

West Michigan Livestock Council

The July 31, 2019 West Michigan Livestock Council Regular Session meeting was called to order by President, Spencer Bowman, at 7:16 PM.

Officers and Advisors Present: Spencer Bowman-President, Michael Lammi-Vice-President, Samantha Wilkosz-Secretary, Lydia Howe-Corresponding Secretary and Jolene Babbin-Treasurer.

Advisors: Sally Wittlieff-President, Beth Saxton-Vice-President and Karen Lammi-Secretary.

The American Pledge was led by Spencer Bowman.

There were no new members or guests present.

Secretary's report: The minutes from the July 3, 2019 regular session meeting were read by Samantha Wilkosz. Anna Tyndall made a motion to accept the minutes as written, supported by Reese Larson. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report: The treasurer's report was read by Michael Lammi. Ella Pylman made a motion to accept the report, supported by Anna Tyndall. Motion carried. See Attachment 1.

Correspondence:

- A letter was available with the Craft Building workbee time, booth set-up times and tear-down times.
- 2020 Member Enrollment forms were available tonight for anyone wishing to vote for 2020 WMLC officers.

Old Business

- Raffle tickets are available. Please see Jolene to pick up your tickets. Anyone with tickets left to turn, please bring them to weigh-in.
- Volunteers were asked to run the refreshment table during the auction. It was decided to break it into shifts, the first being 3-6pm and the second 6-9pm. The club of Black Creek will take the first shift, and the club of Hooves and Hearts will take the second shift.
- Volunteers were also needed for bid takers at the auction. Bob Jensen, Mike Kenney, Mike Wilkosz and Ted Gajewski's names were volunteered to help.
- Record books are due on **Sunday, August 11th by noon** at the fair office drop box. A record book is due for every marketed animal, or an additional 5% commission will be deducted from your market check.

- Weigh-in times for market animals are:
 - **Swine** ~ Sunday, August 4th @ 10:30am. All swine must be unloaded and in their pens by 10:00am.
 - **Steers/Feeders/Sheep/Goats** ~ Sunday, August 4th @ 2:00pm.
 - **Market Poultry** ~ Saturday, August 3rd @ 10:00am.
 - **Rabbits & All Other Poultry** ~ Sunday, August 4th from 10:00am to 1:00pm.
- **All animals with Scrapies or RFID tags must report to the scale on Sunday, August 4th at 2:00pm during the large animal weigh-in. This is for Market and Show animals. All animals MUST be recorded.**
- Please make sure tags are cleaned. All animal designations must be made at weigh-in. We need to know which child be selling the animal, and whether you would like to designate any extra-tagged animals to be in the extra-tagged class. Anyone failing to make this designation at weigh-in **MUST** exhibit both animals (unless different species) and sell the highest placing. Any extra animals needing to be hauled to a butcher, must also be designated where they will be going at weigh-in.
- Anyone selling Market Poultry or Market Rabbits must schedule their own processing and delivery. WMLC is not responsible for arranging this for you.
- The Set-up Committee is Northwest Livestock and Fine Swine. They will meet immediately following the meeting tonight, and again the morning of **Thursday, August 8th** to set-up the sale ring.
- Tear-down Committee is Free Soil Friendly Farmers, Hog Wild and Weldon Creek. The Tear-down committee is responsible for taking down the sale ring the morning of **Friday, August 9th**, and for taking down the pens in the pig barn and stall dividers in the beef barn on the morning of **Sunday, August 11th**, as soon as a majority of pigs have left the barn.
- The Senior Committee for the Buyer's Banquet is Olivia Flewelling, Nicole Kaminski, Ethan Kelley, Mitchael Kenney, Daniel Knizacky, Audra Shoop, Randi Stone, Nate Story, Alexandra Root and Becca Townsend.
- The Buyer's Banquet will be **Monday, August 19th at 6:30pm** in the Community Center at the fairgrounds. Please have all food there by 6:00 PM. Cards letting people know what food they need to bring, and what committee they are on, were available. They will also be available at weigh-in.
- At the July 3rd meeting, Bob Jensen made a motion to rotate the sale order of steers, feeders, milk, sheep and pigs beginning with next year. Discussion was opened regarding this motion. Beth Saxton informed the membership that we currently have a rule to rotate the sale order.

- Rule 5-1 states: The sale order of livestock will rotate small animals consisting of Rabbits, Poultry, Goats, Dairy Feeders & Beef Feeders and also rotate large animals consisting of Steers, Sheep, Milk, and Hogs. Small animal will sell first and large animal will sell second.

Bob Jensen being satisfied with this rule, withdrew his motion.

- The question of this year's sale order was raised, particularly why we were not rotating the animals and following our own rules. Beth Saxton indicated it was decided by the Auction Committee which consists of members of WMLC, YADC and WMFA Board of Directors, and this was a WMLC rule. Members were encouraged to join the Auction Committee next year and voice their concerns regarding the rotating of animals and sale order. If our voice is not heard by the Auction Committee, we could then decide to exit the sale agreement with YADC and the WMFA Board of Directors and hold our own auction as we have done in the past.
- The market sale order for this year will be: Ducks, Goats, Rabbits, Turkeys, Chickens, Steers, Feeders, Milk, Sheep and Swine.

New Business

- All clubs are asked to sign-up for barn cleaning duty. The shifts are for two hours each, and the club will be responsible to keeping the beef barn, pig barn, calf & sheep barn, dairy barn and all wash racks clean during their selected time. A time slot will be assigned to clubs who do not sign up. The schedule will be available at weigh-in.
- Beth Saxton made a motion to transfer \$5000 from the WMLC General Fund to open a Scholarship Fund. The checking account will require the signature of the President and Treasurer. The motion was supported by Bob Jensen. Motion carried.
- We will also have flyers included with the bill of sale for each animal, for buyers to donate to the scholarship fund if they choose.
- Market signs will be available at weigh-in. Each exhibitor is responsible for completing the information and hanging the sign in their pen. This should be done before the start of fair, and updated with the buyer information, after the sale.
- Emergency contact cards will also be available at weigh-in. Each exhibitor is asked to include the name and phone number of someone who can be reached in case of an emergency, and also if the pen needs to be cleaned. Please staple the emergency contact form to the back of the market sign, for anyone who does not want their phone number on display. **Anyone not following the WMFA rule of cleaning pens by 10:00am will be turned in to the WMFA Board of Directors for disciplinary action.**
- Bob Jensen made a motion to assign clubs to work at the refreshment table during the sale. The assignment will work on a rotating basis and two clubs will be assigned each year. Supported by Sally Wittlieff. Motion carried.

- Hog weigh-in this year will begin on the west side of the building, moving down the isle and back up. Anyone not in their pen during their time will not be weighed-in.

The next WMLC meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 11, 2019 at 7:00 PM at Mason County Eastern Schools.

Roll call completed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Samantha Wilkosz
WMLC Secretary