**St. Joseph County, MI**

**4-H HORSE COUNCIL**

Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, September 2, 2014

**President:** Sherri Rivers  
**Vice President:** Julie Bruce  
**Treasurer:** Tereasa Hufstedler  
**Deputy Treasurer:** Pam Cook  

**Secretary:** Diane Zinsmaster  
**Club/Specialty representatives:**  
- Desperados representative: Kris Barga  
- Competitive Trail representative: Chris Smith

**Buckaroos:** Patty Schneeberger (Sherri Rivers)  
**Desperados:** (Diane Zinsmaster)  
**Sauwauseebee:** Kathy Zelms & Cindy Sigman  
**Spirit Riders:** None  
**Stirrup Fun:** Patti Adams,  
**Town & Country:** Connie Miracle & Scott Miracle  
**Trailblazers:** Bill Lindsley, Vicki Sutton & Lisa DeLeo  
**Tumbleweed:** Andrea Littlefield, Norma Switalski, Julie Stoll & (Julie Bruce).

Eva Beeker, MSU 4-H Extension Agent and guest: Mike Stears (4-H parent)

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**SPECIALTY AREAS:**

- Cloverbud Representative: (Pam Cook)  
- Competitive Trail: (Teresa Hufstedler)  
- Dressage: None  
- Driving: Brenda Lewis & Bobbi Newland  
- Gymkhana: Shirel Hart  
- Horse Bowl: None  
- Horse Judging: None  
- Jumping: Kelli Trail  
- Reining: None

1) **CALL METING TO ORDER / PLEDGES**  
President Sherri Rivers called the meeting to order @ 6:37 p.m. The 4-H Pledge & Pledge of Allegiance were recited.

2) **SIGN IN SHEET**  
Was in the back of the room and all were asked to remember to please sign in.

3) **SECRETARY’S REPORT**  
   a) Reminder to pick up Royalty Court, State Delegate & Club Sportsman signs tonight. The signs need to be returned at the October Horse Council Meeting.  
   b) Correspondence: Thank you cards from Ben Littlefield, Brady Littlefield & Faith Morrell.

4) **TREASURER’S REPORT**  
Treasure Tereasa Hufstedler gave a brief Treasurer’s Report/Summary and stated that there were no new bills to be paid.  
Mention was made to $20 to be paid to Bill Johnson/SJC Fairgrounds from the Weenie King for being on fairgrounds during the Gymkhana Fundraiser show. **Motion by Pam Cook, second by Julie Stoll to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented. Motion carried.**

5) **PUBLIC COMMENT**  
None

6) **SPECIAL AREA / COMMITTEE REPORTS**  
   a) CLOVERBUDS – Pam Cook reported that the Cloverbuds are looking forward to giving a demo at the fair on Sunday.  
   b) COMPETITIVE TRAIL – Patti Adams stated that for all that participated in the Competitive Trail rides and have met the requirements, there will be a short test given to them at the fair.  
   c) DRESSAGE – No report given at this time.

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d) DRIVING – Brenda Lewis and Bobbi Newland. They stated that they were pretty much all ready for the fair. They introduced Mike Stears, parent of a 4-H driving member, and shared of a problem that they have encountered. Apparently, there is conflicting information in the 4-H Fair book rules regarding driving. The situation and details were explained. Thank you Mr. Stears for coming and for bringing that to our attention. After discussion, Motion was made by Shirel Hart, second by Bobbi Newland to correct the situation immediately and to allow the young 4-H member to do the driving classes as previously approved and authorized by the 4-H Driving Leaders. Motion passed unanimously.

e) GYMKHANA – Shirel Hart stated that gymkhana is ready for fair and that they have approximately 70 kids qualified. She stated that she would like people to start thinking about the opportunity to step up and help with the Gymkhana Program.

f) HORSE BOWL / HORSE JUDGING – The kids have all worked very hard and they are preparing for National competition in October. They are looking for donations to help with expenses.

g) JUMPING – Kelli Trail stated that she has approximately 20 kids qualified for jumping and she is all set for fair. She distributed the jumping patterns that will be used at the fair. Her goal is to continue to keep all the kids and horses safe.

h) REINING – No report given at this time.

7) SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) KQPP – Kathy Zelms stated current court will be announced on Saturday, September 13th at the mandatory fair start meeting. The new court will receive recognition and awards at the awards ceremony at the last Saturday of the fair. Kathy also stated that she has received word from MSU that next year we will need to rename the royalty court to ambassadors or something similar to that. We will schedule an ambassador planning meeting in the near future to discuss further details, etc.

b) CLUB SPORTSMAN – There are still a few club sportsman (Buckaroos & Trailblazers) forms that have not been turned in and there was a deadline that was set.

c) FAIR STALLING – Norma Switalski reported that there was a representative from every club at the meeting and she was pleased how well they all worked together to complete the fair stalling task. The rule is that however many 4-H members signed up in within a club, that is the number of stalls that club is expected to fill in the fair horse barns. There are 123 members signed up and a total of 129 stalls, so that leaves 6 stalls for tack stalls. Also, as a reminder the fair maintenance crew are spraying the horse barns today, so no painting in the barns now and clubs can go in and decorate any time after September 4th.

8) REGULAR COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Awards – Kathy Zelms shared what the awards were that would be given to this year’s royalty court recipients.

b) Ribbons – Lisa DeLeo stated that they will be sorting ribbons for fair very soon and will group them and put them in Ziploc bags with class # on bag.

9) OLD BUSINESS

a) State Show Report – SJC had 10 helpers at the State 4-H Horse Show. Good turnout and great support for all the SJC 4-H members showing. Thank you!

b) Circulated the Sign Up Sheets for FAIR HELP. Shirel Hart reminded the group that she will also need someone to operate hand timers on the gymkhana show day.

10) NEW BUSINESS

a) Still coggins from a few 4-H members. As a reminder, coggins are due WITH the signup sheets and if we all adhere to that, we would not be needing to chase these few coggins down at this time.

b) The fair maintenance crew will not have SJC sheriff’s dept. trustees working at the fair this year so it’s important we all work to keep the horse barns and areas around the show arenas clean.

c) Discussed yellow/red tag procedure for dirty stalls at the fair. Please remind 4-H members to keep their stall and barns clean!

d) For clubs that are going to have shavings in gravity boxes/wagons at the fair, please label the gravity box/wagon with your club name and park on the north side of the horse barns.

e) The vet on call during fair week is Dr. Garry Fedore, and he is camping at the fair. You may also use your own vet if you would like to. IF anyone in your club has a vet emergency please notify either Sherri Rivers or Julie Bruce.
f) Each club is responsible for a night watch duty during fair week. Please pick up walkie/talkie – radio from the 4-H office at the fair by 8pm and return back to the office the next day by 8am. If there are any issues, please let Sherri Rivers or Julie Bruce know. Julie will be camping at the fair.

g) The Franklin entrance will be open 12 midnight to 6am, Nottawa entrance gate opens at 6am and the main gate/animal control gate will open approximately 8am.

h) The parade has officially been moved back to the last Saturday of the fair (gymkhana show day).

i) There will be a Farmers Market in the brick building by the Franklin entrance.

j) New hang out in the Milking Parlor area. Stop by and check it out.

k) Per recommendation by the Health Department – they would like to discourage eating in the livestock barns.

l) As in the years’ past; Leader and 4-H passes will be available to be picked up from the red wagon.

m) Horses must be in barns on Saturday, September 13th by 5:00 p.m. And cannot leave the fair until 5:30 a.m. on Sunday, September 21st.

n) Decorations can be taken down after 11p.m on Saturday, September 20th.

o) Do NOT dig or put stakes/signs in the ground area outside horse barns (due to water/electrical lines, etc.)

p) On show days; horse trailers may be parked by the show arenas. No parking east of the Megan Holt Arena or directly behind the open/draft horse barn. Immediately after horse show days are done – horse trailers need to be moved to the dirt arena south of the camper area.

q) Eva needs to get Emergency Procedure Guidebooks to Sherri Rivers & Julie Bruce.

r) As in years’ past, there will be awards for cleanest barn. Make sure outside of barn is clean too, and by practice and show arenas.

s) Spirit Riders – Eva stated that Spirit Riders is disbanding but she has not received anything official in writing yet.

t) Mike Stears – issue with pairs driving class. This was covered earlier in the meeting.

u) Ag Citing Days at fair – area 3rd graders will be given guided tours in the various livestock barns.

11) ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Kelli Trail, second by Cindy Sigman to adjourn. President Sherri Rivers adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Zinsmaster, Secretary

Next Regularly scheduled meeting is Tuesday, October 7, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.