

Ag Committee Meeting 10/30/17 at MRE Conference Room at 6:30.
Present: Kathleen Barbie, Carrie Lerum, Barb Larsen, Kari Lewis, Ula Omdahl, Kim Woodring, Tia Jacobson, Carol Fulbright

Welcome to Barb Larsen and Tia Jacobson

Treasurer's Report: Carrie gave a virtual report. January 31 received a deposit from the Marias Fair Board for their share of the judges' mileage. Dog show entries deposit of \$135. Paid Mandie Reed \$316.12. Paid Dave Wedum \$155.25. Reimbursed Marias Fair Premium Fund \$30 for top dog award. Deposit for \$25 for dog show entries. Balance is \$1173.25. There are no outstanding bills that we are aware of.

We have to file a 990 every year at the end of the year, generally in February.

No correspondence at this time.

Fair comments:

Small Animal Clinic Recap--Liberty County it was a win. The kids got a lot out of it.

Toole County it was mostly positive. Some concern about the time for rotations of workshops and timing each station.

Glacier County thinks it went well and the kids learned a ton.

All the presenters did a good job.

We will decide at the next meeting if we will do another showmanship clinic.

The cat numbers in Liberty county are multiplying.

A few questions about the dog show were answered about dog showmanship and dog obedience.

Pocket Pet Exhibition Recap: Kim touched a snake. There were two that took part and they were both snakes. A concern was that the kids and families did not know what to expect and have guidelines. We think it should be added into the fair entries. It needs to be added to the Small Animal Showmanship clinic. Kathleen thinks the kids should be judged based upon their knowledge of their animals. Kathleen said she would judge the showmanship of Pocket Pets this year at fair. Kathleen will do a basic outline of expectations. The kids need to have retroactive milkshake

coupons from last fair. No ice cream prizes next year, ribbons and premium points will be awarded. Pocket Pet kids will be encouraged to bring their animals with them to the Showmanship Clinic.

Fair Show Comments: Poultry show went well and the judge explained well for the participants and families.

Rabbit show was a bit disorganized, but will be better next year as there will be more base knowledge coming in.

Cat show was good. The judge did a good job, putting the kids through their paces.

Dog show numbers were down. It is thought that it is directly related to not having dog showing clinics last year. The judge did a nice job. A concern and discussion about adequate bleaching or having a new spray head on the sprayer. Distractions need to be minimized. A brief history about showing in the Seawald Barn informing why the dog show is outside. The crowds are better than they have been. Being in the old sale barn helps because everyone can sit. Scheduling was good, staggering it through the fair. A bit of stress happened due to the pig show and rabbit show.

Judges were discussed and the rotation would indicate that new ones are needed this year due to the 2-year rotations.

Pen situations:

Concern about having chickens in the cages in the center and feet issues. Barn superintendent concern about animals being out when the barn was opened. Chicks need to be in pens that will contain them.

Questions about rabbit pens. No concern because there are plenty of pens.

Barb has some pens that may be available if there are kids that can use them.

Awards: Best animals in the groups got voted on and the kids got prizes. Kathlene S. found all the prizes and organized the voting. When the kids checked out and at the shows, the kids got goody bags for their animals. A thank you will be sent to Kathlene S for getting the goody bags together. Ula moved that we purchase a gift card for the Schumway family for \$50 to CHS. Motion passed. Kim will get the gift card and Carrie will drop a check off at the Extension Office.

We may get together before fair to all work on the goody bags.

Year end financial report: Carrie submitted it to Kim.

Officer Elections: Last year it was done at the January meeting as there was not a quorum at the October meeting. We will revisit it in January.

Other New Business: Dog Clinic needs--Liberty (3), Glacier (4-5), Toole (1+). Melissa may be willing to do a clinic, she has done an excellent job with workshops in the past. Maybe her boys would be able to present. A fee may be charged with a portion going back to the presenters. Brittany Hodgekiss may be another option, she lives in Cut Bank. Deb Buckholtz may be another option. There is a dog spa person in Chester. Dave Wedum may be another possibility. Amanda Powell is the Hill County admin may be another option. If something comes available, e-mail Kim and she can e-mail committee members. Hadley Barbie may do some beginning work with Liberty county kids. Dog clinic should be separate from the small animal clinic.

A dog showmanship may be included in the Small Animal Clinic to build interest in the dog project.

A new superintendent will be needed for the Poultry and Rabbit barn. Carrie has resigned the position. Hopefully Kathlene S will continue her work with our committee.

Officer elections were discussed. According to the by-laws, the officers should be elected by October 1 to coincide with the 4-H year.

Barb moved that we keep the same officers as last year. Tia seconded. Motion passed.

Carrie moved we adjourn. Motion passed.

Next meeting is January 22, 2018 at MRE at 6:00.