

Fergus/Petroleum County 4-H Leaders Council | Meeting Notes

Approved - 4/24/2025

February 13, 2025 | Fergus County Sheriff's Complex, Lewistown, MT

Call to Order: The Fergus/Petroleum County 4-H Leader's Council was called to order by President, Corry Arntzen at 5:32 pm on February 13, 2025. Kylie Crawford led the Pledge of Alliance and 4-H pledge.

Introductions / Attendance / Roll Call:

- Corry Arntzen - *Christina Busy Bees, President*
- Sonja Gregory – *Independent, Vice President*
- Karly DeMars - *Christina Busy Bees, Secretary*
- Gisele Yaeger – *Christina Busy Bees, Treasurer*
- Shelly Van Haur – *Hilger High Goalers*
- Linda Knerr – *Hilger High Goalers*
- Fallon MinJares – *Hilger High Goalers*
- Yvette Hersel - *Creative Critters*
- Hailey Gallagher – *Creative Critters, Ambassador*
- Kylie Crawford - *Creative Critters*
- Shawna Crawford - *Creative Critters*
- Amber Arntzen – *Christina Busy Bees*
- Davey Storfa – *Independent Member, Ambassador*
- Judi Martin – *Snowy Mountain Trailblazers (Virtual)*
- Chris England – *4-H Program Assistant*

Secretary's Report / Approval of November Minutes

Hailey Gallagher moved to approve the minutes from November 17, 2024. Yvette Hersel seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

Correspondence

- A thank you card was received from Kylie Crawford to Leaders Council's for supporting of her trip to National 4-H Congress in Atlanta, GA in November 2024.
- The Fergus/Petroleum Horse Committee received a thank you letter from Montana 4-H Foundation for their support of the State Horse Show.

Treasurer's Report

- Ending Balance as of 2/10/2025: \$123,766.45 (all accounts)
 - Leader's Council account (as part of entire account) \$75,913.67
- Kylie Crawford moved to approve the Treasurer's report and file for audit; Amber Arntzen seconded the motion. Consensus approval of Treasurer's Report was passed and the report will be filed for audit.

Committee Reports

- **Ambassadors:** Aubrey Hankins and Johnnie Schultz are selected as new ambassadors. Upcoming events: April will bring the traveling farm and farm safety day. Ambassadors strongly urge all club leaders to encourage members to help – even if you don't have a pet, there will be plenty. Rec Lab is in White Sulphur Springs on March 28-30, 2025. Pig kissing contest will take place again at the fair. Current ambassadors are Lexie Wichman, Davey Storfa, Tristan Gallagher, Virgil Tholt, Aubrey Hankins, Johnnie Schultz, Hailey Gallagher
- **Livestock Committee** – created sub committees and approved payment to L. Vanek for sheep that was taken during fair. Submitted a proposed budget for Leader's Council approval.
- **Small Animal Committee** – met recently and approved their committee budget; finalized competition prizes; improvements to small animal barn; and will be implementing an ID card system for small animals this year to ensure all participants are bringing their own project.
- **Horse Committee** – upcoming clinics include a Performance Horse clinic taught by Chris Brown scheduled for June.
- **Static Projects Committee** – will be meeting February 24 at noon at Extension Office. Will be discussing 2025 fair and plan to send out letter of intent to sell static projects at fair soon. Still selling stickers – stop by Extension Office to purchase.
- **Food Booth** – Yvette Hersel met with Tom Tiarks – who will be helping Mindy Henderson this year during the fair. Yvette will still be helping but in a limited capacity. Yvette will be reaching out to meat sponsors as we still need five days of donations. Some discussion occurred regarding replacement of fridges and freezers. Chris England reported that a technician said it would be more to fix the fridges and freezers, so we will work towards purchasing replacements. Chris will work on getting measurements for the space and will be getting the units

ordered. Yvette is willing to work on a grant to get funds for the fridge and freezers. There is no need for food booth to be open the Sunday before fair week as the horse event will not be taking place.

- **Montana 4-H Foundation Report** - Nothing to report. 4-H Foundation scholarship is due February 14. If clubs have any seniors, make sure they apply.
- **State Leaders Council Report** (*written report submitted by Nicole Tholt*) - Working on coordinating the next Leader's Institute for the first weekend in October. They were looking at venues in Great Falls but are now looking in Lewistown due to availability. Council will be implementing background checks every five years – no direction on how this will take place.
- **Extension Report** - Made \$755.80 on winter fair concessions. Have some supplies left over that can be used for camps. Enrollment for Fergus/Petroleum County 4-H is 255 members and 68 volunteers. Not all volunteers are active. EINs – almost all clubs have been rejected. Chris England is working with IRS to reinstate them; Club leaders can reach out to Chris if they have questions.

Old Business

- Kylie Crawford gave a presentation on her trip to Atlanta, GA for National 4H Congress.

New Business

- **County Senior Scholarships** – After discussion, the committee chose to open the County Scholarship now, applications will be out soon with a due date of March 31. Review committee will be Shawna Crawford, Sonja Gregory and Karly DeMars.
- **Endowment** – Leader's County would like to set up a subcommittee to look at what to do with the exhausted bonds, which have a value of \$8,903.51 (the bonds are no longer receiving interest). During discussion, an emphasis was expressed regarding the importance of this effort. Leader's Council plans to have something in place for the new 4-H year (2025/2026) and are tentatively planning to present their proposal for approval at the November 2025 meeting. Subcommittee members include Yvette Hersel, Sonja Gregory, Chris England and potentially Darron Crawford (TBD).
- **Committee Budgets** – Committee budgets were submitted from the Livestock Committee, Static Committee, Horse Committee and Small Animal Committee (*budgets are attached to the meeting minutes*). No budget is needed for the Food Booth as it falls under the Leader's Council budget. Yvette Hersel moved to approve all committee budget submissions. Hailey Gallagher seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Announcements

- Club secretaries need to submit meeting minutes to the extension office monthly to ensure clubs are meeting.
- Radio spots (can be prerecorded) – please encourage members to do radio spots and promote 4-H activities
- Shout outs – send into the extension offices to put into the newsletter – highlight club activities, 4 promotion,
- Valentine's Cakes – each club needs to bring 5. If anyone has time to deliver, they leave the extension office at 10 am.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday, April 24, 2025, 5:30 PM, tentative location – Fergus County Sheriff's Complex

Adjournment was moved by Amber Arntzen and seconded by Hailey Gallagher. Meeting adjourned at 6:41 pm.

Meeting minutes submitted by Karly DeMars, Leader's Council Secretary