**Ozaukee County Livestock Association**

**September 19, 2015 -- Minutes for approval…**

**Meeting called to order at 7:05pm by Pres. Kurt Schoessow**

**Secretary report of July 27 mtg read and approved**

**Treasurer report – given**

**Christy Dierringer had a question about the soda and water from the auction…Joe Roden picked up and will submit the receipt…**

**\*Thank you note from the Dan Fieder family for the recognition at the auction.**

**Beef project report by Steve Rathke…beef show was held on 30 july from 9am-1pm…Terry Kromm was the judge…Payton Rychtik-Dairy steer champion…James Mejchar-Beef champion…total of 59 steers at the fair.**

**\*Thank you to all who helped with the Beef weigh in…**

**\*Thank you to all who helped to load out on Monday morning…**

**\*Thank you to Jim Rychtik for power washing out the scale after weigh-in…**

**Concerns about the Beef weights and the limits that are currently in place…**

**Average weights for the past 5 years: Dairy - 1460#**

**Beef – 1484#**

**Dairy beef weights to 1600# which is our current weight. Various families have beef species that will not make weights over 1000#...**

**Looking for suggestions as to what direction the Association should use.**

**Jim Rychtik stated that the Northeast show was at 1500-1650# and even higher.**

**He also wondered about adding a “carcuss show” or possibly an ultrasound rather that having a “grader” at each of the weigh in.**

**Some ‘beef’ animals could weigh up to 1700# to be ‘finished’.**

**\*Various markets want various weights…need to be working within the market.**

**Mrs. Mejchar stated that there are often “mark-offs” for animals that are over-weight…ie. 1700# or more.**

**Steve would really like feedback from those that show and sell the various beef species. Please advise.**

**How many of the “buyers” keep the animals that they purchase for themselves?**

**In response to the ultrasound question…it has been in the past a question of cost…upwards of $2000. Could there be a charge of $10/youth for the ultrasound to be done? Also, what about the accuracy of the ultrasound?**

**Do we have buyers that would be willing to pay more for the species to have the ultrasound done?**

**We currently pay each of the graders $100 for them to come to the weigh-in and grade at the time of the weigh-in. these graders come from quality auction barns and are very qualified to do the grading of the animals.**

**Christy Derringer asked if some more research could be done and reported back to the next meeting.**

**Steve Rathke also reported that the “World Beef Expo” is at State Fair Park on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday-the last weekend in September.**

**Sheep Report…Bob Schmit reported that there were 94sheep that were at the fair…77 market animals, 13 breeding stock, and 4 open class animals. Todd Taylor was the judge for the show this year. All of the new sheep pens that were purchased were needed and used.**

**Thank you to all of those that came to help with the set up and clean up for this year’s fair. Also, a thank you to the fair board and the Horse and Pony Project for letting the sheep be in the barn.**

**Swine report – Jim Hoeschner – 121 hogs were at the fair this year, this is down about 20 hogs from last year. Brandon Gill was the swine judge. He stated to Jim that he was impressed with the youth in their showmanship and also with the quality of hogs that they showed.**

**There were some concerns about the hogs youth and the taking down of the gates to soon after the sale…not easy to get the other species into the sale area, once the hogs were finished.**

**There were a few “trucking” issues…with the new trucker that was used this year. Perhaps the committee needs to plan better for the non-sale animals. Kurt stated that the trucking company is a “Bid” contract/arrangement and part of that bid is that the trucker makes arrangements with the slaughter houses. Kurt stated that perhaps, we, too should be talking with the slaughter houses as well about the arrival of the animals at their shops.**

**Rate of Gain Awards were given out by Christy Derringer.**

**Fair/Show comments/suggestions…How do we retain more buyers for the duration of the show? Could the species be mixed up instead of selling each of them in their “own” groups? Many of the other fairs do their sale similar to ours. Who would do the “mixing up” of the species for the sale? What about a “work day” prior to the fair/meeting work nite to do some much needed repairs in the show arena and the show building itself? Our work nite seems to be more and more about groups setting up their areas, rather than getting the building and areas ready for the fair and those who come to the fair. When does the “soccer group” finish their season, that we could get into the building? Some feel that our sale is working quite/very well and that we should leave it as it is. The prices for the species are good/great. Our sale, for the number of animals that we sell, moves along very well. How do we get new buyers into the sale? How do we educate the general public, as well as new buyers and how our sale works…that they do not need to take the animal home and they can send it to market? What is the possibility of a credit card to be used for the sale? What about decorations around the show ring on the nite of the sale? We need to do something with the sound system…it was very difficult to hear at various times during the sale. The sale order was hard to hear…ie the name of the youth and the weight of the animal. What about each youth being given a “lot number” for the sale? Deb Kelling stated that this would be easy enough to do with the program that is being used. What about those youth that are in their final year and for them to be recognized? Linda Boehlke stated that Ozaukee County offers the opportunity for all youth in the livestock projects to sell an animal; in other counties, Sheboygan and Washington County…only a select few many sell their animals. They have limits on the number of animals that can be sold and their sales still run as long or longer than our does. Kurt stated that he wanted to again say “thank you” to Linda and the other auctioneers for doing our livestock sale. Conversation about the “silent auction” items that we have had. Would there be a better way to get some more money out of these by having them be part of the auction? Perhaps between the different species? Other county fairs have various item that are donated and they auction them of in between the species.**

**Judges for this years fair were well received by all…the sheep judge did a great job of teaching the youth!**

**State Fair Report: Beef…great fun was had by all and there were also some great placing of the animals that were taken.**

**Swine…Jake Roden and Alyssa Quevy went and had a successful fair.**

**Sheep…Reimer family members attended and did well. Placing were good and it was a fun time!**

**Burger Sale and Car Wash…thank you to everyone that showed up to work and help…It was a good day and a good turn out!**

**There are opportunities for adult and youth species representatives for the 2015-2016 year. Please pick up an info sheet at the end of the meeting. We would really like to have at least 2 youth reps for each species.**

**With the 12 clubs that are in the county…it is going to become important that the leaders in each of the clubs become more involved with the Livestock Association for the educational portion.**

**There was a picture taken at the fair, on the night of the “Parade of Champions” that will be used as a marketing tool, to send a ‘card’ to buyers on our list, to keep in touch, not just prior to the fair. Washington County does a picture right after the sale with each of the youth and their buyers and then these pictures are put into the paper after the sale.**

**The “Jeopardy” game that was used/held last year was enjoyed by many! Thanks to the youth reps and others that put it together.**

**Kathy Butler stated that there are lots of resources out there for us to us for educational portions of our meetings.**

**Ozuakee County has a facebook page that has lots of images and Kathy took pictures of all of the youth and their animals the night of the sale. These are all on the facebook page.**

**Handbook changes: Dairy steer weights**

**Set up/Work nite…meeting prior to work/set-up**

**When is the building available for us, livestock people to get in to “work”?**

**Reminder to ALL YOUTH…you must have achieved in the 2014-2015 4-H year to be able to sell at the 2016 Auction. You can not sell.**

**Attendance…please make sure that you are recorded as attending the meeting. You need a MINIMUM of 4 meetings to be able to sell at the 2016 sale…the first meeting being the September meeting.**

**Concerns about youth that are in their final year and their attendance at meetings.**

**Elections for the President and Treasurer…Kurt stated that he wanted to THANK everyone that made his “job” easy! Thank you to everyone. Due to the Association guidelines he has served his 2-two year terms and it is time for someone else to step up.**

**Alyssa Quevy nominated Joe Roden for president…Joe accepted the nomination; Jim Hoeschner seconded the nomination; all voted in favor of the nomination. Jillian Becker nominated Neal Maciejewski—he declined. Jake Roden moved to close the nominations, seconded by Olivia Derringer; all in favor…nominations for President closed. Joe Roden is the new president of the Ozaukee Livestock Association.**

**We need to nominate a Vice president, due to Joe Roden taking the position of President. The position will be a ONE YEAR POSITION. Chris Klug nominated Kevin Reimer; Kevin declined. Aaron Rathke nominated Tom Becker; Tom accepted. Jim Hoeschner nominated Jim Rychtik; jim accepted. James Mejchar moved to close the nominations. Mrs Brandt seconded the motion. All in favor. Vice President nominations were closed. Vote was taken, Jim Rychtik is the VP.**

**Nominations were open for treasurer…Jillian Becker nominated Tom Becker, Tom accepted. Jim Hoeschner nominated Lisa Gall, Lisa accepted. Kari Schoessel nominated Amy Gierach, amy accepted. Rachel Gierach nominated Terri Mejchar; Terri accepted. James Mejchar moved to close the nominations. Amir Spangler seconded, all in favor; nominations for treasurer closed. Vote was taken and Lisa Gall is the new treasurer for the next two years!**

**When the meeting is adjourned, we will need help to clean up and put away the chairs, sweep, etc.**

**4-H Re-enrollments are due bnlt September 30, 2015…be sure to sign up online.**

**Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jacey Roden and seconded by Skip Schueller. All in favor…meeting adjourned at 9:30pm.**