Meeting called to order 6:32 pm by President Pat Marek. Pledges led by council youth.

Members Present: Mike Jack, Darcie Marek, Tammy Belka, Telyse Belka, Karen GreenBay, Trudy Herzog, Kenny Smith, Kathleen Smith, Ashley Marek, Alicia Marek, Erik Little, Marie Goltz, Pat Marek, Effie Jack

Members Absent: Jamie Weeks, Alicia Weeks

Melissa Bowman- Present
Public/Guests: Kerri Merrill.

Review & Approval of Agenda- Approved

Public Comment: - none.

Reports:

Secretary's Report- Ramona Okkema
Change: Noted Kathleen Smith as Chair for the Awards Committee.

Treasurer's Report- Karen Greenbay
Checkbook register balance is $4,363.17. Savings balance is $6,026. 57 as of 6/30/12.  Karen should be receiving the 9/30/12 quarterly bank statement shortly to post July-Sept. Savings Account interest. Discussion followed. Chemical Bank will remove the $3.00 paper statement charge as soon as Melissa has a chance to get to the bank. Two other Banks have started assessing a similar charge. Melissa will address these as well.

Effie Jack had a question regarding the timing and reporting of Plat Book sales and invoicing. Due to the companies invoicing schedule, payment on books sold will be made in the month following the sale. Mike Jacks agreed to take on the Plat Book sales reporting/counting at September’s Board Meeting.

4-H Report- Melissa Bowman

4-H Activities: A 100th Year Mecosta County 4-H Anniversary ad ran in this past Saturdays and Mondays papers. Jon Eppl, with the Pioneer Group, is interested in doing some ongoing stories about 4-H. Melissa, Karen, Ramona, and Evelyn Okkema attended the United Way breakfast on September 28th, visiting with Representative Potvin, who will be receiving the Mecosta County Friend of 4-H Award at this year’s banquet. Melissa is kicking off the County Literacy Campaign this Thursday with 5 classroom visits.

The first of the Leader Update meetings was held this past Saturday, and the second meeting will be held tomorrow evening.

Of the County’s 29 4-H Entities, only 17 have turned in their Year-End Financial/Inventory reports. Ten clubs are now past the deadline for submitting their reports. Leaders may be subject to probation or dismissal if they do not fulfill their club obligations.

Several leaders have recently contacted the District Coordinator regarding Melissa’s role in Mecosta County. Concerns should have been properly directed to Pat Dignum. Leader concerns include complaints regarding mandatory fall leader trainings, volunteer dismissals, Jr. Livestock ear tag errors on checks, and office availability. All issues are being addressed or are mandated / covered by MSU.

Due to the new online Registration system for Kettunen Center Workshops, a new policy is needed for Workshop scholarships awarded by the Council. Tammy Belka motioned to have members pay their own registration fees up front, and then apply to the Council for reimbursement after they have attended the respective workshop. Kathleen Smith seconded, motion passed. Current policy of 2 Kettunen scholarships per family per year will continue. The new online system is allowing adults (who have not completed and passed the County’s Volunteers process) to register as volunteers. Problem will have to be addressed.

4-H Upcoming events: Wednesday October 3rd will be this year’s final Leader update training. All volunteers must attend one of the meetings in order to keep their volunteer status valid.

Winter Fest 2013 for 9-12 year olds will be held at Kettunen February 2nd and 3rd. Cost will be $35 per person, Registration deadline will be Dec. 1st.

Leader Forum at MSU will be Nov. 10th.
Fundraising Requests- None at this time.

Committee Reports:

Awards Committee-
The 2012 Mecosta County Awards Banquet is to be held on October 6th and from 5-8pm. 150 prizes, candy, decorations and awards are in. Reminder for all clubs to bring their silent auction donations to the banquet. We will need a receipt book and cash in an envelope at the banquet. Also in need of Cake donations for the Cake Walk. The Smith family is working on this year’s pennants. The teen club will adopt this project in the future.

Finance & Budget Committee- No report yet.

Promotion Committee- Contemplating having a float in the FSU Homecoming Parade on Oct. 13th. Will have a float in the Holiday Parade on Nov. 16th at 6pm.

Fundraising Committee- Kathleen is working on typing in the recipes for the Cookbooks. Final deadline to submit recipes to Kathleen will be October 26th.

Erik made a motion for the council to purchase 100 wreaths, have the Jacks family and others sell them in front of TSC on black Friday, with Council members assisting in the sale of any remaining wreaths after that date. 2nd by Tammy Belka. Motion carried. Melissa and Effie will contact Ramona to place the order and schedule pickup for the Monday or Tuesday before Thanksgiving.

Dairy Booth Committee- Effie is working on completing the inventory and book for Jamie Weeks.

Youth Council Members- nothing to report at this time.

Council Membership-Kathleen made a motion to vote Kerri Merrill onto the Council, 2nd by Tammy Belka. Motion passed with none opposed. Kerri asked to be included on the Fundraising Committee for the coming year.

19 Year Old Project- Melissa will send out an email for the council to review and take notes and be ready to discuss at the November meeting.

Arena Signs- Maintenance fees have been paid on 25 signs to date. The Budget shows income received for an additional 3 signs, leaving 9 signs left unpaid (3 unknown). Kathleen will continue to work on identifying the 3 unknown, and re-invoicing the remaining unpaid fees. 3 signs still remain to be re-done. Robinsons have been offered a free sign spot for their past services, but have volunteered to pay their maintenance fees in the future.

Michigan 4-H GEN/EIN- New IRS reporting changes will be discussed at the Leader Update meetings. As witnessed by the entire council, Pat filled out and signed the following documents: An Affiliate Constitution, Civil Rights Compliance, and Group Tax Exemption Authorization. These documents must be signed by all 4-H entities and received by MSU by November 1st.

4-H Banner- Erik Little made a motion to purchase a 6ft “100 Year Mecosta County 4-H” banner for $55 from Robinson Signs. 2nd by Telyse Belka. All approved, Motion passed.

Kathleen made a motion to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Mike Jack. Meeting adjourned 7:40 pm.

Next Meeting is November 6, 2012 at the Mecosta County Services Building 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Trudy Herzog