

**Clark County Livestock Committee Meeting
September 27, 2017 at Loyal City Hall**

Present: Grant Koski, Mark Becker, Ed Hamel, Eric Statz, Adam Luchterhand, Harlan Hinkelmann, Wayne Artac, Brittney Lowry, Dean Schmelzer, Nick Stieglitz, Jim Micke, Mel Abel, Candy Turnquist, Sheri Jacque, Jerry Micke, Katie Chapman, Denny Jakobi, Trina Schmelzer, Rich Meyer, Kimberly Mertens, Pam Stuttgen, Matthew Stiemann, Cindy Hohlstein, Wendell Attoe, Heidi Zank, Cindy Kolzow, John Galen and Chris Hollar

The Clark County Livestock Committee meeting was called to order by president Grant Koski at 8 pm at the Loyal City Hall.

The secretary's report was reviewed. Denny Jakobi moved approve the minutes and seconded by Rich Meyer. Motion passed.

The treasurer's report was reviewed by Cindy Kolzow. The final checkbook balance as of 9/27 is \$23,981.21. Moved by Dean Schmelzer to approve the report as presented and seconded by Dennis Jakobi. Motion passed.

Committee Reports

Beef - Wendell Attoe shared the beef weigh-in will be January 27th at Curtiss with a snow date of February 3rd. The committee was concerned with space in the beef barn and publicity of the beef shows on fair flyers. Concerns will be taken to the fairboard. The beef committee is asking to purchase canopies for over the bleachers for the beef show. Prices will be checked and brought to the spring meeting for approval.

Sheep - Dean Schmelzer shared he is co-chair of the sheep committee. Terry Sischo will still remain as chairperson. The sheep weigh-in will be May 12 from 10 am - 1 p.m. at Heartland Coop in Greenwood. There will be no mid-summer weigh-in this year as turnout has been poor over the past few years. The sheep educational session will be April 3rd at 7:30 p.m. at the Bendixen farm in Greenwood.

Swine - Grant Koski stated swine weigh-in will be April 14 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Loyal at the County Garage. Maximum weight for swine at initial weigh in will be 65 lbs. otherwise one will not be able to show or sell the animal. Exhibitors are asked to notify the office by 4/13 if weighing in hogs. The committee also decided to utilize the family weigh in process as sheep and beef do. Fair weigh-in will be 8/8 from 8:30 am - 2 p.m. with a 1-hour break for lunch. On entry day of the fair, exhibitors will need to have health papers available first before unloading animals. After much discussion, new this year any market hog that receives a pink in their respective class at the fair will not be allowed to sell the animal at the sale. This process will be tried for one year and then re-evaluated next year.

Poultry - John Galen reported this year youth will be responsible to order their own chicks. They should be coming in around end of May or early June. Youth will need health paperwork from the hatchery--this is required. Each youth will be able to show only 2 market chickens. There will be no floater animals. There will be no initial weigh. Weigh-in at the fair will be 8/8 from 12:30-2:30 p.m. Also, turkeys will not be sold this year. John suggested looking at different processing plants other than Sunny Meadows for more options.

Rabbits - Pam Stuttgen shared rabbit weigh-in will be June 23 at 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. at ADS in Greenwood. Fair weigh-in will be 8/8 from 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. with the market rabbit show starting at 6:30 p.m. Jessica Stuttgen will be the market rabbit superintendent. Pam Stuttgen and Kimberly Mertens will be co-chairs of the committee. January 15 will be the first rabbit education session at ADS at 7 p.m. with a snow date of 1/22. This session will focus on showmanship. Please remind youth when and if they are attending a rabbit educational session where the focus is harvesting a rabbit that indeed this is what to expect.

Business

Scholarships - This past year the committee chose to give out 3 - \$500 scholarships and 6 - \$250 scholarships due to the high quality of applications and the length of time applicants were in the project. Some of the \$250 scholarship winners will be eligible to receive an additional scholarship next year if they are in the market animal project. Discussion held on who the recommendations are from and when they are due. Rich Meyer moved and Cindy Kolzow seconded to have a least one recommendation come from a club leader or FFA advisor. Motion passed. In addition, scholarships will be due March 1st.

Education - YQCA (Youth for Quality Care of Animals) is the new program that replaces the former MAQA. Any exhibitor showing sheep, swine, beef, rabbits, poultry, goats, or dairy at state fair in 2018 will be required to complete the program. The program will count as one educational point for the livestock market program. The state has added a fee to the program. The online program is \$12 per person and each youth must complete the online program separately to obtain credit for the education session. Face to face option will be made available as instructors are taught. The only personnel who may be trained as an instructor are Extension agents, ag instructors, or veterinarians. The face to face option will be \$3 person. After much discussion of logistics, the committee decided this year to have the YQCA remain as an optional educational session opportunity for Clark County youth except for those showing at state fair. If youth complete the online session or attend a face to face session it will count as one of the 3 required educational points to sell an animal at the market sale. The committee is also looking at providing a face to face session during the Christmas break.

Livestock Social - No suggestions for improvement, will keep at the same as previous years.

Photos - Livestock sale photos will be done again by Cindy Kolzow. Will continue to take beef photos right after the beef show.

Livestock Sale - Much discussion ensued with regards to parents confronting bidders about prices an animal was sold at or for not bidding an animal high enough. **This behavior must stop!** We have limited businesses in Clark County to bid on animals and a very high number of animals being sold. We have already lost some major companies on bidding at the sale due to this behavior. The committee is requesting that all parents stop this immediately. Unfortunately, the committee is unable to directly address the individuals involved as business are unwilling to provide names as these same people are their customers.

It was brought up to change when the champions are sold during the sale. After much discussion Wendell Attoe moved to have the champions sold in the order the exhibitor was picked to be in the sale. Dennis Jakobi seconded the motion. Motion passed. So for example if exhibitor, John Smith, was picked to sell his animal in slot 33 and he was the grand champion lamb, he will be the 33rd animal sold in the sale.

Carcass Show - The committee was thankful for Pinter's Packing to provide the carcass show. Discussion held to change the sessions to 30-minute time frame with 3 sessions. Looking at this year's numbers we still had over 140 people come through that evening. Pinter's shared with committee members that we are the only county that pays for both the trucking and butchering of carcass animals. Discussion ensued. Dean Schmelzer moved and Sheri Jacque seconded to continue having the committee pay for the trucking of carcass animals but the butchering fees to be covered by the respective buyer of the animal. Motion passed.

Discussion held on the meat processing plants the county utilized this year. Unfortunately, complaints were received by many about Augusta Meats with mixed up orders and pricing. Wendell Attoe will follow up with Augusta Meats in person. In addition, Pigeon Falls is asking to be added to our list of prospective processing plants.

Livestock Banquet - Feedback received was Wednesday was a good night for the banquet. So next year's banquet will be August 29th at the fairgrounds. The forestry committee was able to obtain last minute help to assist with set-up, so therefore there was little work for the swine exhibitors to assist with this year. Suggested to reduce the number of families bringing cheese trays and increase another food area.

Supreme Showmanship Contest - No issues brought up with the contest. Many liked the fact the judge asked the youth several questions and kept his placings until the end.

Future fairgrounds building plans - Plans were shared with the committee on what is being looked at as options for updating the buildings and/or building new buildings for the fairgrounds.

New Events for next year's fair - Wendell Attoe shared that he received approval from the fairboard to put together a Mutton Busting competition during the fair and for respective species barn's to host silent auctions as a way of fundraising.

Animal Area Science Days - Chris Hollar shared that Clark County is hosting the Animal Area Science Days on June 22nd this year. Discussion held on whether to provide livestock judging events. No volunteers spoke up to organize this. Per Chris, we did not have to have livestock events, just dairy judging was required.

Elections - One seat is open on the executive board as Grant Koski's term is up. Cindy Kolzow moved to open the floor to nominations. Seconded by Denny Jakobi. Motion passed. Grant Koski was nominated. No other nominations excepted. Harlan Hinkelmann moved to close nominations and unanimously vote for Grant on the executive board. Wayne Artac seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Harlan Hinkelmann moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Wendell Attoe. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

The next livestock meeting will be March 21, 2018 at 8 p.m. at Loyal City Hall

Addendum

The executive board met briefly after the meeting to determine officer positions: president - Grant Koski, vice president - Wendell Attoe, secretary/treasurer - Cindy Kolzow.

Minutes respectfully submitted by,
Cindy Kolzow, Secretary