

# January 5, 2022 – Livestock Committee Minutes

Called to Order – 6:36 p.m.

Pledges

Introductions

Public Comment:

- Introduction from Dan Dunsmore
  - o Not the intent to move forward without 4-H – see attached statement
- Stacey Bliesener
  - o Compared the by-laws
    - Missing education
    - How funds will be spent
    - Youth volunteers
- Brenna Marshall
  - o Fears what happens after auction
  - o Youth in program – 13 years – help funds education
- Merle Bohmer
  - o Not in favor of auction leaving 4-H
- Janelle Horrocks-Bohmer
  - o Community leader
  - o About our youth – value of 4-H – life skills
  - o 4-H proposal addressed the possibility of another shut down
    - Volunteers have embraced this
  - o By-laws are exclusionary
    - Still Life separate from all of this
- Abigail Rider – continuing with Janelle’s statement
  - o Exclusionary – only allows certain members to vote
    - No term limits
    - \$25 per year
    - No External audit
    - How funds to be spent
    - No mention of livestock committee involvement
    - Need to understand long term effect
    - Livestock committee – approximately \$25,000 – lost animals
      - Loss of money will not help offset costs
- Riki Bohmer - continuing with Janelle’s statement
  - o Understand the long term effects
  - o Continue to embrace the 4-H proposal
  - o Heritage of 4-H
  - o Still Life does not pull funds from the sale
  - o Think about legacy
- Matt Reeder
  - o Discriminatory
  - o This is about the kids
  - o Agrees with the Policy – allows them to control the funds
- Brandon Hall
  - o Free Fairs - has their own livestock association
  - o Get the youth involved - that’s how you have a show
  - o Need to take the power struggle away

- In favor of the Livestock Association
- Ben and Megan Smith (Ben Spoke)
  - A lot of the concerns have been addressed
  - Spend the money based on the needs of local community
  - Youth an exhibitors that reside in Ingham County
    - Belong to an Ingham County Club
  - Heard that it is a higher caliber of animals
  - Excludes some of these family's from other counties
- Morgan Bliesener
  - New By-Laws are not inclusionary as read by Matt Reeder

Tim Dunsmore motioned to approve the agenda; second by Jean; Discussion – Macayla – remove some of the standard items – Macayla motioned to removed meals, registration, buyer committee, large animal sale, small animal auction, publicity, and computer entry from the agenda; Second by Barnham; Vote on amendment – motion carried; Vote on original motion – motion carried.

Macayla motioned to approve the previous meeting minutes; Dan Minnis second; motion carried.

Committee presented with 2 petitions – Read by Dan Dunsmore

Reading of correspondence – Sarah and Dan Dunsmore – approximately 40 letters

Treasurers Report – Tim Dunsmore - \$29,621.79 in General; \$3,004.87 in Scholarship fund. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report by Julie, Second by Dan Minnis; Motion carried.

Standing Committee Reports:

- Finance/Budget
  - Rhonda worked with Tim Dunsmore on a budget – few questions
    - at 3% we were loosing money – Fair Foundation is at 5% - what to do in 2022?
    - Will there be clinics – budget shows \$700
      - Glenda – we generally try to plan
    - Showworks - \$3,000 – upgrade – needs to be split between the committees
  - Would like to table a vote until March until we can get these questions answered
  - Glenda – we can do entries through 4-H online
  - Rhonda – sale totals from the last two years – need to help make budget
- Ingham County Fair Foundation - Steve
  - Important dates
    - January 22<sup>nd</sup> – Tack Sale
    - February 25 – 27 – Shamrock Shake
    - March 6 – Purse Bingo
  - \$171,000 – ending the year
  - 2 open positions on the Board – looking for Grant Writing and Fundraising
- Council Report – none
- Ingham County Fair – none
- 4-H Staff
  - Events on the side of the Agenda
  - Scholarships – Ingham County received half
  - MOU – cost of the ribbons/judges – Reason for MOU – 4-H is taking on costs – cost to committees – these committees decide how to spend this money

- They were understanding that the sell commissions would fund these expenses
- LMOU – had to veto capital improvements – see LMOU
  - Reiterate MI 4-H standards
  - Find it hard to believe that we will be able to balance a budget

## Old Business

- At Large Members
  - Jeanette Hughes – Assistant Goat Superintendent
  - Tom Sterle
  - Penny motioned to cast an unanimous vote for the two applicants; Second by \_\_\_\_\_; Motion carried.
- 2022 Livestock Auction – Committee Report
  - Jean – two committees formed – Junior Livestock Association
    - Concept – outsourcing Auction – make us self-reliant
  - Glenda – LMOU – presented – vetoed a couple of ideas – capital improvements – moves some funds over to a separate account - \$50,000 – can be used for equipment – insures this committee will have money for judges, ribbons, tables
    - Transparency – hold the money for a stormy day fund
    - Phil – how does this sub fund regulated – Glenda – by 4-H – earmarked as an emergency fund
    - Phil – Resale fund – Glenda – raised under 4-H – those funds in that account are not raised under the name of 4-H
    - Ken Rhines – is it in same account – yes – but it is earmarked and not raised in the name of 4-H
    - Tim Dunsmore – can we write checks – Glenda – yes
    - Lindsey – 2019 – what was the profit – zero – it would take years to get \$50,000
    - Tom – we are not in the business of profiting off the kids – took commission from 4% to 3% - trying to keep that number minimal
    - Lindsey – The by-laws are a draft – we have heard some great ideas to take back to the committee
  - Penny – MOU – under 4-H – Glenda – would fall under Livestock Committee
  - Lindsey – included Superintendents – countless hours – not an untrustworthy group
  - Tom – Fair Foundation – outside entity
  - Lindsey – there will be an MOU with entity
  - Pete – this conversation is happening across the state – everyone wants to work cooperatively – there are several that have separated – though to be under a political environment – both have great language – neither are excluding
  - Glenda – Livestock Committee cannot be used for the auction
  - Lindsey – 4-H is still there
  - Glenda – no mention of 4-H in the document
  - Deidra – this is a draft
  - Jean – this give the committee time to review
  - Ken – money raised by the youth
  - Julie – youth should be involved – this is about the kids – sponsors and kids should have a say
  - Glenda – informational meetings – some questions
  - Macayla – didn't know about meetings
  - Ken – MOU – kids raised the money – going forward – why can't it be changed now
  - Dan – going forward why can't it be said
  - Glenda – 4-H entity – compensate for animals in transport
  - Ken – would come from current funds

- Discussion on money and scholarships
- Discussion on Liability
- Discussion on language and titles
- Julie – what is going to happen to our 4-H
- Lindsey/Pete – nothing – you need to be a 4-H member
- Jean – this is a draft for consideration
- Julie – under the impression that we are going to vote on this
- Pete – 2 special committees – they go back
- Penny – Motion to give committee time to review proposal; second by Dan; discussion; Motion amended by Penny to report back at our March meeting; Motion carried – none opposed.

New Business - none

#### Public Comment

- Julie
  - thanks to the public for being here – step up and help us out – get involved
- Brenna Marshal
  - are youth members allowed to vote – yes but they need to be on the committee
- Rob West
  - would like this out sooner – doesn't know if he now agrees with what he signed previously
- Merle
  - youth association – director
- Stacey
  - Thank you Rob – need to be more transparent – please don't do again – publicize on website – would like youth involved in this committee
- William Barnham
  - change to youth – not excluding – 4-H members – not getting rid of 4-H
- Susan Brandt-Brail
  - thank you for your time – need lots of volunteers and help
- Janelle
  - passionate about 4-H – producing the show is going to be about \$15,000 - \$20,000 – need to raise funds – will only last a couple of years – fears we will lose 4-H at that point – encouraging to stay with 4-H for another year
- Megan Smith
  - this take time – multiple meetings – they are also subjective – keep that in perspective – may be combined and work together
- Jason Buher
  - Kids are passionate – they are watching – don't write off – move forward for the kids and don't hold grudges

Adjourn – Motion to adjourn by Julie; Second by Dan Minnis; Motion carried – Meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Prepared by Sarah Ricketts