

Ransom County 4-H

FALL COUNCIL MEETING

September 29, 2015

Attendees: Council Members Dan Bear, Duane Carlson, Judy Oland, Autumn Schultz, Wylie Geyer, Kim Meyers, Tom Nord, Robbi Hopkins, Brian Zimprich and Debra Lee. Others attending: Kristy Bear, Monte Spadgenske, Kylee Meyers, Kristi Freeberg, Jason Quam, Charlene Carlson, Darla Smith, Jamie Geyer, Jackie Bircham, and Libbie Perleberg

President Dan Bear called the meeting to order and Pledges were said.

The Secretary's report from the Spring 2015 council meeting was read and motioned to approve as read by Kristi Freeberg, 2nd by Darla Smith.

The Treasurers Report, "Spring to Fall Yearly Summary" was presented by Robbi with a copy to all present. Question re: who pays the Fair Judges: 4-H Council pays the Horse and Dog Obedience judges, while the Fairboard pays all others such as livestock and Interview judges. Static judges are all volunteers. Tom motioned to approve report as presented, 2nd by Duane.

OLD BUSINESS:

Deb reported that Aliceton was the only club to complete the form for participation in "**Healthy 4-H Clubs**". The form will be due in August for 2016.

Finance Committee Term: We need to identify the length of time (term) members will serve on the finance committee, as the bank signature card needs updating each time there is a change. Robbi reported it has worked quite well to have the 5 Finance Comm. Members as signers. After some discussion, Duane motioned with a 2nd by Kim, to have the Finance committee serve 2 year terms (consisting of the Council Treasurer, President, V.Pres, and two leaders at large); In addition the 7 member Executive 4-H Council should also serve 2 year terms, with those currently on the Council serving one more year. Elections will then be held again starting in Fall 2016. After some discussion, and agreement by all current members to hold their positions one more year, the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

County 4-H Rules and Policy Changes: The Candy Coffin dues will be updated to read \$15.00 per member to start this October 2016. Clarification of makeup and term length for the Finance Committee and Executive 4-H Council will be added as noted in old business.

New Science Kits & Cloverbud Kits: Deb reported receiving grants for both type of kits. A training night will be announced: at least one adult or older youth club member should attend and pickup up kits at that time.

Helium Tank: The helium tank used at Spring Carnivals has been stored in the Expo office. It was last used for the 2014 carnival, but is now missing (1st noticed in prep for the 2015 carnival). Numerous inquiries have been made to those with access to the office with no success in locating it. The assumption is that it has been stolen. The tank belongs to Praxair, Fargo. We have received a bill for \$489.00. It was motioned and 2nd to pay the bill asap to avoid further late charges. Tom will discuss the matter with the fairboard to see if there is any insurance that will help cover the cost. The new tank for 2015 Carnival is stored in locked room where only extension staff have access.

4-H Sponsorship for 2015-16: Window Clings: To decrease solicitation frequency and have a firm idea how many sponsor dollars will be available thru the year, the staff would like to try asking sponsors to indicate their “yearly” contribution rather than requests several times per year. The once a year donation would list each thing their dollars sponsorthis information would be noted on a “4-H Sponsor” window cling which could be displayed at their business location. The businesses are further recognized on our 4-H Banner, which will also be updated to include the 2015 premium sale buyers. All present agreed with this plan, adding be certain to indicate to the sponsors, there is flexibility in when the donation would be “due”.

Showmanship Plaques vs. Buckles: Darla Smith asked the council to discuss and consider offering buckles for showmanship awards rather than plaques. Plaques cost approx \$25, buckles approx \$35. There was unanimous support for the change to Buckles by adults, youth and businesses present. Duane motioned to approve, Kristi F. 2nd/ passed

Ribbons & Premium Sale: Duane asked for discussion re: the increasing trend of red ribbons at the beef/livestock shows have resulted in many kids (9 in the beef show this year) exhibiting, but are not eligible for the premium sale. He, as well as others present noted more strain about this issue each year among both youth and parents, noting there was an entire class of beef that received red ribbons. He also said the Beef Judge at this years’ fair stated he was unaware of our blue ribbon policy for the premium sale, and had expressed feeling bad about some of the ribbon placings after learning of the policy the next day.

Brian stated that **any “change in policy” would have to be voted on at this Fall meeting to be implemented for the 2016 year.** There was **lengthy discussion**, including personal experience by parents of kids missing the sale this year. The statement was made that the obvious incentive in getting a red ribbon is to learn and do better next year. It was also brought out that older, experienced youth are happy to/want to be asked to help others at the show, and that attendance at the showmanship workshop was not high. It was suggested that somehow the 4-H Show be judged less like a point show; instead, focusing more on the youth/animal as a **project**, and what the industry is looking for in that breed/class, not who has the “best groomed/looking” animal at the show.

It was further noted that the premium sale proceeds are significant in helping families afford the substantial financial commitment in feed (especially for the larger animals) as well as the additional expense of exhibitors needing to be at the fair for 5 days. And many kids use their sale proceeds to purchase/feed a better animal the next year. Also noted was the fact that more businesses/individuals are giving kids with only reds a “premium” outside of the premium sale.

Duane motioned that “a junior w/ all reds can take one animal thru the premium sale; in addition, the judge shall be provided a copy/told of our premium sale blue ribbon policy prior to the start of the show. Jason seconded motion. Vote (5) in favor, (8) against; motion failed.

Jason motioned to maintain blue ribbon policy, with exception being kids age 10 and under w/red ribbons be allowed one animal in the premium sale. Motion was seconded, vote (4) in favor (6) opposed..failed.

****The livestock committee**, consisting mainly of barn superintendents & extension staff will again meet this winter to review/recommend any changes for the fair in 2016. Meeting will be announced, and visitors are welcome to attend or send suggestions ahead.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Awards night is Monday, November 30, at 7pm in the Lisbon High School. Help to judge records on October 7 at 9:30am in Forman is needed: (2 to 4) individuals or leaders.

A **Leader Forum** is scheduled for November 25 at **Bagg Bonanza** Farm. Starts 5:30 pm till approx 8:30 pm. Watch newsletters for more info.. This is a great opportunity for any 4-H teen or leader to get fresh ideas for the year.

Kris Bear asked about a **fundraiser** over school Christmas break. None is scheduled at this time. Please forward any ideas for one to anyone on the 4-H Council/Extension Office.

Friend of 4-H and **Family of the Year** ballots were given to all present to vote/collected.

Election of Officers: None held due to policy change earlier (officers will hold positions for 2 yrs).

****It was noted that EVERY CLUB GETS THREE VOTES AT COUNCIL MEETINGS: Many votes were unused at this meeting. Council meets 2x/year. Consider sending delegates from your club!!**

Kris motioned to adjourn meeting, Darla 2nd.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Oland, Council Secretary

