

**Mountrail County 4-H Council Meeting**  
**Monday, June 23rd, 2025**  
**Mountrail County South Complex**  
**Zoom/In Person**

The Mountrail County 4-H Council meeting was called to order at 6:02pm by President Melissa Vachal.

**Meeting Attendees** – Sarah Brewer (Zoom), Anika Istilart (Zoom), Grady Uran, Joe Hynek, Julie Woodbury, Illene Enerson, Katie Woodbury, Kaley Uran, Lisa Uran, Krista Littlefield, Barb Detienne, Melissa Vachal, Bailey Hawbaker, Amanda Hynek, Erika Littlefield, Cassie Burns, Laura Fransen, Heather Tomlinson, Lynnette Vachal, Curt Vachal, Cameron Istilart, John Woodbury, Harley Burns

**Agenda Approval:** A Motion was made by Erika to accept the agenda as amended by adding Gary Martens with meat judging and the horse committee with horse clinics, seconded by Barb, agenda was approved.

**Pledges:** The members recited the Pledge of Allegiance and 4-H Pledge and led by Kaley.

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

**Treasurer's Report** was read by members; the balance is \$59,732.07 after outstanding checks are cashed; it will be \$58,505.54 at the current time. The Motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by Erika and seconded by Cameron. Report Accepted

**Old Business:**

**Fundraisers- Income/Expense Report:**

- The income/expense report was presented
- Fundraisers brought in \$7,830.94
- Funds were down about \$1,000 due to church activities, etc.

**Small Animal & Livestock Day Camps:**

- Livestock Day camp went great!
- The birds were tested outside that day due to the recommendation by the state.
- Numbers have been down, but it is great for new members.
- It was asked to look at a potential date change for the camps, or recommended to have a judge come in to speak with the members.

**Pet Show:**

- Went great!

## **New Business:**

### **2025 -2026 Budget:**

- Proposed Budget Items
  - o Lynnette and Heather made a proposed budget for the 2025-2026 4-H year.
  - o The budget was discussed, and most items are budgeted the same as the previous year.
  - o Budget years if from September 1<sup>st</sup> – August 31<sup>st</sup>
    - Meat judging was added under judging clubs.
    - Shooting sports would like to add a contest in our area, so a budget line was added for them, in case they choose to have the contest.
    - It was suggested that judging clubs should come to the yearly budget meeting to propose how much they would like to be budgeted for their club.
    - There is a line item for general event supplies
  - o It is budgeted for \$500 for Agronomy, Hippology, and Meats, with livestock budgeted at \$150.
- Meats:
  - o Mountrail County has a state champion meat judging team. On October 21<sup>st</sup>, the team will compete. October 17<sup>th</sup> – October 22<sup>nd</sup> is when members will be traveling. There are 4 members (Rebecca Littlefield, Brooklyn Weyrauch, Katy Roise, and Cooper Sem) and two coaches (Gary Martens and Shane Giedd).
    - Lodging - \$1800
    - Miles – 1850 miles (potential) - \$500ish
    - Registration - \$100 for National Contest
    - Potential Omaha contest - \$100
    - Vehicle?
    - Budgeting about \$5,000
  - o John Woodbury motions that the council cover \$5,000 for the meats team, minus the revenue from all fundraising. Motion was seconded by Amanda. It was discussed that it may be nice to have members fundraise to take “ownership” of their trip. It was also discussed that the coaches put in a lot of time during the season, so they shouldn’t need to put in a lot of time to fundraise as well. Motion failed.
  - o Illene moved with a second from Krista that the council would cover 50% of the projected cost. (Currently would be \$2,500 of the \$5,000 projected cost). Motion passed.
- National Horse Judging – 4 Members and 2 Coaches
  - o Applied for the state funds of \$1,000
  - o 5 Days in Denver – Tentative Dates: January 7<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>

- Concessions at Achievement Days
- Flights - \$3,600
- Hotel - \$2,000
- Uber - \$1,500
- Meals - \$1,800
- Attire - \$1,500
- Misc. - \$1,000
- Total Budget - \$11,400
- Krista moved to set aside \$5,000 for the hippology travel expenses with a second from Erika. Motion Passed.
- Animal clinics
  - Cassie would like to have a goat clinic next year and add a 3-part poultry clinic. One clinic in January (picking out your bird), March clinic (raising and feeding birds), and then the May clinic would be showmanship.
  - Katie moved with a second from Krista to budget \$1,000 for the dairy goat and poultry workshop. Motion Passed.
- Other
  - Horse Committee would like to budget \$1,500 again for their horse clinics. Krista moved to budget \$1,500 with a contingency that they still charge an entry fee and keep money from the “no shows.” The motion was seconded by Cameron. Motion Passed.
- Katie moved to budget \$300 for Erika and Krista to host a sewing project day. Motion was seconded by Cameron, and the Motion was passed.
- Katie moved to approve the budget with a second from Amanda. Budget was approved.

### **Achievement Days/Horse Show**

- Concession Stand Free Will
  - Krista moved that the concessions stand can have a free will bucket for National Teams. Motion seconded by Barb; motion passed.
- John Woodbury – Snow cones
  - Has done this for the past 10-12 years.
  - Krista moved to approve John Woodbury and Thrivent “forever” with their snow cones and iced coffee at Achievement Days. Amanda seconded the motion. Motion Passed.
- Cameron moved to approve the attendance of North Country at Achievement Days. John seconded, and the motion was approved.
- Livestock Committee
  - Weight Requirements – An incident occurred where a member’s animal was not able to make it to Achievement Days as it was deemed dangerous. The member has a second animal; however, we currently do not have a class for this animal, as the lowest weight allowed to show in our market beef category is 900 lbs not to be shown in a premier class and penalized at the

premium sale. The livestock committee had four options brought to the council.

- Do nothing, leave the rules as they are.
- Change our 900lb minimum weight rule to a weight that is a percentage of the average for each breed. So, while a traditional market steer is 900lbs (75% of the breed market weight of 1200lbs-1400lbs), a mini-Hereford, for example, may be 600lbs (75% of the breed average market weight around 800lbs). This would allow flexibility as market weights fluctuate and breeds come and go.
- Create a special Mountrail County class. The suggestion is: non-traditional market calves, less than 18 months old, under 750 lbs.
- Cap the amount that an exhibitor can be assessed for underweight animals. The amount would need to be determined.
- John moved to do nothing and leave the rules as they are currently, with a discussion to look more into this later. Krista seconded the motion, and the motion was passed.
- County vs. State Fair Regulations
  - The state fair requires further identification methods to be used. The county fair regulations can be different.
  - The training happened last week, and members who attended are now certified for 3 years. We will offer this training every 3 years.
  - Members who did not attend the training last week will need to do YQCA online and pay \$12 for their yearly training.

#### Other Program needs and discussion

- The horse show is tomorrow, and everyone is getting ready for Achievement Days
- We have had a few offers to hand out ribbons
- Erika will ask her fellow 4-H ambassadors to help at Achievement Days
- No one has offered to sing the anthem

#### Upcoming Dates:

- 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 – 6:30 pm

The next council meeting will be August 20th at 6:30 pm at the Mountrail County South Complex.

Barb moved to adjourn the meeting with a second by Barb. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.