

Fergus/Petroleum County 4-H Leaders Council

Meeting Notes

January 17, 2023 – 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 5:36 pm on January 17, 2023. Hailey Gallagher led the group in the Pledge of Alliance and 4-H pledge.

Introductions / Attendance / Roll Call:

- Corry Arntzen - *Christina Busy Bees, President*
- Sonja Gregory – *Vice President (Virtual)*
- Karly DeMars - *Christina Busy Bees, Secretary*
- Stacie Arntzen – *Christina Busy Bees, Treasurer (Virtual)*
- Jada Bantz – *Big Sky Club - Grass Range (Virtual)*
- Nicole Tholt – *Winnett Shamrock (Virtual)*
- Annie Bergum - *Winifred Mustangs (Virtual)*
- Emma Wickens – *Winifred Mustangs (Virtual)*
- Jordan Grindheim – *New Horizons (Virtual)*
- Hailey Gallagher – *Creative Critters, Ambassador*
- Chris England – *Creative Critters, Ambassador Leader, District Council Representative*
- Yvette Hersel - *Creative Critters, Foundation Representative*
- Allison Smith – *Extension Office*
- Erin Martinez – *New 4-H Program Assistant*

Minutes: We did not approve the November minutes at this meeting and will locate, disseminate, and vote on the November minutes at our next meeting.

Correspondence: We received two donations at the end of the year in the amounts of \$800 and \$2,000. Thank you notes have been sent for both donations.

Treasurer's Report: Stacie Arntzen reported that all livestock checks have gone out. She will be moving the Livestock funds located at the Bank of Rockies to the rest of funds. A statement of activities was handed out to participants. Stacie also shared that all financial accounts will be moving to First Bank prior to 2023 Central Montana Fair. Hailey Gallagher moved to approve the Treasurer's Report for audit, Yvette Hersel seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Announcements:

- Enrollment grace period goes to April 15. Enrollees must now pay for their own books
- 4-H Rec Lab, March 17-19 in Culbertson. Register on Zsuite (available to 13+ age group)
- 4-H Volunteer Institute, Feb. 17-19 in Billings. Register on Zsuites (Five or six volunteers are going from Fergus/Petroleum counties)
- Leadership Academy, 12 and older, Feb. 5 and March 5, Sheriff's Complex, 2:30 or online at 3:00 PM
- Junior Camp Counselor Applications due Feb. 1 to the Extension Office (Junior Camp is June 20-22, 2023) – application reminders will go out this week.

Ambassador Report: Toiletry drive went okay – the Ambassadors haven't gotten together to deliver the collected items. Ambassador's will host a Spa Day in conjunction with Caregiver Day. Traveling Farm is scheduled for Monday, April 10 - 4-Hers are encouraged to bring pets to help with this effort. Farm Safety Day is scheduled for Tuesday, April 11. Ambassadors are looking for tween members (11- and 12-year-olds) to help with Farm Safety Day. Farm Safety Day is geared toward 1st and 2nd graders and all surrounding schools are invited.

Committee Reports:

- ❖ **Livestock:** The livestock committee last met in October and will meet again on March 13. Some new policies were approved and will be shared with members. The fair showing dress code was voted to be more relaxed allowing for nicer blouses. For example, short sleeve with a collar or long sleeve without a collar will be acceptable. Policy changes went into effect for take down and timing for livestock removal from fair. Parents are

allowed to help members with show fitting in an instructional manner. There will be a new swine lots at fair if there is enough interest.

- ❖ **Small Animal:** Committee met after Indoor Workbook Workshop. Had pretty good turnout to the workshop. Mariah and Chris are working on a grant for a cooler system for the small animal barn. The Spring Showmanship Clinic will be June 5. Dog clinics will be held on February 5 and March 5, right before leadership training. This will be a no-dog attendance training and Nicole will be sending out informational emails on the upcoming dog clinics. Future rabbit clinics are unknown at this time. Winter Fair (Saturday, January 28) will host a dog show at 2 pm; Cat Show at 3 pm; Rabbit Show at 4 pm. The next Small Animal Committee will be June 5.
- ❖ **Awards:** no report.
- ❖ **Horse:** Met December 12. The committee voted to change the Ranch Horse Test. The updates are currently being developed and will be voted on once complete. The Horse committee is doing concessions at Winter Fair – Saturday and Sunday 6:30 am to 2:30 pm. All horse project members are asked to work a shift – sign ups available on ‘Sign up Genius’. The committee voted to purchase a new backdrop, which has been ordered. There may be a packing clinic in the future – more information to come.
- ❖ **FCS/ Miscellaneous Projects:** The next meeting will be January 30. There are two opportunities for members to contribute to cookbook fundraiser (recipe and pictures). Deadline will be soon. Send recipes and photos to Allison. Ambassadors are also hoping to produce a photo calendar according to month’s theme – check the newsletter for more information.
- ❖ **Food Booth** – Haven’t met recently. Yvette Hersel is working on meat donor letters in hopes to get commitments from the 2022 donors. This year, the donated meat will be sent to a processor to make patties. If anyone is interested in helping to improve the farm-to-table effort in the food booth, please contact Yvette. The food booth committee hopes to know all donors well before the fair so they can ramp up advertising efforts through social media and the printed fair schedule publications. Yvette committed to another year as food booth coordinator and will check with Mindi to see if she will be the co-coordinator. Food booth shift sign up will start in June. Club Leaders - please let new members know it is a requirement for all members to work in the food booth. A parent is required to be with their member(s). Additionally, members should not sign up for a shift on the same day they are scheduled to show their livestock.

Special Committee Reports

- ❖ **District Counsel:** no updates
- ❖ **Foundation:** no updates

Activity Reports

- ❖ Citizenship Seminar – taking place right now. Fergus/Petroleum had no representation this year due to illness.
- ❖ Leadership Academy – no report.

Old Business

- Fairgrounds Monument: CJ Bailey will complete in the spring. The Leader’s Council received a grant to replace/update the cement structure with plaque that identifies Fergus County 4-H Leader’s tree planting and time capsule effort.
- Fire Truck Kits: Corry Arntzen reported that the kits were compiled on December 29 and most have been delivered. Grass Range, Heath and Denton kits still need to be delivered.
- Chokecherry Jam Discussion: Fergus/Petroleum County 4-H was asked to organize the Chokecherry Jam event independently this year. Historically this event was a group effort between Yellowstone Boys/Girls Ranch, Boys & Girls Club and 4-H – with proceeds being split three ways (4-H receiving around \$2,000 per event). Per Jennifer’s last report – Boys & Girls Club and Yellowstone Boys/Girls Ranch are not interested in planning the event this year. A motion was made by Yvette Hersel to not take on the Chokecherry Jam this year. Stacie Arntzen seconded. During discussion, it was highlighted that although it was an awesome community event, the Fergus/Petroleum County 4-H program is going through many changes this year and we had never been part of the planning or logistics for the event. If another entity came to the 4-H program requesting help, we would revisit the topic. The motion passed unanimously to not take on the Chokecherry Jam in 2023.
- Updated 4-H Job Descriptions – **ACTION ITEM:** Allison will send document changes. Livestock supervisor position was updated.

- **ACTION ITEM:** Allison will send bylaws to the group.

New Business:

- 2023 Scholarships
 - 4-H Leaders Council Scholarship: Historically the council offered a scholarship to 1-2 graduating senior (\$250). Applicants can apply up to 4 years if they had been involved in Fergus/Petroleum 4-H.
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Stacie will confirm amount in the traditional scholarship fund vs. the Colt Reisig Memorial Scholarship Fund.
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Once we have details on the number of seniors and amount of funding, we will do an email vote. We would like to get the application out in February. Corry will coordinate this effort.
 - Stacie Arntzen moved to form a committee to review scholarship applications. Chris England seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
 - Committee members: Erin Martinez, Stacie Arntzen, Karly DeMars, Sonja Gregory
 - Colt Reisig Memorial Scholarship – 4-H Leaders Council has received several donations towards this scholarship. Scholarship guidelines and application are still being developed. Contact Laredo and Shari Hagenbuch has more information.
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Stacie will move the Colt Reisig Memorial funds to a separate line item on the statement of financial position.
- 4-H Job Descriptions – more details to come
- Other New Business
 - Livestock Sale Check Cashing: Yvette Hersel moved to enact program policy to require 4-H members to cash livestock sale checks within 60-days of the date the check was issued (date on check). Past 60-days, the 4-Her would have to apply to the Extension Office to re-activate their sale proceeds. After 60-days, any uncashed funds will be moved into the Livestock Committee sub-account. The new bank account (1st Bank) checks would have a statement regarding the 60-day void notice. Notice of this policy change would be published in the Fair book, participant livestock packets and through a formal letter to livestock project participants. Stacie Arntzen seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
 - **ACTION ITEM:** Allison will share draft re-activation application.
 - The Extension Office requested funds for expenses for Junior, Tween and Senior camps. Allison will bring exact costs to the next Leader's Council meeting.
 - Camp Dates:
 - Junior – June 19-22
 - Tween – June 13-15 at Georgetown Lake
 - Senior Great Falls - June 26-28 in Great Falls
 - Rec Lab - March 17-19 in Culbertson

Next Meeting Date: Monday, March 20, 2023 – 5:30 PM at Sheriff's Complex. A zoom link will be available.

Adjournment: Meeting adjournment was moved by Chris England and seconded by Erin Martinez. Meeting adjourned at 7:13 pm.

Minutes submitted by Karly DeMars, Secretary