

Fergus/Petroleum County 4-H Leaders Council | Meeting Notes

May 30, 2024 - 5:30 PM | Fergus County Sheriff's Office, Lewistown, MT

Call to Order: The Fergus/Petroleum County 4-H Leader's Council was called to order by President, Corry Arntzen at 5:40 pm on May 30, 2024. Cassie Yaeger led the Pledge of Alliance and Olivia DeMars led the 4-H pledge.

Introductions / Attendance / Roll Call:

- Corry Arntzen - *Christina Busy Bees, President*
- Sonja Gregory – *Independent Leader, VP*
- Karly DeMars - *Christina Busy Bees, Secretary*
- Gisele Yaeger – *Christina Busy Bees, Treasurer*
- Shelly Van Haur – *Hilger High Goalers*
- Yvette Hersel - *Creative Critters*
- Davey Storfa – *Independent Member, Ambassadors*
- Sarah Mauws – *Ubet*
- Hailey Gallagher – *Creative Critters, Ambassadors*
- Nicole Tholt – *Winnett Shamrocks*
- Virgil Tholt – *Winnett Shamrocks, Ambassadors*
- Cassie Yaeger – *Christina Busy Bees*
- Olivia DeMars – *Christina Busy Bees*
- Chris England – *4-H Program Assistant*
- Allison Smith – *Extension Office*

Secretary's Report / March Minutes

- Sarah Mauws moved to approve the minutes; Hailey Gallagher seconded. Approved unanimously.

Correspondence

- Weston Hersel sent a thank you card for received a 2024 4-H Leader's Council Scholarship. Message was shared with the group.

Treasurer's Report – Gisele Yaeger

- Ending Balance as of 4/30/2024: \$128,123.29
- Shelley Van Haur moved to approve the Treasurer's report and file for audit; Hailey Gallager seconded the motion. Group approved Treasurer's Report approved and it will be filed for audit.

Committee Reports *(verbal reports during meeting)*

- **Ambassadors:** Next project is the fair – Pig Kissing Contest is being planned and information will be out soon. Newly selected ambassador trainees are Davey Storfa and Tristan Gallagher.
- **Livestock Committee:** Fair is on track. Prizes are being purchased. The new scale will be installed and used this year. Superintendents are being changed around. Jared Long stepped down from the Swine Superintendent position after 15 years. Trevor Gervais will be taking over. Next meeting is June 4 at 6 pm – Sheriff's Complex.
- **Small Animal Committee:** Small Animal Showmanship clinic will take place next Monday, June 3 at 5:30 PM. Looking at prizes for Small Animal – thinking about not pre-ordering belt buckles for Best of Show, so they can put winner's name and animal on them. Meeting will follow clinic on Monday. Will be putting a cement pad outside of the Small Animal Barn and are looking for help to put up forms for the work (information is in June newsletter). Chris will be sending out a note for help mid-June. Fairgrounds will be purchasing cement, 4-H will provide labor. The fairgrounds plans to lay new blacktop between small and large animal barns.

- **Horse Committee:** Ranch Horse Clinic was May 11-12. Had 11 participants, went well. Performance Horse Clinic is June 1-2. Silver Spurs Club is doing a meal fundraiser at event. No date yet for Horse Meeting – probably 2nd week in June.
- **Static Committee:** Met early May, went through sticker design contest – were 10 submissions. Chose two designs – in process of getting digitized for printing. Went through intent to sell for indoor auction. Over 25 entries – to be eligible, entrants need to get a blue ribbon on project. Looking for a new location right now for auction – will likely move event between Trade Center and Ag Building. Fair book and newsletter listed different due dates for intent to sell at static auction – the committee is sticking with the May 1 deadline.
- **Food Booth:** Two new doors (front and side door), sign up for shifts go out on 5/31. New concrete out in the front. Will be working on food ordering. All meat has been donated and will go to Hilger Meat to be made into patties. No change to prices and menu except the addition of Oreo blizzards.
- **Scholarship Committee:** Met as Executive Group in mid-April. Agreed to award each of the four (4) applicants \$500 each to include the Open Box. Recipients are Cody England, Clay Pendergrass (Open Box), Weston Hersel, Allie Uecker.
- **Workbook Committee:** Committee met and recommended that in 2025, workbooks would not be required. They would monitor for a year to see if there is any impact to learning. First year projects would be encouraged to use the record books. The committee looked to see if books would impact state (workbooks are not required) or county awards. We would have to adjust the matrix for assessing county awards during fair interviews. Questions/follow up: Who reviews the books (or are they done) for the super buckle award? Committee will develop a proposal to be discussed in new business at our next meeting.
- **Awards:** No updates/changes. 1st place medallions have been received. For large and small animal round robin – will be a small drinking cup personalized with the winner's name.
- **Extension Office Report:** Went to workshop in April – learned about camps, networked, different ways of running meetings that could be controversial. Ramping up for fair – due date is June 1st for fair entries. Will need help with interview scheduling. Have an intern – Joe Tuttle. Extension FCS Agent (Riley Larson) was hired.

Old Business

- **Endowment Options** (*tabled*) – Savings Bond information will need to be researched. Chris will talk to Stacie Arntzen to get some more information.
- **Tent Order** – is complete and ordered two yurts, set up and seemed to work well. Will each sleep 12-14 kids.

New Business

- QuickBooks / Laptop Purchase
 - Currently, we use 'Classes' in QuickBooks for organizational purposes. For us to keep that tracking, we'd need to use the 'Plus' version online. Quoted cost is \$1,000 per year (potential for 10% off). With online version we would not need to purchase a new laptop (~\$800). Quote from company is good until Friday (5/31/2024). QuickBooks would help transfer information to cloud version. The online membership will come with five logins and two accountant logins. Discussion:
 - Currently, Treasurer has to go into the Extension Office very frequently (approximately 2 hours per week), which can be time consuming.
 - Right now, we don't own the license to our current QuickBooks. Current laptop is old and doesn't function like it should.
 - Nicole Tholt moved to purchase QuickBooks online using Leaders Council software account funds. Yvette Hersel seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The committee acknowledges that Leader's Council will go out of the established budget and will plan this expense in the 2024/2025 4-H year.
- Budget Line for Congress
 - In the past, we budgeted \$2,000 to help kids go. It's always been a competition event. In 2024, the event will have both a competition and leadership aspect, which may open up the number of participants and increase expenses. The question from Chris is that if there are students that are not competing but want to go for the leadership benefits, is Leader's Council okay with this? No decision was made – Leader's Council would like to know how many county 4-Hers apply and what the cost will be for 2024.

- Safety Deposit Box – Chris is asking to research a safety deposit box at First Bank and is asking to pay a small fee for temporary storage. Yvette Hersel moved to purchase a safety deposit box at First Bank for bonds/CDs and other valuable items up to \$75/per year. Hailey Gallagher seconded the motion. Motion passes – will use Leader’s Council supply account.

Announcements

- ✓ Camp Registration Deadlines - Junior Camp (due June 3), Cloverbud Camp (due June 3), Senior Camp (due July 8).
- ✓ Clubs need to email club meeting minutes into the Extension Office
- ✓ Radio spots (can be prerecorded) and Spotlight Reminders
- ✓ Fair entry started May 1 and will end June 1.
- ✓ Intern for the summer

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 27 at 5:30 PM at Sheriff’s Complex.

Next meeting agenda topics: Review of member/leader dues; workbook committee proposal

Meeting was adjourned at 7:01 pm. Moved by Gisele Yaeger, seconded by Virgil Tholt.

Meeting minutes submitted by Karly DeMars, Leader’s Council Secretary