

4-H Outdoor Committee Minutes

October 13, 2014

Members Present:

Dennis Deaton – LCL	Karl Christians- Farm Kids	Dave Gardner-LCL
David Hamilton- Big Sky 4H	Vanessa Olson-LCL	Janet Cerovski-Extension
Katie Grady Selby-CC Stock	Val Williams-LCL	Kathy Swanson
Kim Ashmore-Haywire Kids	Jim Ashmore-Haywire Kids	Cage Johnson-Haywire Kids
Jeff Patten-LCL	Martha Gardner-LCL	Andrea Corbally- CC stock
Karen Bratlien-Big Sky	Wade Bratlien-Big Sky	Marilyn deMontigny-Sleeping Giants
Vicky Rae Byrd-Sleeping Giants	Brent Sarchet-Extension Office	Catherine McNeil-Sweet Clovers
Nicole Newman-Haywire Kids	RaeLynn Christians-Farm Kids	Dawn Schneider-Silver Creek Stock
Amanda Saraco-Haywire Kids	Nathan Nachtsheim	

The Outdoor Committee Meeting was called to order at 5:30 October 13, 2014 in the BHB

Karl Christians opened the meeting by saying that the use of the hot shot while loading pigs at fair was by him and he did it to reduce stress and to keep pigs from dying. The hot shot delivers one quick shock not continued electricity. He invites anyone that thinks it shouldn't be used to please be at pig loading to help out.

Karl asked that the sentence in the minutes saying a pig was standing in the corner being continually shocked be removed from the minutes as it was not true. A motion to approve the corrected minutes from the September meeting was made by David Hamilton and seconded by Jeff Patten

Dog-Meeting on the 25th at 9 AM

Horse-Vanessa an upcoming meeting on 9/20

Poultry- Nicole Newman will be co –chairing the poultry project with Val this year

Beef- Had a selection workshop. Beef possession date is January 1st, 2015 and tagging should be January 4th. Karl reported that there had been a lot of calls and discussion on carcass results and looking through the data he felt that this year's judge had been pretty tight on the marbling scores. Karl has been telling kids there is a lot of subjectivity in the carcass data and they should really look at how their animal appeared at the fair and take both things into consideration.

Extension- Brent responded to the carcass judging saying that this year's judge has over 20 years of experience and we should be very careful of criticizing him or we will have trouble finding someone to do it in the future. He invited anyone that has any questions about the carcass results to come talk to him.

There are a lot of good applicants for the open extension agent position and they will begin the interview process soon but a new agent will not be hired until January.

New Business;

Nomination/Election of Outdoor Superintendent; David Hamilton nominated Dennis Deaton as Outdoor Superintendent which Vanessa Olson seconded. **With no other nominations a motion to cast a unanimous ballot for Dennis was made by Karen Bratlien and seconded by David Hamilton**

Open Superintendent Positions were opened and filled with the interested parties in attendance; **Karen Bratelin-Dog, Vanessa Olson-Horse, Marilyn deMontigny- Dairy, Katie Grady Sellby-Herdsmanship (Katie asked that her mother Lisa Grady be included as co-chair)**

Dennis said there also seemed to be a need in our county for a livestock judging super and if we could find someone to fill that position it would be great.

Tagging 2 animals of the same species for fair; Dennis reported that he had been approached by a family interested in allowing kids to tag two animals of a market species for fair but only bringing one of that species. Discussion began;

Karl Christians said that the topic had come up before and the discussion had centered then on if it were fair to those families that can't afford 2 animals.

Kathy Swanson- wants to know if anyone actually raises a pig by itself though which some people did respond yes to.

Martha Gardner- kids in her club just wouldn't be able to afford 2 animals.

Kathy Swanson- yes but they wouldn't be required to buy 2 animals and kid's hearts are broken when they have an animal that dies or for some other reason can't make it to fair.

David Hamilton-maybe we need to look at and adjust the dead animal policy

Dawn Schneider- this would help kids succeed and the decision to buy 2 should be left up to the families

Karl Christians- life has its failures and it should be ok for a child to learn from that when an animal dies. This is how the agriculture industry works.

Kathy Swanson motioned to allow 2 pigs to be tagged for fair but only one may be brought. She then amended the motion to include all market animals- Amended motion- allow kids to tag 2 animals of any market species but only 1 per species may be brought to fair. Dawn Schneider seconded.

Discussion as follows-

RaeLynn Christians- all for setting up kids for success but her son had 2 different market steers died and he learned from it. He took better care of a steer in the future and won grand. She is concerned that having 2 animals might

make kids not care as much about their animals saying what the heck if one dies I have another. She feels instead we should address how kids are caring for their animals.

Catharine McNeil-concerned this would flood the market

Jim Ashmore- We need to remember when voting on this it applies to all animals, not just the pigs that discussion is centering on. 4H should be equitable and this seems to help those families with more money.

Dave Gardner-Pigs are expensive and this has never been a concern in the past. He doesn't know that this would solve anything as we have been fine in the past. This might have just been a bad year.

Nathan Nachtsheim- Speaking as a buyer at the sale his family always has extra pigs but they don't go out and solicit the same buyers that would come to the sale. He feels this might help improve the quality of pigs but kids should have to decide by June which pig they will bring.

Martha Gardner-concerned about how much longer tagging would take and how we would need more help, and concerned about the added expense of the extra tags.

Dennis Deaton- If this was to pass believes we should charge a \$5 fee for tagging the second animal to offset tag costs.

Vicky Byrd- As other counties do this maybe we should try it for a year. Maybe even adjust it to where this is just for those families with only one child to help their animals. We could monitor it and see how it does.

Andrea Corbally- they raised a pig alone last year and it did fine. How do we explain this to the families that can't afford 2 animals?

David Hamilton-this might cause more pressure on kids to find hogs and drive up the price so they might not even be able to afford one.

Andrea Corbally-maybe it should be limited to only one extra pig per family.

Amanda Saraco- How would kids have the time to work with 2 animals?

Vicky Byrd- As this isn't a requirement can kids replace their beef if it dies to which she was answered yes as long as before May 1.

With no further new concerns the vote was held and the motion failed with 2 in favor and 8 opposed.

Nathan Nachtsheim is concerned that our parameters were just too wide but this might be a good idea that should be revisited in the future.

Hair sheep breeds as market animals:

Kim Ashmore had a family come up to her at open house that has hair breed sheep and wanted to know if they could even be shown at the fair.

Dennis Deaton asked that it be clarified that there is no rule not allowing hair breeds to be shown at fair

Kim Ashmore-these hair breeds are bred for meat and should be able to be shown for market. They have to be shown and presented differently from a wool breed however and should be shown in their own class. The other

problem is that they take longer to finish so the birthdate or the minimum weight would have to be adjusted for them. Kids want to be able to show these animals in market class at fair.

Dave Gardner-what type of sheep is more in demand for meat?

Kim Ashmore-The number 1 hair breed for meat is currently Dorper

Jim Ashmore- We would either need to adjust the birthday or the minimum weight to allow them to show

Jeff Patten-we should either backup the birthdate or adjust the minimum weight to allow them but in the end they would have to be shown against the wool breeds for an overall grand.

Dave Gardner-yes we need to have 1 grand market sheep not a grand wool and a grand hair breed

Martha Gardner-how much lighter do we need the minimum weight?

Kim Ashmore-90 lbs.

Karl Christians-is our judge familiar enough to judge them?

Jeff Patten- yes his neighbor raises them and he would be able to do it

Brent Sarchet- There is no policy or procedure currently on how we hire a judge and that needs to be handled in the future. The name of the judge shouldn't be released. If our current judge can't do it just hire another judge to judge that class.

Kim Ashmore motioned that we allow hair breed sheep to be shown as market animals with a minimum weight of 90 lbs and a maximum of 110 lbs. to be shown in a separate class but in the end must compete against the wool breeds for overall grand. She then amended the motion to remove the maximum weight. Amended motion: we allow hair breed sheep to be shown as market animals with a minimum weight of 90 lbs. to be shown in a separate class but in the end must compete against the wool breeds for overall grand. Amanda Saraco seconded the motion.

Nathan Nachtsheim- asked what they should finish at to which Kim answered 110 lbs.

Cage Johnson- they have the highest yield grade of any sheep so the buyer is getting a better deal.

With no further discussion the vote was cast and the amended motion passed unanimously.

Moving animals to fair on Tuesday; Dennis Deaton stated that this was his idea after being approached about the adult round robin show and there being so little time at fair for just the things we are already doing. He would like to see this happen to hopefully be able to spread some of our shows out in the future as well as giving the animals time to relax.

Karl Christians is concerned that as a parent he just doesn't have the time

Martha Gardner- When would we weigh and what about security

Dennis Deaton- we would have to work those things out but my idea would be to weigh after all of the animals arrive, not when they come in, either that evening or the next morning. Security is a large concern and we would have to figure that out.

Karl Christians- as a buyer he likes to see that shrinkage that beef have from traveling which is about 3% which they would put back on if we weighed in the morning. He feels they should be weighed when they come in.

Dennis Deaton- would they not gain that back if we weighed that night?

Karl Christians-no weighing that night should be fine.

Catharine McNeil- feels animals shrink more the more time they are at the fair so when we weigh shouldn't be a problem.

Andrea Corbally- Animals use to stay through Sunday how is this any different?

David Hamilton-in favor of getting all of the animals in and then weighing it would be much easier.

Katie Grady Sellby –fair is dying and we should extend it to make it better.

RaeLynn Christians- Lewistown is voting to remove 4H from their fair; lengthening our fair might be a good thing.

Jim Ashmore motioned that we begin bringing animals to fair on Tuesday, Katie Grady Sellby seconded.

Kathy Swanson is concerned about security

David Hamilton- we need to be looking at adjusting our schedule not just making this about one round robin show.

Jim Ashmore amended the motion to be; Animals are brought to the fair on Tuesday as long as the outdoor committee is able to work it out. The vote was held and the amended motion passed unanimously.

Adult Round Robin;

The Canyon Creek Club's idea of the Adult Round Robin Fundraiser has the full support of the outdoor committee and now we just need to work out the logistics.

David Hamilton motioned at 6:58 that the meeting adjourn and all unfinished business be carried over until next month's meeting.

Meeting Adjourned.