

Sanders County 4-H Livestock Leaders

Thursday, September 27, 2007

6:30 pm FSA Bldg, Plains

Present: Jim Newman-Chairman, Sandy Newman, Kathy McEldery, Michele McGuigan, Matt/Sally Havens, Traci Salmi, Roni Mitch, Dick Williams, Malcolm/Dora McDonald, John Halpop

Minutes Of Previous Meeting; approved as presented

Old Business:

Livestock Housing Request Policy: Timeliness of requests revisited, some requests have come in after possession of animal. Request deadlines - November 1st (market beef), April 1st (sheep/swine), June 1st (horse/llama). A standard housing form will be developed and direct mailed to all enrolled animal project members. Members will indicate if the animal is to be kept at their residence, another location and conditions of care. Off-premises projects will be asked to submit form with explanation and come to a livestock meeting (prior to possession) to describe their care of the animal. This may require a Sunday meeting to accommodate personal schedules. A separate letter will be mailed to all organizational leaders to cover the market beef members for 07-08.

Market Sale Budget Discussion; John handed out e mail responses to state-wide inquiry regarding percent vs flat rate withholding. Reduced cost "Thank you" ads were placed. Kathy M. volunteered to develop percentage estimates for the next livestock meeting.

Fair Critique and Species Reports

General; (1) Wash Rack areas - concern that limited space is sometimes tied up by members with multiple animals - suggestion to contact respective barn superintendent if available slots aren't being used efficiently. (2) Quiet hours - even though there are fairgrounds activities in progress, campers are reminded to respect noise levels in the camp area. (3) Clothing/attire - members are reminded that we are very visible and represent 4-H in the public eye. Proper/suitable attire is expected (regardless of the temperature). (4) Wednesday evening barn orientation/safety meetings will resume in 2008. (5) Will contact Blackfoot Telephone regarding bottled water needs in 2008 (30 cases est.). (6) Animal Pens; a cleaned pen area is part of a completed 4-H project. All pens are to be clean prior to noon Labor Day Monday, unless specific arrangements have been made. A cleaning fee of \$30 will be withheld from the sale (Tammy motion/Matt second-motion passed). (7) Following the Friday wind storm, question was raised "Is their an evacuation plan?" (We will check with the fair office on this)

Livestock Check-In; Dr Konitz was very thorough and Thanks are extended for his support of Sanders Co. 4-H.

Parking/Camping; There was one non-4H family in the camp area. As they aren't part of the program, they aren't familiar with expectations. All youth are expected to have a parent/guardian in the camp area. Consumption of alcohol follows fair policy (not allowed outside of beer garden). Need new parking coordinator in 2008.

Horse; Michele reported it ran very smoothly, one incident was discussed and handled during the fair.

Beef; Terry reported overall it went very well, interviewing/show judge/barn involvement. Wash area drain worked well till the last day, members using chain neck ties in barn presents a safety issue. Rope halters are recommended.

Sheep; Omission from Thank You's-Tammy Beerntsen also donated lamb for the Friday kabob meal. Good judge. Need additional "barn office space/pen". MSU Extension/sheep specialist, Rodney Kott will facilitate a shearing discussion on Tuesday, November 13th (6:30 pm). Plains location to be determined.

Swine; Matt recommends interviews for junior/senior members have separate judges. Wash rack area needs reinforcement as a fairly large sow used it as a leaning post. Need to enclose the sunny end of the barn/add large circulation fans.

Dog; good judge was on-hand. Junior Leaders Velita Benton/Beca Gunderson were a great assistance.

Cat; Thank You Cindy Benson (judge) and Diane Krantz (coordinator).

Poultry/Rabbit; Open superintendent position, however a leader has indicated interest.

Carcass Evaluation; Went well, Thank You Clark Fork Custom Meats, Plains.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 13th, 6:30 pm (Pavilion?)
Shearing discussion (R. Kott), tagging policy.