

Thurston County Youth Market Animal Sale Committee

Meeting Minutes
March 27th, 2024
Market Sale Office

Attendees: Celeste, Josie, Lorraine, Dawn, Bill, Neal, Nicole, Judy, & Robin
Call-ins: Cassie & Tessa

President, Celeste called meeting to order at 6:59pm.

Minutes approved from 2/28/2024 meeting. Josie moved to approve minutes, Dawn seconded the motion, motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Balances given. There are still 2 outstanding checks. Checks are approaching the 6-month date and per the bank, any institution that cashes them would have to reach out to our bank prior to cashing.

There are no outstanding payments currently.

The Officers have all been added to the bank account as authorized signors.

Annual Audit was performed on 3/17/2024. Everything looked great and in order for the past year.

Old Business:

The position of Fair Manager has been opened. The job posting closes the end of March. We do not know what Teresa Reids involvement will be, but we would like to at least have a draft of an MOU in place before the new fair manager steps in.

The assistant to Wayne Fourinier reached out asking for a letter of support to try and receive Govt. funding to build the Agri Plex building at the fairgrounds. The building would be designated as a building that could be used during emergencies or disasters. As a committee we are in favor of writing a letter in support of this initiative.

Cassie moved to approve the Rate of Gain Contest and Pre-Fair Day, Lorraine seconded the motion and the motion carried. The Pre-Fair Day is May 18th. This event will start at 8:30 and end at 2:15. It was suggested that TCYMAS provide lunch for the exhibitors and provide the informational sessions during lunch. We may have to manipulate the schedule and come back to this in April. The RV's will be out of the Hicks Lake barn prior to this event. Kyla was denied funding from the 4-H council to pay for buckles for the 4-H youth exhibitors. It was suggested that maybe she could put this on Jackpot style and charge and small entry fee, and the winner take all. This contest will not be in the fair premium book, so there will be no exhibitor guide for it. The question was raised about how do we promote this contest? Kyle has put together flyers, as well as a google form and has a plan to roll it out to the public, per Lorraine and Dawn. Others made it aware that we would like to be able to share this on social media and the like so we can help get the word out about it. The google form is sent directly to Lorraine and Kyla after it is filled out.

Celeste brought 4 different options to the table for the scale. First, we had keeping the current scale and retrofitting it to our needs. The cost of this would be around \$2,000. Second, was just buying a new scale similar to the scale that we have been using thanks to Wheeling Ranch. This option would cost \$12,995. Thirdly, we have the option to buy the scale deck only. This option would cost \$3,795. As a committee we decided that the third option would fit our needs the best. This option would allow for a little more customization and is more budget friendly.

Celeste spoke with Theresa Reid to ask what her thoughts were on where to place the new scale. She suggested somewhere along the backside of the sheep barn. It was suggested that pavers and gravel may be a better option for a base for the scale rather than concrete, as we may need to move it in the future. It was also suggested that we purchase a small animal NTEP rated scale to weigh the smaller animals. Discussion was had about purchasing a portable scale that youth could "check out" to weigh animals periodically during their project. The portable scale has been tabled until next year.

Tessa moved that we purchase the Deck option 48"x96" and the small animal scale. Lorraine seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Celeste will order the scale this week in hopes that it will be here in time for the May 18th deadline for Pre-Fair.

Cut and Wrap:

Custom Meats will take what we send them.

Stewarts will take what we send them.

Finns cannot accept animals but will accept pre reserved animals.

Mountain View is playing phone tag with Tessa.

Bear Ridge will only take pre reserved animals.

Rabbit and Poultry processing will take place at 8:00 am Monday morning following the fair. Emily Killeen has made it known that she has left animals overnight on Sunday and usually does not leave the fairgrounds until midnight anyway. The processor also wanted it to be known that the cost to process a rabbit would change should the purchaser want to keep the rabbit pelt.

New Business:

Turn Buyer letters will go out June 1st. We have plans to post the letter to our website and provide a link to it on our Facebook page.

We need to conduct a Ribbon Count to ensure that we have enough Blue Ribbons. The ribbon design is great, and we will order the same style.

Celeste will order all of the buckles.

Nicole is going to work with her contact to have the banners made.

Lorraine is going to send what type of leg bands that we need to identify the poultry to our email address, and we will order 100 leg bands.

We need to modify or find some health forms for the Poultry.

We have spoken in the past about an Insurance Policy during fair to cover the assets. We will ask Ron if he ever found anything out about this.

Next meeting is April 24, 2024, at the Market Sale Office at 7:00.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm

PARKING LOT!!!

- 1) Judges Stipend
- 2) Future ideas for Processing.
- 3) Portable Scale