

**Mountrail County 4-H Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday, January 24th, 2024**  
**Mountrail County South Complex**

The Mountrail County 4-H Council meeting was called to order at 6:34pm by Melissa Vachal.

**Meeting Attendees** –Barb DeTienne, Trinity Hynek, Amanda Hynek, John & Julie Woodbury, Lisa Uran, Kaley Uran, Sadee Uran, Levi Uran, Bailey Hawbaker, Laura Fransen, Cassie Burns, Krista Littlefield, Cooper Sem, Keylie Sem, Susan Vachal, Brooke Vachal, Rebecca Hager, Lane Vachal, Melissa Vachal, Heather Tomlinson, Lynnette Vachal, Zach and Wendy Maurer (zoom) and Curt Vachal (Zoom)

The **Pledge of Allegiance and 4-H Pledge** were recited by the members and lead by Lane Vachal & Levi Uran.

**Secretary's report** was read by the members, and Julie motioned to approve the secretaries notes and Trinity second. Minutes Approved

**Treasurer's Report** was read by members, the balance is \$49,458.67 at the current time with \$2,401.63 out in checks currently. The Motion to approve the treasurer's report was moved by Barb and second by Levi. Report Accepted

**Old Business:**

*Shooting Sports – Assisted by Rolling Plains Sportsman's Club:*

- Both archery and Air Rifle have full sessions with waitlists, in archery, there are approximately 60 participants, and 20 participants in air rifle. Both events have a new set of helpers which has been a great addition.

*2022-2023 Registration – Started 9/1/2023:*

- If any clubs have adults or parents that assist frequently at meetings/events or drive youth to events/activities, they need to enroll and complete a volunteer background check to be covered by insurance and to assist with youth. - Highly recommended to sign up as a volunteer!
- Background checks are now every 3 years instead of 6, club leaders will need to check with adults to let them know, Heather will also reach out if you need to update.

**New Business:**

*Fundraisers:*

- Date & location(s) - Stanley will be held on Sunday, April 7th, 2024 at the Mountrail County South Complex and Plaza will be held on April 28<sup>th</sup> at the County Building in Plaza

- Type of meal - Breakfast will be served – Pancakes, eggs & sausage
- Extra activities to attract people – Poultry Poop Bingo, Pictures with bunnies – families bring in bunnies and people can take photos with them.
- Committee for Fundraiser prizes - (2-4 people) - Committee members are responsible for purchasing prizes and getting donations for prizes, we have already had 2 bikes donated. Krista, Heather & Lane will be on the committee. The deadline to submit prizes will be at the end of February (Heather will send out the actual deadline date to everyone)
- Krista moved to budget \$1,000 towards prizes with a second from Keely. Motion Passed

#### North Dakota 4-H Annual Financial Statements – Council & Clubs:

- Each club needs to fill out a form that is on Google Drive as we are not in compliance with the IRS. There is potential of becoming a 501c-3 but may need to hire a lawyer for the legal fees. If we become a 501c-3, then it becomes a tax write-off for donors. The state only wants the council to have about \$30,000 in their account if this goes forward it may be that the council will pay for each club (about \$275) to complete the 990 form which would have to be done annually but pay the \$275 one time.
- There is a potential to take the Uran Scholarship (approximately \$9,095) so that it is no longer in our account, but instead part of the Dollars for Scholars account. It would still be controlled by Mountrail County 4-H & go to a 4-H member but doesn't have to be from Stanley.
- It was suggested to talk to Mell & Associates in town to figure out the best way to go about this. Also, it was asked to talk to other counties that have gone through the process before we begin to get advice.
- Melissa is going to call the State 4-H Foundation along with Krista to get more details and it was decided that we need to figure out actual guidelines before making a decision.

#### Crops/Hippology/Livestock/Meats Judging:

- Krista moved to keep what is in the judging account & the general account will cover any additional cost for state hotel rooms, Julie seconded the motion, and it was passed.
- Entry fees will still be covered by the council.
- Coaches Include: Jennifer Old Rock – Livestock Judging, Julie Woodbury – Agronomy, Ilene Enerson & Katie Wilkens – Hippology

#### Bunnies 4 Buddies Contest:

- New contest starting in 2024. One registered Mountrail County 4-H youth member will receive a young market or pet rabbit with supplies to participating in Achievement Days.
- Sponsored by Jah Krolik (rabbit), United Quality Coop (feed), & Tractor Supply (Rabbit Care Book)
- Keely motioned to approve the cage donation with a second from Trinity. Motion passed, Rebecca will purchase the cages and Heather will pay.

#### Pet Shows:

- Stanley – Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at Ragamuffin Daycare

#### Small Animal Day Camp:

- Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at Mountrail County Fair Building with the same times as last year

#### Livestock Day Camp:

- Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at Mountrail County Fair Building
- Potential to do smaller groups to rotate between stations.
- Melissa bought livestock in a box that she will donate to 4-H and suggested advertising to 4-H members to come to the South Complex for the zoom times.

#### Horse Show:

- Setup June 24<sup>th</sup> for the June 25<sup>th</sup> Event
- Horse Committee needs to schedule a Zoom or in-person meeting to discuss class/judge set-up. Rebecca is willing to assist outside if needed.

#### Achievement Days:

- Lynnette passed out and will send copies to the livestock committee. She used a lot from McKenzie County – Krista motioned with Cooper seconding to send to the livestock committee for approval. Motion passed.
- Static Exhibit times were shown with the new schedule of exhibiting statics on Monday
- All 4-Hers are required to be at setup if they are showing to be in the premium sale.
- The static committee will be responsible for double-checking ribbons and results on Monday when they set up the static displays.
- The livestock committee is going to meet and figure out the best time to weigh in animals.
- Parade of Champions – It was suggested that we already do this at awards day so don't need to also do it at Achievement Days. It was decided that we want to keep it the way that we currently do it.
- It was also suggested to order buckles earlier so that they can be handed out at the Parade of Champions.
- 4-H online animal information is open with Fair Entry opening on May 20<sup>th</sup>
  - o If you show horses, the horse stays in the system.
- Proposed Premium Sale Policy Change Current Policy (pg. 34 #6)
  - o Jon reached out to 8 counties with 6 replies, 2 counties only allow market animals in their premium sale, 1 the animals have to be grand or reserve to qualify along with static exhibits, 1 said they also allow horses in, and most said that their premiums are much lower than ours. It was stated that no county does it perfectly and everyone has problems, but we give members many chances to be in the sale.
  - o Julie motioned to leave the rule as is, Laura 2<sup>nd</sup> and motion passed

#### Other Business

- Krista motioned to move project day Hess money to the educational fund, Julie 2<sup>nd</sup> and the motion passed.

- Kirsta motioned to have a static exhibit checkout at Achievement Days, and if the members do not check out their exhibits, they do not receive their premium. The motion was seconded by Cooper, and it passed.

Dates to Set:

- Spring Council Meeting – May 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm at Mountrail County South Complex

Motion to adjourn was made by Keely and seconded by Trinity. Meeting adjourned at 9:01pm.