Livestock Committee Meeting Minutes

An emergency meeting for the livestock committee was held July 24th at the 4-H Food Booth Building. The meeting was called to order by vice-chair Dean Rau at 7:05 pm. In attendance were Ryan and Sarah Thorson, Jessica Stroh, Amber Nentwig, Julie and Kass Walker, Chris and Sarah Undem, Kent Granmoe, Kyla Sackman, Bridget and Kinzey Zeimer, Desiree Hoffer, Stephanie Meek, Marnie Rau, Tana Canen, Darleena and James Whittett and Bruce Smith.

An emergency meeting was needed due to recent news Chris received from Montana Quality Meats. Due to unforeseen circumstances, they will not be able to take any 4-H animals for processing after the fair. This directly affects our carcass show.

Chris contacted Triple T. Patty at Triple T told Chris they should be able to process everything by the Friday following the fair based on the numbers Chris gave her.

There was discussion on replacing the live carcass show with an ultrasound carcass contest. This would allow all animals to be judged on the same merits. There was also discussion on which animals would go to the processor first if all animals cannot be processed at the same time. Suggestions included sale order, carcass results, weights, drawing names.

Sarah T. made a motion that if the animal is selling, an ultrasound would be done and the results of the ultrasound would determine the order of animals sent to processing. Stephanie M. seconded the motion. The motion passed. This is plan A.

Ryan T. made a motion that ALL species must have an ultrasound if they are to be sold in the livestock sale. If no ultrasound is done, the animal will be at the end of the processing list order. Sarah T. seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Sarah T. made a motion that as a plan B (in the event ultrasound results are not received in time), names of families will be put in “hat” and drawn, each species being done separate, for processing order. Each family is responsible to deliver to the processor. The order can be done ahead of time. Chris U. seconded the motion. The motion passed.

There was also discussion on a market animal with horns that likely will not make weight. There were concerns this may cause a safety issue at the fair. The question was brought forward if the animal should be allowed to come to the fair. There was discussion on if this issue was already addressed in the showmanship manual, but those in attendance were not sure. It was determined to check the most recent manual and see if there is, in fact, guidelines for animals with horns. It was also mentioned that the livestock committee has the authority to send an animal home from the fair if the disposition of the animal is unsafe.

Finally, it was also mentioned that a policy exists that in order for an animal to sell at the livestock sale, the member must be AT the fair.