

LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 25, 2017 / 5:30 PM / EXTENSION OFFICE

ATTENDEES

Josh Stroh, chairman, New Horizons	Jennifer Saunders, Extension
Larry Hagenbuch, vice, Creative Critters	Casey Willmore, Denton FFA
Shannon Ruckman, secretary, Lewistown Livewires	Shawn Grindheim, New Horizons
Lance Heggem, Winifred Mustangs	Anna Marie Mack, Big Sky
Dustin Reising, Heart of the Snowies	Chris Miller
Jeremy England, Creative Critters	
Brookelynn Ruckman, Lewistown Livewires	

MINUTES

Call to order

1. Josh Stroh called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

Minutes

- There were no minutes to be approved. Shannon apologized for not having minutes done for the July meeting.

Finance

- Central Montana Panels has been paid in full.
- The judge was paid \$1,325.
- Powdercoating of the pig panels is estimated to cost \$13,700.
- Outstanding bills include paying the meat carcass judge and mileage.

Announcements

- There were no announcements.

Old Business

- Pig panels - The Livestock Committee has paid for 72 5'x8' pens, which have all been built. HCR has indicated now is a good time to powdercoat the panels because they aren't too busy. There are 36 fronts, 36 backs, and 36 middle panels, a total of 216 panels. This group of pens would cost \$7,500 to powdercoat. The color green is in stock. Shawn said Tyler would deliver the panels to HCR for powdercoating.
 - Dustin moved to have HCR powdercoat the panels tractor green. Shawn and Anna seconded the motion; the motion passed.

Fair Review

- Proposed Early Release – Dustin said commissioner Ross Butcher and Fair Board member Bret Maxwell do not have a problem with the 4-H livestock being released earlier in the day. Early release could conflict with livestock judging contest on Saturday, sale paperwork. Jennifer said the livestock committee needed to think about the ag education opportunities of Saturday before going to the Fair Board. The Small Animal Committee would also need to be included in the discussion.
- Tear Down – Dustin said tear down this year was terrible due to not enough adults to help with the heavy lifting. Members discussed the logistics of tearing down on Saturday and Sunday vs Monday evening. It was suggested the pens be torn down as they emptied on Saturday. Then return on Sunday to finish putting the panels away.
- Livestock judging – Josh said there were 30 kids who participated in the livestock judging contest on Saturday.
- Bucket Calves – Shannon said something needed to be done to make the showmanship classes safer for those showing bucket calves. After discussing age limits and project classes, it was decided to better communicate with the person in charge of lining the classes up to put the bucket calves at the end of the class instead of having them mixed in with the larger animals.
- Fair Book – Breeding Swine. There was some discussion of whether or not Breeding Swine should be removed from the fair book. Casey said he thought it should not be removed.
- Carcass Calcutta – The calcutta didn't happen this year due to permitting and new regulations. The Livestock Committee generally takes 10% of the calcutta, which complicates permitting of the event.
- Meat Goat – Need to have a resale option or not. Casey said he took the meat goats to Billings. The meat goats need a resale value.
- Horse Barns – There was some discussion of using horse barns overnight during the fair. The fairgrounds staff need to be asked if they are open, but there should not be a charge. Jennifer said the Draft Horse Barn could be used if needed.
- Breeding animals – limited to 2 or 2 per lot. The market animals are limited on how many total can be entered into the fair, but the breeding animals are not.
- Pen of Five – Casey suggested it be changed to a pen of three to get more entries. He said he believes more clubs be interested in a pen of three instead of five. The pens could be judged on market day.
- Tractor Supply – gave the livestock committee a gift card for the value of the returned hoses.
- Judge – Caleb Boardman – Dustin moved to have Caleb return as judge next year. Casey seconded the motion; the motion passed.
- Early livestock removal – Larry said the Stevensons took their beef animals from the fair early and did not return even though he gave them a warning. The rules state the early removal of animals without permission of the superintendent and/or livestock committee chairperson and Extension agent is a year suspension of showing livestock at the fair. Larry said the Stevensons left early in the morning Saturday and took their breeding stock home. Anna moved to suspend the Stevensons from showing beef, sheep, swine, goat and dairy at the 2018 fair. Larry seconded the motion; the motion passed.

Other New Business

- Replacement Heifer books - There was discussion of having duplicate records with this project. Shannon moved to have the Replacement Heifer project use the Beef Level workbooks instead of a second separate book. Dustin seconded the motion; the motion passed.
- Dairy in Replacement Heifer - There was discussion of whether the dairy belong in the beef replacement heifer class. It was decided that there should be separate classes and then an overall class to determine winner.
- Support workshop - Jennifer asked the committee to consider hosting a winter workbook meeting to help the members get their seven required activities done and a county-wide showmanship clinic.
- Goat weights - Goats have been shown for 4 years now and weights have varied from 62 to 104 pounds. Casey said he would educate his goat kids to pick their goats born in November instead of December/January so they can gain enough weight before fair. Casey moved to set the minimum weight at 70 pounds and the maximum pay weight at 120 pounds on market goats. Dustin seconded the motion; the motion passed.
- County Project Policy - Jennifer said the draft needed to be reviewed at the next meeting. Superintendent job descriptions also need to be updated.
- Officer Nominations - Casey moved to open nominations. Larry seconded the motion; the motion passed. The nominations will close at the next meeting.
 - Chairman - Josh and Casey were nominated.
 - Vice Chairman - Larry was nominated
 - Secretary - Shannon was nominated

Adjournment

- The next meeting was set for 5:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 6.
- Anna moved to adjourn the meeting. Jeremy seconded the motion; the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon Ruckman
11/6/2017