

Mountrail County 4-H Council Meeting
Wednesday, April 30th, 2025
Mountrail County South Complex
Zoom/In Person

The Mountrail County 4-H Council meeting was called to order at 6:39pm by President Melissa Vachal.

Meeting Attendees – Sarah Brewer, Barb DeTienne, Bailey Hawbaker, Krista Littlefield, Keylie Sem, Monica Sem, Julie Woodbury, Lynnette Vachal, Heather Tomlinson, Melissa Vachal, Ilene Enerson (Zoom), Laura Fransen, Levi Uran (Zoom), Sadie Uran (Zoom), Kaley Uran (Zoom), Dylan Uran (Zoom), Grady Uran (Zoom), Lisa Uran (Zoom), Katie Woodbury, Axel Istilart, Cameron Istilart, River Detienne, Cassie Burns, Breanna Istilart, Anika Istilart

Agenda Approval: A Motion was made by Erika to accept the agenda, seconded by Keylie, agenda was approved.

Pledges: The members recited the Pledge of Allegiance and 4-H Pledge and led by Keylie & Erika.

The secretary's report was read by the members, and Julie motioned to approve the Secretary's notes and Erika seconded. Minutes Accepted.

Treasurer's Report was read by members; the balance is \$48,150.59, after outstanding checks are cashed, it will be \$46,596.42 at the current time. The Plaza Fundraiser is in the report already. It was pointed out that under the Agronomy Section it said Rochelle Enerson instead of Rochelle Feldman. The Motion to approve the treasurer's report as corrected was made by Erika and seconded by Sarah. Report Accepted

Old Business:

Fundraisers

- The income/expense report was presented
- Plaza brought in \$3,314.00
- Stanley's will take place on May 4th from 9am-1pm at the South Complex

Judging Teams:

- Ilene Enerson wrote a letter to the council about the Hippology Team winning the North Dakota State contest, and they will be going to the national contest in January to compete. They are seeking \$10,000-\$15,000 approximately for travel to the contest. The members of the winning team are Ziva, Sidney, Marli, and Riley.
 - o The team will come to the June budgeting meeting with more information on what type of financial assistance they will need for the trip.

Horse Clinics

- Have held two clinics so far that have gone great! The students have really enjoyed the clinics and have come back for the work days and have enhanced their skills from what the clinicians have told them to do.
- They had 7 students attend the first clinic, 9 attend the second and so far for their next clinic, they have 9 registered.
 - o There was an attendee who was a no-show for the first clinic as they were uncomfortable coming in the weather, however, the clinic still occurred, and others made it. The attendee did not receive a refund. For the second clinic, there was a no-show due to family issues, and this attendee is seeking a refund; the committee said no to a refund. The council voiced that they support the horse committee's decision and if the attendee wishes to go further, they can get on the council agenda for the next meeting.

Horse Premium Sale

- Heather made a great flyer to send out to families soon, but she wanted to show it to those in attendance at the meeting
- Lynnette wanted to remind families that members MUST wear a helmet when taking their video and while on their horse, as it has been stressed from the state level for members to wear a helmet while on a horse.
- The horse committee stated that they will bring a tv to show the horse videos at Achievement Days
- Melissa reminded us that we need to make sure that there is an area set up for the tv

Dairy Goat Show

- They have secured funds from a few entities to host the clinic and showmanship contest on June 14th at the Mountrail County Fair Building.
- 14 showmen have signed up currently, but more are encouraged to attend
- The money will be used to purchase garment bags, mobile storage units, and feeder bags for the winners and to pay the Judge, Will Bachmeier
- There is a \$25 registration fee for the event

Bunnies for Buddies & Kids for Kids Contests

- Bunnies for Buddies had one applicant and received their bunny last week at the Home and Garden Show in Stanley, the winner was Eva Johnson
- There was one applicant for the Kids for Kids contest, however, the goat was not born early enough for the applicant to receive it. It was expressed to the applicant to apply next year.

New Business:

Achievement Days

- Setup & Static Judging: July 7th
- Livestock Judging, Record Book Judging & Other Events: July 9-10

- 4-H Online Membership, Animal Ownership and Animal Information Entry Deadline– May 1 - Need to put in all animals you could potentially show as no animal entries will be accepted after this date
- Fair Entry static/livestock class entry registration opens May 19th and closes June 20th – Make sure your descriptions are as close to your project as possible.
- North Dakota State Fair
 - Lynnette will host an LQA in-person training on June 18th in Stanley
 - The Training Certificate is good for 3 years
 - YQCA online training
 - Cost - \$12
 - Yearly renewal
 - Members must have one of these trainings to compete at the North Dakota State Fair in 2025
 - ND State Fair Livestock ID requirements have changed. Heather has sent out the video recording. If you do not see the link, please let the office know so you can be up to date on the new requirements for State Fair.
 - County level is not as strict, all animals should still have an ID, but an ear tag will be acceptable instead of an RFID tag. Check out Heather's email for more information
 - Required for all shows, not just 4-H (open, junior, 4-H and FFA)
 - No proper ID, you cannot get onto the fairgrounds
 - The county does not have RFID tags, which you will need for the State Fair. Please see a veterinarian for tags.
 - Deadline for Exhibitor Promotion for static projects going to the North Dakota State Fair is July 11th at Noon.
 - During the Buyer's Supper at Achievement Days last year, Lynnette watched over the exhibits during the supper, so she was unable to eat. She is seeking solutions to this problem. It was suggested to close the viewing of exhibits from 5-6 pm to allow for supper and then open the viewing during the premium sale for buyers to be allowed to come look at items. Melissa volunteered to watch the exhibits during the premium sale. It was also stressed for clubs to make sure that they are working in the areas that they are assigned to, and make sure everyone is helping with the cleanup.
 - At the June meeting, we will decide how to handle poultry at Achievement Days based on the criteria available at that time.
 - It was asked to open up for volunteers to sing the National Anthem before the premium sale at Achievement Days. It was then suggested that if no members volunteered, the anthem would be played by a phone. Also, it was asked to make sure that we have the flags to the arena for the premium sale.

Small Animal & Livestock Day Camp

- Small Animal Day Camp – May 27th
- Livestock Day Camp – May 29th
- Suggestions for instructors/helpers for species

- Suggested to reach out to the past champions, but if there are recommendations to let the office know. Bailey also suggested Taw Scaff, the NDSU swine specialist, to come and help with the event.
- Chickens will be tested again at the Small Animal Day Camp.

Horse Show

- Set Up – June 24, Show – June 25
- Online ownership date and submission deadlines are the same as livestock.
Ownership – May 1st
- Animal Registration classes open May 19th and close June 20th

IRS Status & Deadlines

- We have all of the items situated for this year.

RTC Discussion

- RTC marketing department has reached out to the 4-H office to say that they are no longer going to be purchasing premiums at the county level. They instead would like to support the program, so are looking for options to help support our county 4-H.
 - It was suggested to offer them to serve and sponsor a meal at the 4-H Horse Show to the members who are competing. They would recommend that they be open for lunch from 10 am – 3pm.
 - It was also suggested for them to sponsor the Git – R – Done awards and award pins. They could also present awards that day.
 - It was also suggested to offer them to be a meat sponsor if one of our current sponsors were to ever back out of the meat sponsorship at our Buyers Supper.
- Lynnette was going to offer these ideas to them and allow them to choose what they would like their company to do.

Programming and Other

- Project Day – It was asked to bring back more project days for our county to host and utilize the tubs that our 4-H office has. There was an ad on Facebook for a STEM Day that is free if you are within 30 miles of Ward County, but the council suggested that they would like to see more items like that within our county. It was asked that the 4-H office set dates for these project days and invite the community to join in hopes of gaining more 4-H members.
 - Krista motioned that in the new club year, to host three project days consisting of two projects each, with dates being provided by Lynnette. Erika seconded the motion, and the motion passed.
 - Project Day ideas include – Cricut, Basic Sewing, Sourdough, Lefsa, Diamond Dots, Candle Making, Dog Training, Game and Fish, Zoo, Duck Stamp, Poultry Club, Veterinarian speaking, if you have any other ideas, please let Lynnette know.

2025-2026 4-H Dates to Set

- 2025-2026 4-H Year Budget Meeting - June 23rd at 6pm at the South Complex
 - Any clubs, teams or those wishing to seek money from the council, please attend to ask for budgeting needs
- Fall 4-H Meeting – August 20th at 6:30pm at the South Complex

Upcoming Dates:

- May 1 – 4-H Online Membership Deadline, Livestock & Horse Ownership and 4-H online animal information deadline
- May 3 – Horse Practice Day
- May 9 – District Communication Arts Contest, Williston
- May 17 – Horse Clinic
- May 19 - Achievement Days and Horse Show Fair Entry Opens
- May 27 – Pet Show May 28 – Small Animal Day Camp
- May 29 – Livestock Day Camp
- June 10 – 12 – West Farm Safety Day Camp – Williston
- June 14 – Dairy Goat Clinic and Showmanship Contest
- June 18 – Achievement Days 101 & LQA in person training (NDSF Livestock Exhibitors)
- June 17 – Horse Show Fair Entry Closes
- June 20 – Achievement Days & Horse Show Fair Entry Closes
- June 23 – 4-H Council Budget Meeting
- June 24 – Horse Show Set-Up
- June 25 – Horse Show
- July 7 – Achievement Days Set-Up
- July 7 – Achievement Days Static Judging
- July 9 – Achievement Days Livestock Record Book Judging
- July 9 & 10 – Achievement Days Livestock Judging
- July 11 – ND State Fair Exhibit Promotion Forms Due (by Noon)
- July 18-26 – ND State Fair
- August 20 – Mountrail County 4-H Council – 6:30pm

The next council meeting will be June 23rd at 6:00pm at the Mountrail County South Complex.

Erika moved to adjourn the meeting with a second by Axel. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.