Members Present: Jackie Brazo, Debbie Davis, Erika Eggleston, Nancy Hiemstra, Tony Hochstetler, Scott Miracle, Denise Skrzypek, Dixie Strawser, Virginia Trattles, Craig Ulsh, Barb Weston

Members: Excused: Cody Baker, Sherri Crites, Doug Hasbrouck, Mariah Schlabach, Mark Trowbridge

I. Call to Order:
   - President Virginia Trattles called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. Virginia Trattles led the pledges.

II. Public Comment
   - None.

III. Additions to the Agenda
   - None.

IV. Minutes from the previous meeting - Denise Skrzypek, Secretary
   - Motion to approve minutes from the November 6, 2014 meeting received by Jackie Brazo, seconded by Dixie Strawser. Motion approved.

V. Correspondence Received
   A. Julie Thelen
   B. Mendon Food Bank

VI. Treasurer’s Report - Dixie Strawser, Treasurer
   A. Balance in Sturgis Bank & Trust checking account as of December 1, 2014: $32,930.70
   B. Bills needing approval/review
      1. Three Rivers Media: $75.00
      2. Dixie Strawser - Postage: $9.80
      3. MSU Extension: $67.05
      4. Denise Skrzypek - Postage: $6.49
      5. Farm Bureau - Cooler: $467.00
      6. Nichol Trattles - Banquet decorations: $200.00
   C. Motion to approve bills to be paid as presented by Jackie Brazo, seconded by Nancy Hiemstra. Motion approved.

VII. Officer/Committee Reports:
   A. Horse Council: Committee selected. Elections at the December meeting.
   B. Awards Banquet: There were positive and negative feedback from the banquet, but overall went well.
   C. Tack Sale: Denise & Virginia will report more at the January 2015 meeting.
   D. Fundraisers:
      1. Schwan’s: Barb Weston provided books and fliers.
      2. PAYLESS Fundraising: We will be starting the candy bar fundraiser with Ric Shank on January 12, 2015 and will end March 2015. There is a 40% profit from candy sales. A motion was placed to proceed with candy bar sales by Debbie Davis, seconded by Jackie Brazo. Motion carried.
      3. Clover Chocolates: Many left over from the Recognition Banquet. They will sell for $2.00 each and is open to anyone interested. All proceeds go to St. Joseph County 4-H Youth Council.
   E. 4-H Youth Development:
      1. Tractor Operator Program (TOP): There are 27 FFA members presently taking this class and a second class starting in January with another FFA group from the county. All positive feedback. Another class will be offered on Saturdays but 6 students are needed to hold the class.
2. **Harvest for All:** Clubs are to bring food to the FFA building in Centreville.
3. **Club Officer Training:** Will be on January 21, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at Centreville Elementary Gym for all officers. A speaker and pizza will be provided. Eva Beeker will secure the speaker.
4. **Required Leader Meetings:** Scheduled for Tuesday, December 9, 2014 and Thursday, January 15, 2015. All Youth council Members need to be present.
5. **Enrollment Update:** A contract is signed at the state level, however, no training or forms available yet. Should have more information January 2015.

VIII. **Old Business:**
A. **Youth Council Election:** Several slots still need to be filled. Ballots will be mailed early December.
B. **Club Audit:** MSU has taken over the situation with the horse club that has not provided an audit.
C. **United Way Grant:** Debbie Davis & Eva Beeker made a presentation and both are working on filling out the provided packet.
D. **Still Project Survey:** A motion was placed by Debbie Davis to have all non-perishable still projects moved to 1 week prior to fair for judging, Tony Hochstetler 2nd with the contingent of approval from MSU office and Fair Board for approval. Motion passed. Eva B. will be talking to Bill Johnson and MSU in regards to this matter.
E. **4-H Endowment:** A letter was received late October 2014 with a $1000.00 donation.

IX. **New Business:**
A. **State Awards:** Applications are Due February 1st, 2015.
B. **Cloverbuds:** Ages 6-8. It’s been requested to have Cloverbuds be able to show animals – 1 breed per year – chosen by Youth Council members. A Cloverbud will be able to show that one breed and place in their own age group, but will not be able to sell at auction. Debbie Davis placed a motion for Cloverbuds to show 1 chosen animal and horses if all is approved by MSU and Fairboard. Rabbits would be the 1st chosen animal for 2015. Cloverbuds would have to follow the guidelines in 4-H Book. More information to follow. Scott Miracle supports Cloverbuds taking horses to the fair also. Horse Council would have to support this idea. Motion was passed.
C. **Postage:** Youth Council needs to increase mailings. Members and Leaders are not looking at the emails therefore a request for going back to newsletter mailings is needed. More postage is needed. Motion passed.

X. **Adjournment:**
- Meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

**The Next Regularly Scheduled Youth Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 5, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at the MSU Extension Office.**