

## VALLEY COUNTY 4-H LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

October 6, 2011

The Valley County 4-H Livestock Committee meeting was called to order by President Carla Tihista. In Attendance were: Justin Furhmann, Sherri Idler, Grace Pankratz, Roubie Younkin and Shelley Mills.

The minutes from the June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2011 meeting were read and approved.

There was no correspondence to report.

The Treasurer's report was read, accepted and filed for audit.

There were no Bills for allowance and no Superintendent reports.

Carla suggested that we send a thank you to Nemont and Pro-Coop for their generous donation of \$1000 each and give an accounting of how the money was spent and how it impacted 4-H youth. Roubie has sent thank you notes to all sponsors, but will double check to make sure we didn't miss anyone. Sherri suggested that we have a large sign up throughout the fair that thanks all our sponsors. The board that was used in the past is decaying and we will need to purchase a new one.

After subtracting the cost of livestock insurance from the 2011 Livestock sale the remaining funds were \$493.29. Following some discussion, Sherri made a motion to give Chamber Bucks to each of the auctioneers in the amount of \$25; Linda Lacock would receive \$50; and \$100 would go to Remmich Trucking as a thank you for their assistance during the Livestock Sale for a total of \$225. Grace seconded the motion and the motion passed.

The Livestock Committee Survey was reviewed and Grace made a motion to accept the survey as is with exception of the swine rate of gain question, Justin seconded and the motion passed. Leanne will be asked to mail out a copy of the survey to each livestock project 4-H member and ask that they discuss the survey and fill it out during a club meeting.

The fairgrounds arena was full of large clumps of clay during horse camp and horse project members were concerned about injury to their horses or themselves. A harrow was brought in to help break up the clumps, sparking Gene Hartsock to request \$500 each from the 4-H Council, 4-H Livestock Committee and the Fair board to cover the cost of the harrow. Grace made a motion to take \$250 from the Horse fund and \$250 from the Livestock fund to help pay for the harrow for the fairgrounds. Justin seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Beef Weigh –in day was set for December 10<sup>th</sup> with weigh-in at Hinsdale to begin at 10:00 a.m. at the Cache Creek Scales and 1:00 p.m. at the Glasgow Stockyards. Shelley will contact the brands office on Friday October 7, 2011 and confer with Wayne Shipp about the date.

Market Animal Quality Assurance was discussed and it was decided that MAQA will be offered again at Winter Fun Day (date to be set by Council) but the classes will be divided into three 2 hour sessions.

Each session will be divided into pre-junior, junior, and senior. The senior members will also be asked to help train the junior and pre-junior classes.

Several suggestions were brought up for improvements to the Fair Grounds. Overwhelmingly it was agreed that the pig barn needed the most help. Suggestions were: make it more people friendly, have a sign-up board for the wash racks, add additional wash racks, improve the pens by using solid  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch ply to keep the animals from fighting between the pens, place latches at both the top and bottom of the pens, raise the pens up and bring in more gravel to lift the floor of the barn, make some small pens for single animals, re-wire the barn to improve the lighting. Other needed repairs are: the arena still is in need of paint on the north end, the inside of the sheep barn needs to be painted again, and we need more garbage cans around the fairgrounds. Justin suggested we purchase hose reels to reduce the hazards of hoses strung everywhere. Fans were discussed for the barns as well as wheel barrows for waste removal. One concern is where to store all these items. It was suggested that the new storage area on the sheep barn be used and padlocked during the off-season. A light is needed in this storage area too. Shelley and Roubie will bring the Livestock Committee concerns to the next Fair Board meeting.

A motion was made by Justin to pay the dues for superintendents that are not affiliated with a club out of the Livestock funds. Sherri seconded the motion and it was passed. Leanne will be asked to check and ensure that these dues are paid. Dues must be paid to be covered by insurance in the event of injury during their duties as superintendent.

The Committee asked Roubie and Shelley to write a job description for the superintendents so those that are new to the job will have a better understanding of what their role is and what the Agents role is. Roubie and Shelley agreed to do this.

Grace made a motion to accept the budget as is; Justin seconded and the motion passed.

Justin made a motion to keep the Livestock Committee officers as they are currently, Sherri seconded and the motion was passed. Carla asked that she be allowed to step down from sheep superintendent; the committee was very reticent to lose such a valuable asset and suggested that a second be found to fill in if Carla was unable to conduct her duties. Sherri offered to be Carla's backup superintendent.

Shelley will contact all the superintendents this month to make sure that they are willing to remain as superintendents for 2012.

Grace made a motion to ask Collin Gibbs to be the beef, swine and sheep judge at the 2012 fair, Sherri seconded the motion and the motion was passed. Also mentioned was Travis Standley, who could be asked if Collin is unable to make it.

The next meeting for the Livestock Committee has been set for January 12, 2012 at noon. Shelley has offered to purchase lunch for the meeting. Sherri asked that we discuss who we would recommend as a Heritage Family for the Centennial 4-H year at the next meeting.