

President Corry Arntzen called the August 27th, 2024 Leader's Council meeting, held at the Fergus Co. Sherriff's Complex basement meeting room, to order at 5:30 p.m.

Pledges were led followed by introductions by those in attendance:

Shelly VanHaur/Hilger Highgoalers; Yvette Hersel/Creative Critters; Gisele Yaeger/Christina Busy Bees; Corry Arntzen/ Christina Busy Bees; Hailey Gallagher/Creative Critters & Ambassadors; Chris England/Extension; Allison Smith/Extension; Riley Larson/Extension; Jada Bantz/Big Sky; Anne Bergum/Winifred; Sarah Mauws/UBet; Nicole Thold/Winnett Shamrocks – Ambassador Advisor; Christina Blanchett/Winifred (online); Judi Martin/Snowy Mtn. Trailblazers (online) Davey Storfa/Independent; Sonja Gregory/Independent.

Minutes from the May Meeting were read and approved. (Shelly – M, Nicole – 2<sup>nd</sup>).

In Correspondence thank you cards for scholarships and the tent donation (Jr. Camp) were passed around.

Treasurer Gisele Yaeger reported total funds are \$62,465.03 as of 8-9-24, excluding any Food booth deposits. There was discussion and the Treasurer's Report was approved (Yvette – M; Anne – 2<sup>nd</sup>).

Committee Reports included:

County Ambassadors: Hailey reports the fair and Pig Kissing contest went well. \$312 raised in Pig Kissing and \$200 raised for dunk booth at Hot Summer Nights, with a match from the bank. Ambassadors will attend Fall Leadership Training in November.

Livestock: fair went well with a positive report on the judge. Ultrasound/carcass contest closed and next year will be a new judge. Next committee meeting is Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>. Any policy changes and proposals should be submitted and new officers and policies will be voted on in November.

Small Animal: Nicole reported small animals had a good fair. Best in Show buckles should arrive for County Awards; and the remaining fair prizes had been ordered. Next committee meeting is Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>.

Horse: Riley reported the fair and prizes at fair were good. Next committee meeting is Sept. 9<sup>th</sup> at Extension Office.

Static: Corry reported that the indoor project display area in the Trade Center looked nice and represented our 4H projects well. Chris shared that there were 313 static entries. For the indoor auction, Corry reported 15 more registered buyers than last year, with an average of \$137 per item sold. Work will continue on location and accommodations for the static auction to account for weather, both hot sun and wet rain/wind conditions. The static committee also sold a decent amount of stickers from the sticker design contest. The remaining are available for sale from the Extension Office.

Food Booth: After 6 years, Yvette has submitted her resignation for the food booth. Mindy will remain onboard for an additional year and Yvette is willing to help onboard a new candidate. Approximate food

booth expense from fair is \$14,666, with approximately \$19,217 income, resulting in an approximate \$4,500 profit. The food booth freezers have ceased life and will need replaced prior to 2025 fair. Additional discussion noted the pies were better dispersed/consumed throughout the week this year; discussion revolved around Senior 4H members not being required to work a food booth shift in the future; and a recommendation was made that tip money left at cash register be designated towards “camp funds” and be tracked separately. We will continue to improve the proper shift availability with signups in the future.

Nomination Committee: Current Secretary Karly DeMars is completing first two-year term and is eligible for a 2<sup>nd</sup> two-year term. Foundation Rep Yvette Hersel is finishing her 2<sup>nd</sup> year term and termed out. A replacement for her term is being sought. It meets 1x per year (during Congress) via zoom.

Extension: Riley Larson was introduced as the new Family Consumer Sciences agent serving Fergus County. She will be taking on the leadership role for Horse Committee and Static Projects Committee. Chris reported Kylee Crawford earned 1<sup>st</sup> place honors at Congress in the Quilting project – earning her a trip to National 4H Congress in Atlanta this fall. The Livestock Team placed 6<sup>th</sup> overall at Congress. The Extension Office will be decreasing the number of Greytak calendars it pre-purchases/orders as its historically had left-overs in prior years, costing our 4H group additional monies. Livestock sale checks are near complete, but awaiting two checks from buyers to deposit before releasing checks for member pickup.

In Old Business the following was discussed:

Endowment Discussion – Chris reminded the group that we may want to consider planning for this. No action taken but discussion about possible committee being formed in the future. If there are knowledgeable or interested individuals, speak to Chris.

In New Business the following was discussed:

Leaders’ Banquet – discussed and agree on Sunday Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> in the early evening. A less formal meal being provided was discussed. It was suggested the committee (Chris and Sonja) look at the same church as last year, and Leader’s Council provide pizza and salad.

Project Workbooks – the committee presented their proposal, no longer making project workbooks a requirement of project completion. Although they are highly encouraged, specifically for first year project members, completing activities in project workbooks would not be required at the fair or for year end project completion. Discussion included the SuperAwards having separate requirements determined by the Fergus Co. Extension Office. The committee recommends revisiting the decision prior to Oct. 1, 2026 to evaluate the result. Members may still request and receive project workbooks if desired (during enrollment in zSuites or contacting Extension Office). Also mentioned was the changes that should be made to the fair entry book, allowing project workbooks becoming an entry/lot option.

The following committee proposal was approved by vote (Nicole – M; Yvette – 2<sup>nd</sup>)

- 4H Project workbooks are optional beginning with the 2024/2025 4H Year. It is strongly encouraged that members and families complete at least one year of project workbook activities in their 1<sup>st</sup> 4H year and when starting a new project.
- Completed project workbooks for the 4H year can be entered as a fair entry with the opportunity to earn a ribbon/premium money.
- Project workbook requirements for special awards, such as the Super Buckle, will be on file by the Fergus County 4H Office.
- The workbook committee will re-evaluate the changes prior to Oct. 1, 2026.

Membership Dues & Insurance – Chris reminded the group of the existing dues for leaders, members and cloverbuds: \$10; \$5; \$2 respectively. Additionally, our county pays the State \$6 for leaders, \$5 for members, and \$1 insurance for leaders (\$2 if in Horse). After discussion it was approved by vote (1 opposition) to increase member dues to \$10 per member (Yvette – M; Giselle – 2<sup>nd</sup>). Additional discussion and vote approved Leaders Council to offer a scholarship opportunity for any leader, member, or clover bud as needed. Chris will work on an application that will be available through the Extension Office.

Policy Changes Process – A policy proposal change was discussed to waive a 4H member's required food booth shift for their senior year. Yvette will draft this proposal for the next meeting.

Following discussion in the food booth committee report, a motion was made to formalize the food booth cash register tip money allocation. It was moved and seconded that all 4H Food Booth tips received at the register jar go to the 4H Camps Fund (Yvette—M; Hailey—2<sup>nd</sup>).

Horse Committee Proposal – Riley shared that the Horse Committee would like to work towards producing a Halloween Carnival at the Pavilion, charging admission. Target audience is the community, and to allow attendees the opportunity to interact with/ride a horse/pony, play games, wear costumes. The intent is to engage with the community, and allow 4H Horse members an opportunity to cover some of their required yearly horse fees. The committee is still working on details; and if the event proceeds, they're asking for funding help to offset the cost of renting the pavilion for the event. It was moved and 2<sup>nd</sup> for Leaders' Council checking to fund \$150 towards the carnival (Nicole – M; Yvette – 2<sup>nd</sup>); motion carried.

Other - Leaders' Council purchased the online/ cloud – based version of Quickbooks so it can be used from any computer. It can also be accessed by additional individuals as needed. At this time its discussed that we do not need to purchase a new laptop for Leaders Council Treasurer.

The following Announcements were made:

- Reminder that club meeting minutes should be turned into the Extension Office
- Reminder that radio spots can be pre-recorded
- Reminder that new 4H year begins Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>.

- Reminder Record/Year End completion; County Award Nominations; Friends of 4H nominations all due to office by 9/15. Club nominations due 10/1.
- Round Table Discussion/County Awards Discussion is Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Reminder Club Financial Reports due to office by 11/1.
- Reminder County Awards Program is Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> at 2pm at First Christian Church.

The next meeting will be Leader's Banquet, Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> at 4pm; location TBD.

The meeting was adjourned (Hailey – M; Davey -2<sup>nd</sup>).

Meeting minutes taken by Vice President Sonja Gregory