking the livestock committee for ideas on how to improve the wash racks at the fairgrounds. Improvement ideas included a better drainage system, new building off the west side of the pavilion, hot water, original pavilion plan wash rack, tie into the sewer system, pens in a wash house.

3. Stevensons – Emily said the Adana Stevenson family has asked the Livestock Committee to consider allowing their kids to show sheep in Fair 2018. In Fair 2017, the Stevenson family removed their beef animals early from the fair but left their other animals. Livestock Committee members reviewed the rules in the fair book and discussed the ramifications of changing a committee-made decision. The Livestock Committee decided to stay with the decision documented in the September 2017 meeting minutes.
4. Sale Order – Jared moved to change the sale order to reflect the market class placings. Lance seconded the motion. Discussion included rewarding members that place higher than others, start with the heavy weight firsts and move all the way down to the light weights. Currently the sale sells all the blue ribbon winners first based on a number drawn at the scale if they don't place in the top six. Jared said the clerk will have to keep track of the pigs placing first through ninth in classes of nine. Jared said he hopes it will motivate kids to work harder. It was suggested to rotate the order of classes for fairness. White ribbon animals don't sell. The motion passed.
  - a. Further discussion on sale order included the idea of selling 10 of each species and moving to the next species, logistics of set up for the sale arena, policy of sale order, auctioneer point of view and big fairs versus small fair sales.
5. TQA training- Emily said the TQA trainings are partnering up with the Food Safety training. There will be one on April 25 in Winifred. Pat said Denton needed a training as well. It was mentioned that if a sophomore were to do a training, he or she would not have to do it again for the remainder of his or her 4-H career. Other discussion included BQA and whether TQA could be completed on-line.

The next meeting is at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, April 16, in the Sheriff's complex basement.

Pat moved to adjourn the meeting. Casey seconded the motion, and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.