

Ransom County 4-H

SPRING COUNCIL MEETING

April 7, 2015

Attendees: Council Members Dan Bear, Duane Carlson, Judy Oland, Kim Meyers, Wylie Geyer, Tom Nord, Robbi Hopkins, Brian Zimprich, and Debra Lee; Absent: Autumn Schultz. Others attending: Kendra and Kylee Meyers, Michele Bartholomay, Kristy and Zach Bear, Monte Spadgenske, Joe and Beth Wall, Makalya, Mackenzie, and Trey Wall, Sara and Lydia Lyons, and Jackie Birchem.

The meeting was called to order by President Dan Bear. The Pledge of Allegiance and 4-H Pledges were said. The **Secretary's report** from the Fall 2014 meeting was read with a motion to approve as read by Kim, seconded by Kristy.

The **Treasurers** Fall to Spring **report** was presented by Robbie with a copy to all present along with a separate summary of Carnival income/expense. Carnival Funds raised totaled \$2,354.80. Tom motioned to approve report as presented, Duane seconded.

OLD BUSINESS: The 2015 Ransom County Fair Livestock Committee Meeting minutes were presented in a copy to all. The committee including Dan Bear, John Carlson, Ryan Galbreath, Kim Myers, Darrin Lyons, Caitlin Holm, Monte Spagenski, Tom Nord, Brian Zimprich, and guest Judy Oland met January 27, 2015.

Brian reviewed/explained each recommendation as follows:

1. To Separate the livestock shows (4-H, FFA, and Open Class), to run in succession of each other, with the Open Class show being last. Kim motioned to approve, Tom seconded, with unanimous vote to **Pass**. This recommendation will be presented to the Fair Board for final approval.
2. Re: Ribbon policy: The committee's recommendation was to ADD one Overall reserve and grand champion from the 3 Kid and Calf classes in Beef and Dairy(not in each lot); and to ADD an overall reserve and grand in the Progeny and Production classes. After some discussion, the recommendation **Passed** with a motion by Michelle and second by Duane, and a vote (11) to pass (1) opposed.
3. Re: Review of class lists: The committee recommends the "**Pen Of #**" class be eliminated from the Beef, Sheep and Swine divisions. After lengthy discussion, and a motion to pass by Tom, with a second by Kim; Motion **Failed** with a vote (7) opposed (5) pass.

4. The committee recommended: An animal can only be exhibited once, therefore if an animal is shown as an individual, it could not be shown as part of a group like Progeny Pair and Pen Of #. A lengthy discussion ensued focusing on the fact that those classes are about 'like/uniform performance as a group' and 'representation of a ranch or feedlot herd'; and the 'production of the dam' is being showcased when accompanied by its offspring. A motion to pass by Kim with a second by Tom; Motion **Failed** with a vote (7) opposed (5) pass.

****Further discussion on this recommendation, resulted in clarifying that exhibitors should be immediate family members(definition up for discussion), and each group of animals should originate and/or be cared for on the same premises. Furthermore, only one animal in the group will go through the premium sale, and **that** animal cannot be taken in the premium sale a second time (from a Blue won in a different lot). Brian shared that the State is working on rules for ID of animals individually, and this will likely become part to the animal ownership/care & lease form in the near future.**

****It was also noted that for convenience (in the rush of Premium Sale), some exhibitors have taken the same/similar animal through the sale, rather than bring in the actual qualified 2nd animal. Deb voiced that this even was noticed by a premium buyer/spectator in the crowd, and all present at the council meeting agreed **this must STOP.****

5. There was also unanimous agreement to clarify wording in the Beef divisions like British Influence, European Influence, etc, by listing the actual breeds alongside each class name.

++ Other items noted in the Livestock Committee Meeting:

1. Some Exhibitors are not cleaning up after themselves after shearing and clipping AT THE FAIR.
2. Monte is wondering if some improvements in caging can be pursued in the rabbit and poultry barn to make nicer viewing for the public, and less congested for exhibitors? Brian will bring this up for discussion at a fairboard meeting.
3. The Performance steer class will continue to be offered. Brian will pursue having the ultrasound portion available this summer.
4. Judy gave clarification regarding a suggestion by a livestock spectator/community member, that perhaps the committee think about developing a "Pro-Am" type of entry/judging system for the 4-H show animals based on if an animal has been shown for example: 2 or more times that year. The judge could designate **both** 'Pro and Am' animals for grand, reserve, etc separately, within the same lot. Judy also commented on the fact that our county has several extremely talented and successful kids "point

showing” throughout the summer, and extended congratulations to those youth. Some discussion ensued with no recommendations at this time.

FURTHER OLD BUSINESS: 4-H Council Budget

Duane spoke on behalf of the **Finance Committee** consisting of himself, Dan Bear, Autumn Schultz, Tom Nord and Wylie Geyer who met with the goal of presenting a yearly budget for the 4-H program, to be voted upon at the 2015 Fall Council meeting. They first figured out that **if all** funded programs/opportunities were utilized by youth, the 4-H council **could** feasibly end their year \$3500 in the red. With that in mind, and considering the increase in Candy Coffin fees to \$15/member this fall will increase that total to approx \$1800, the committee is considering the following ideas:

1. Fair ribbons currently cost an average of \$1100/year. They are hoping to possibly obtain sponsorship for all or a large portion, which could be recognized with large business thankyou signs in the Expo. They have received some favorable response from local law firms already.
2. Consider deleting reimbursement of meals/ mileage for State Contests. This currently runs about \$1000/year.
3. Consider another fundraiser to be held during Christmas vacation. Some ideas: rent inflatable games, sponsor a teen dance, etc.

**It was decided an announcement in monthly 4-H newsletters should solicit any/all ideas for this purpose be forwarded to office staff or a finance committee member.

**One idea mentioned in discussion at this meeting, was a process one county uses, whereby Cloverbuds are allowed into the premium sale for the sole purpose of the buyer “premium” denoted as being a donation to the county 4-H program.

NEW BUSINESS:

Carnival review: The main issue continues to be the lack of difficulty in the games. Each club will be asked to review the booths they supervised and submit notes positives/negatives along with suggestions to improve/make more challenging for older kids. New game ideas are being sought, a dunk tank was mentioned. Possibly raise ticket cost to 2/\$1.00. Reduce the amount pop as prizes in booths. Other feedback from carnival: there needs to be more adult supervision at the games and cakewalk. Very low turnout to

set-up the night before and the suggestion that the club who does the main area clean-up can leave when done, with only one club having to remain to finish after the dance.

Science Trunks: Deb has been awarded grant money for **science kits** and an additional (6) new Cloverbud lessons. She will be ordering them, clubs can pick up in the fall.

SE Activity Day: October 10, 2015

(Changed from May 2nd): hoping to increase attendance and availability of instructors. It will also fall at the end of **4-H Week**. Looking for new projects and youth or adult instructors... please let extension staff know if you have knowledge of any.

Archery Classes: Dan Olson reported that classes had to be postponed due to instructor conflicts. Currently only 4 instructors as two have recently moved. The July class at Sticklestad will still be held. Looking for more volunteer instructors! There are increasing numbers of contests and opportunities for archers in the state.

Western 4-H Camp: Brian reported there are several camp opportunities this summer and several youth from our county have attended b-4. The **Extensive Refurbishment** of the cabins, mess hall, etc are really nice...top-notch! Located near Washburn, registrations are still open.

Horse Judging: End of contest season update. A BIG Thankyou to Sara and Matt Lyons, and Laurie Bischof for coaching the teams again! There are 25 youth involved this year! Ransom County ended their season at the State Contest in Fargo recently. A junior team won First Place Team in **both** Horse Judging and Hippology. Lydia Lyons was junior 1st High Individual overall and 1st in performance class. Sadie Jameson was junior 2nd High Individual and 1st in halter class. The Senior Team finished 4th as a team, in both Horse judging and Hippology, with Brittany Johnson 7th high individual (Horse Judging), and Katelyn Oland was 4th high individual in Hippology. Complete results will be in the Gazette.

Livestock Judging: 16 kids competed this year. Brian reported ending their season at state with a 3rd place junior team. The Senior Team of Haley, Garrett, Zach, Kylee, Kaitlyn & Marshall won 1st place team, and therefore has qualified for Nationals in Louisville, KY to be held November 17th, 2015. Kylee addressed the council, asking consideration for a donation to the team travel expenses. For six students and two chaperones, it is projected to cost nearly \$10,000 in expenses for planned judging camps & workouts, leading up to, and attending the National contest. Tom motioned to donate \$400 with a second by Monte. After discussion, motion **failed**. Duane motioned to amend the motion to \$500 with a second by Wylie. **Motion passed** (8) pass (2) opposed.

Showmanship Camp: Brian reported that a livestock showmanship clinic is being planned in our county for sometime in June. It will focus on Nutrition, Showmanship, and Daily Care of the show animal. Several experienced showpersons from our county are being solicited to help put it on.

Upcoming Events/Reminders:

1. **Showcase:** there was no Club Pizza Party Winner this year.
2. **Communication Arts Contest:** will be Monday April 13th at 6:30 in the courthouse. Sign up has been low this year.
3. **Consumer Choices Contest:** will be Tuesday April 28th at 6:30 in the Lisbon High School Commons. There is still time to sign up and Deb is still available to do a workout.
4. **Healthy ND 4-H Club deadline:** is July 1st, 2015. Only one easy form to submit for your club to get credit for doing.
5. **Summer Intern:** The extension office will have an intern for 12 weeks this summer, available/eager to work with 4-H, family and consumer sciences. Let Deb know if you have ideas where your club could use an assistant/guidance on a project.

Zach Bear made a motion to adjourn the council meeting, seconded by Kaitlyn Geyer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Judy Oland, Council Secretary