

**Livestock Committee Meeting
September 26, 2012
ADS – Greenwood**

The Clark County Livestock Sale Committee held their annual meeting on September 26, 2012 at the ADS building in Greenwood. The meeting was called to order by president, Grant Koski at 8:10 p.m.

Present: Dean Schmelzer, Candy Turnquist, Mel Abel, Keith Eibergen, Wendell Attoe, Trina Schmelzer, Cindy Kolzow, Scott Pralle, Terry Sischo, Jim Micke, Terry Byrne, Harlan Hinkelmann, Chris Smith, Grant Koski, Robert Sebesta, Tom Meyer, Ed Hamel, Jerry Micke, Dale Drinsinger, John Galen, Cheryl Steinbach, Kimberly Mertens, Wayne Artac.

The secretary's report was read. Terry Sischo and Trina Schmelzer moved to approve the minutes as read. Motion passed.

The treasurer's report was read with a final balance of \$5,742.49 in the checking account. Chris Smith and Harlan Hinkelmann moved to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Swine - Grant Koski reported the swine weigh in will be April 13th at the County Garage in Loyal from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. A reminder to 4-H members, one must be in line by 12:00 to have their animals weighed. There will also be no split in weigh in times. When a member comes all their animals will be weighed at the same time. The fitting and showing clinic educational date has to be set yet. The committee discussed the MAQA rules. Members 15 years and older may take a test to test out of the class. If one passes the test, this will count as an educational point for up to 3 years.

Sheep - Terry Sischo shared the sheep weigh in will be May 11th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Greenwood at Heartland Coop. The fair weigh in will be on August 7th from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. The committee changed rule number 3 to state "castration and weaning of a lamb must be done at least 2 days prior to weigh in date." Also, to sell a lamb at the fair a market lamb must weigh at least 120 lbs. and no more than 170 lbs. The educational meeting for sheep will be April 8th at 7:30 p.m. at the Loyal High School. The topic will be on fitting and showing your market lamb.

Beef - Wendell Attoe reported the beef weigh in will be January 26th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. A snow date will be February 9th. There are no changes to the beef rules. The fitting and showing clinic for beef still needs to be set. The committee is opening the invitation to other families to host the event.

Poultry - John Galen shared there will be a chick day in the spring. This event will be when a 4-H member may purchase only a few poultry versus a big batch. New this year, to sell in the sale 4-H members will need to be in showmanship. The weigh in date will be the same as the rabbits.

Rabbits - Kim Mertens reported the rabbit and poultry weigh in will be June 29th from 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. in Greenwood. Weigh in at the county fair will take place on Thursday from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. The committee is still discussing a show time for the fair. To sell a rabbit at the livestock sale a 4-H member must have ownership of the rabbit by May 15th, instead of May 1st. To show a rabbit, they must weigh 5-8 lbs. with a 0.5 lb leeway. The sell a rabbit it cannot weigh more than 8 lbs. In February or March a educational session is being planned on selecting an animal, showmanship, and butchering.

Educational sessions - No issues or concerns were identified this past year.

Carcass show - Going to 45 minutes sessions this past year worked well. The livestock committee suggested that the ultrasound results for the beef and swine be given out at the carcass show and discussed as well. Currently, they are given out after the show at the fair just prior to showmanship with no discussion on the results.

Livestock Sale - Much discussion held on limiting the number of animals in the sale and changing the time of the sale. A committee was established to develop a survey to the buyers. Harlan Hinkelmann will chair the committee. The group will be Harlan, Dean Schmelzer, Cheryl Stienbach, Kim Mertens. Harlan Hinkelmann moved to start the Livestock Sale at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday. Motion seconded by Terry Byrne. Motion passed.

Livestock Banquet - This past year the banquet went well. About 350 people were served within 35 minutes for the banquet. Meat was donated by one of the buyers. All members were in favor of keeping the meal. A committee was established to assist in preparing for the banquet and livestock social. Cindy Kolzow will chair the group. Members are Kathy Attoe, Kim Mertens, and Amy (Jim Micke's significant other).

Thank you letters - This year several 4-H members came with thank you notes without addresses due to not knowing the address of their buyer. Prior to the banquet a list of buyers and their addresses will be available from the extension office for next year. The expectation of the thank you notes will be explained better in the letter to participants. For example, they need to be stamped and ready for mailing.

Pictures - Discussion held on taking the beef pictures on show day and the swine and sheep on the sale day. We will continue this process. However, concerns were brought up from some buyers the night of the sale because they did not receive a picture that night; only the beef members were providing a picture the night of the sale. More discussion held. Terry Sischo moved to not hand out any pictures the night of the livestock sale. Motion seconded by Harlan Hinkelmann and was passed.

Adding a meat goat project - Discussion held on the possibility of adding a meat goat project and selling goats at the sale. The committee okayed movement to pursue this project.

Starting time for ultrasound of animals - Discussion held on starting ultrasound earlier with the pigs as it was quite late when finished. After further discussion it was decided everything went late due to the person completing the ultrasound was significantly late in getting to the fairgrounds as he is coming from the state fair.

Gates for the beef and sheep show - Wendell shared the gates used for the beef and sheep show and the livestock sale are for sale. Currently, they are owned by Karen Hemann and stored at the Hemann family residence. There are 18 twelve foot gates and 2 ten foot gates and one that has a walk through gate. The price of the gates new at Fleet Farm are \$75 each. Chris Smith moved to buy the gates from the Hemann family for \$1200. Trina Schmelzer seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Fair theme - Discussion held by the committee on concerns with the recent fair themes being only dairy related and the difficulty with doing barn decorations. Concerns provided to Sara Gronski to share with the Leaders Federation.

Meal vouchers - Discussion held on how meal vouchers are passed out to workers at the fair. Concerns were raised and it was suggested to take recommendations and concerns to the fairboard.

Plaques in dining hall - Terry Sischo noticed there are plaques in the dining hall at the fairgrounds with livestock winners on them. These have not been updated since 2002. Sara was unaware of these plaques. Cheryl Steinbach moved to have the plaques updated. Wendell Attoe seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Shipping slips - Cheryl Steinbach shared she is still having significant issues with youth turning in the shipping slips after the respective livestock shows as to where the non-sale animal is going. Discussion held. It was moved by Terry Sischo and seconded by Harlan Hinkelmann to have the youth complete the shipping slips when they weigh in their animals on entry day.

Market price on buyer's slip - The committee decided to take the market price off the buyer's slip due to haulers receiving complaints from buyers.

Elections - Wendell Attoe's position is up for re-election on the livestock executive committee. Dean Schmelzer moved to open the floor to nominations. Chris Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed. Wendell Attoe was nominated. Scott Pralle moved to close nominations and unanimously vote for Wendell. Terry Byrne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chris Smith moved to adjourn the meeting. Trina Schmelzer seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned.