

VAN BUREN COUNTY 4-H LEADERS ASSOCIATION

August 19, 2024

Attendance: Mary Darling, Tina Loomis, Janice Zerbe, Denise Noble, Carisa Hostetler, Makayla King, Nancy Wheatley, Wendy Fisher, Alex deFinta, Tod Kubiszak, Latisha Tomsa

The regular meeting of the Van Buren County 4-H Leaders Association was called to order by Vice-President, Amy Mortimore at 7:01 pm with all officers present, except the Vice President, and nine clubs represented.

Secretary Report: Latisha Tomsa moved to accept the secretary report with the correction of adding Tod Kubiszak to the attendance list, with a second from Nancy Wheatley. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was presented with no income, disbursements of \$2000.00, and a total in the checking account of \$19068.25 which includes outstanding checks of \$2000.00 and no outstanding deposits. Sub accounts included Differently Abled (\$656.51), Capital Experience (\$0.00), Teen Club (\$940.02), Efting Memorial (\$575.00), Domestic Animal (\$492.39), and Bea Funk Memorial Fund (\$500 in savings bonds). Report will be placed on file for audit.

Bills / Correspondence: A thank you was received from Drew Hamre for the purchase of his pig during fair week that went for \$4.00 per pound. This bill needs to be paid. A bill was received for Great Lakes Natural Resource Camp (Noah and Daisy Estrada), The 5-year-old fair program (\$31.76) for six exhibitors.

Club Sharing: *West Valley Livestock* – put together ten birthday packages for the pantry. *Silver Spurs* – had an end of the year blow out. Everyone had fun at the arcade in Paw Paw. *Van Buren Voyagers* – had their annual meeting. One 9-year-old member attended the state shoot. *Young Explorers* – had two members attend the State 4-H Horse Show. They did well. *Geneva Wrens* – had an end of the year celebration and went to the park for ice cream. *Dream Chasers* – went to Potawatomi Zoo and had a great time. They have lots of interest in membership for 2025.

Committee Reports: *Auction* – did not meet today. The Van Buren Voyagers plan to provide a gift certificate to the Thrift Store. Tod Kubiszak has an auctioneer for the live portion. *Tractor, Trunk, or Treat* – There are five confirmed entries so far. Lots of fun for the first Saturday in October.

Outstanding 4-Her Report – Makayla King received a t-shirt and sweatshirt. This was her last meeting as the Outstanding 4-H member.

4-H Educator Report: *4-H Enrollment – September 11* – MI 4H ONLINE will shut down on August 31. Enrollment will be available on September 11 for the 2024-2025 4-H year. *National 4-H Week* – will be held October 6-12, 2024. *TSC Paper Clover – October 2-13* – All clubs are encouraged to participate at TSC during this week. *Administration Leader* – There is a club that is looking for an administration leader. If interested, please contact Janice Zerbe. *Food Pantries* – Some pantries may need birthday kits. *Mandatory Leaders meeting* -- Email reminders were sent for the September meeting to be held at the MSU Extension in Hartford. Please RSVP. *Club Financial Forms* – This form is being updated and will be sent to leaders soon. *New Leaders* – If you have adults interested in being 4-H leaders, Janice Zerbe needs their name and email address so they can be emailed the information to complete. The process takes approximately three months. *Training* – Janice will be at leadership training this week.

Unfinished Business: *Award 2024* – The program for county medals and scholarships was not a good fit to be held during fair week. Janice will contact animal superintendents to see if county medal / scholarships can be held.

Van Buren County 4-H Leaders Association

Minutes

August 19, 2024

Page 2

awarded with species awards on Saturday at the fair. Janice needs fall meeting dates, times, locations so she can plan to attend to present member and leader awards. *Fundraising Outcomes and Expectations* – Continue to provide ideas of how we can include communities. *Budget 24-25* - Tod Kubiszak moved to add a line item for 4-H members fair weekly pass to discount \$5.00 with a second from Denise Noble. Lots of discussion. 1 nay – Motion carried. Tod Kubiszak would like to increase the Fair Animal Purchases line item to \$3000.00 to include purchases at the Small Animal Auction. Some discussion. Tod Kubiszak moved to increase the Fair Animal Purchases line time to \$3000.00 for purchases from exhibitors who sent buyer letters with a second from Denise Noble. Motion carried. College scholarships were discussed. Tod Kubiszak moved to increase the number of continuing education scholarships offered to three with a second from Tina Loomis. Motion carried. Lots of discussion regarding the budget took place. Denise Noble moved to accept the budget as currently amended with a second from Wendy Fisher. Motion carried.

New Business: *Enrollment Incentive 23-24* – Members must be enrolled by November 1, 2024, to be entered in the drawing for 10 \$20.00 gift cards from Van Buren County establishments. *Trophies VBYF* – The Leaders Association did not sponsor trophies/banners for the 2024 Van Buren Youth Fair. *Fair Passes* – This was discussed during the budget discussion. Jance Zerbe will discuss with Gary Consford. *Thank you notes* – Lots of discussion. It has been recommended to have exhibitors seal the envelopes and write which trophy / sponsor / supported on the outside of the envelope. Janice has mailed all thank you cards that were received and is still waiting for three.

Expansion Review: How to join 4-H was discussed. Would it be possible to include the county 4-H brochure on the MSU 4-H website? Janice will update the current brochure. Lots of discussion.

Fair Board Update: Fair board is planning to put approved minutes on their Facebook page.

Announcements: *Next meeting* – September 16, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the MSU Extension Office in Hartford. Mandatory Fall Leader Update is scheduled for September 16, 2024, beginning at 5:45 p.m. at the MSU Extension Office in Hartford.

Adjournment: Tod Kubiszak moved to adjourn the meeting with a second from Nancy Wheatley. Meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Darling
LA Secretary