

Lewis and Clark County 4-H Leader's Council

Meeting Minutes February 11, 2026 5:30 PM @ BHB

Voting Members by Club			
Club Name	Member Name	Club Name	Member Name
Augusta Livestock	Emily Gulick	Prickly Pear 4-H	Crissy Kelly
Big Sky 4-H	Carly LaChere	Silver Spurs	Jennifer Reed
Birdseye Hi Altitude	Randi O'Shea	Sleeping Giants	Julie Petre
Bits and Bridles		Sweet Clovers	Brenda Johnson
Canyon Creek Stock	Katie Grady	Treaters and Feeders	
Farm Kids		Wild Roses	C.J. Lassila
Gold Nuggets	Veronica Champer	406	
Last Chance Livestock	Trish Pentecost		
Montana City Mavericks			

Non-Voting Members by Club			
Club Name	Member Name	Club Name	Member Name
Big Sky 4-H		Independent	Shea Sullivan
Big Sky 4-H	Jenne Caudle	Independent	Laurie Sullivan
Big Sky 4-H		Montana City Mavericks	
Big Sky 4-H	David Hamilton	Prickly Pear 4-H	Luke Duran
Big Sky 4-H	Molly LaChere	Prickly Pear 4-H	Ella Ky
Canyon Creek Stock		Silver Spurs	Kristy Brown
Canyon Creek Stock	Melissa Velin	Sleeping Giants	Michelle Eckhart
Canyon Creek Stock	Lisa Grady	Sleeping Giants	Sara Dearing
Canyon Creek Stock		Sleeping Giants	
Extension	Alyssa Schmidt	Sleeping Giants	
Farm Kids		Sleeping Giants	
Gold Nuggets	Jana Gruber	Sweet Clovers	Michelle King
Independent		Sweet Clovers	Michaela Stewart
Independent	Bill Sullivan	Sweet Clovers	Dallas Blaney

Agenda Item	Discussion	Motion/Recommendation
Call to Order/Pledges	Katie Grady called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Pledges were led by Dallas Blaney.	
Minute Approval	Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The November minutes were approved. 	Michelle Eckhart moved to approve the minutes. Lisa Grady seconded. Unanimously approved.
Treasurer's Report	Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Balance – \$50, 651.19 (Checking account balance) Livestock: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Balance – \$57, 253.16 (Checking account balance) 	
Committee Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extension Office Outdoor Indoor Youth Council Ambassadors Foundation Clubs Building Committee Awards Committee Nominations Committee Fundraising Committee Other	Extension Office: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extension purchased bike racks. Need them picked up from surplus, Rob was volunteered. They could use a paint job. Judges contracts are out. Please start talking to judges now as they all have to go to Extension. Plus if they need a hotel accommodation that needs to be planned ahead. State of Montana would like to use it for Rodent Academy. Make sure all items are picked up after. Strong People classes were being hosted on Tuesdays in the BHB and are no longer being hosted here. Give Extension office lead time on requested projects. A form for requests will be required. This is to track the amount of work coming through the Extension Office. Karyn Hamilton was featured in Fall 2025 Lives and Landscapes from MSU Extension. QA is March 22 1-3 and April 1 5-7, please sign up ahead of time. 4-H has issued information regarding insurance. There is information on the table tonight. Looking for special event coverage for fair for volunteers that help during a specific event and are supervised but don't want to be a full volunteer. Standard insurance info may also be used when accessing an outside building. Snapshot of volunteers and members across the state by county. Outdoor Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Projects are going well. Make sure livestock kids are getting to workshops. Some are almost done with workshops. Others haven't attended any workshops. Kids need to reach out to superintendents if they want confirmation of workshops attended. 	Motion made by Bill Sullivan to charge \$400, \$100 for setup night before, \$300 for the day of event. Luke Duran seconded. Unanimously approved.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Animal move-in on Tuesday of fair will start at noon. All animals must be at the fairgrounds at 4 pm. Fairgrounds is going to open the fair Tuesday night to the public. This will also impact weigh-in times, starting at 4-5 beef, 5-6 sheep, 6-6:30 goats or immediately following each species. Pig will still weigh in on Wednesday at 5 am. • Another change for beef. Ultrasound will be right away starting at noon. The goal is to have ultrasound done by weigh in. • Market weight for pigs changed to a minimum of 220 lbs. • Pigs may be born Dec. 1 or after. • Tent sponsor donor sheets are available. <p>Indoor Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects are going well. • Communications Day is March 14. • Sewing Review is being planned. • Would like a subcommittee for indoor events. Meeting date will be forthcoming. <p>Youth Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bowling the first of February. It was a blast. A lot of new faces. • Meeting this coming Sunday. • Leprechaun Ball is coming up March 13. <p>Ambassadors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership training was fun. Smaller group of attendees, 15. Some new faces. • Planning Spring Awards. Meeting 23 to start planning. • Ambassador applications are coming up. Deadline is April 13. <p>Foundation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met Jan. 14. 8 of 10 members were present. • Fundraising discussion. • 300 cases of chocolate ordered. 155 cases still left to sell as of the first of January. Asking families and clubs to sell chocolates. • Sponsorship letters have gone out. • Membership changes, one open position. <p>Clubs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Augusta Livestock did a trip to Great Divide. Meeting on Sunday early so that kids can make it to workshops in Helena later. • Canyon Creek Stock had spaghetti feed last Saturday. It was a success. Kids are working on deciding what they want to donate to. 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sleeping Giants did a fundraiser with roses and truffles for Valentine's Day gifts. <p>Building Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue with septic lines between BHB and Multipurpose. Do not flush products other than toilet paper down the toilet. Filters in fountain will be replaced tomorrow. Small projects <p>Awards Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extension Agent is taking over. Items have been ordered and will be arriving soon. Rate of Gain is approved. <p>Nominations Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A <p>Fundraising Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A <p>Other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	
Old Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair theme Shooting Sports Invitational Sledding into Leadership Camp Counselor Retreat Montana Winter Fair Other 	<p>Fair Theme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Country Fans and Cattle Brands <p>Shooting Sports Invitational:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Went well. Great feedback into the office. Compliments from around the state. Well organized. A lot of work to get the backdrops fixed. Great work crew. <p>Sledding into Leadership:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Covered by Sara earlier <p>Camp Counselor Retreat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Camp Counselors go through training and planning. 2-night event. Short on male counselors and will have to limit the number of male attendees. Registration should open in March. <p>Montana Winter Fair:</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 youth and 10 Animals. In Lewistown. Had a great time. Very supportive of each other. Another one coming up the end of this month. Feb. 22, March 22, April 22, June 12 in Townsend. There is a series and kids can get points toward an award. Clinic the end of May. Ask Michelle Eckhart if you would like more information. A youth is running these as a big leadership project <p>Other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> N/A 	
New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Candy Bar Sales Other 	<p>Candy Bar Sales:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Council has done a great job selling. Some Ambassadors have sold the bars. Asking each club to take 4-5 boxes. Money needs to be turned in within 3 weeks of checking out the boxes. <p>Other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BHB Cameras – request for funding from Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No sound Fairgrounds will fund part of it Would like to have in place by fair Montana 4-H State Leaders Council <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We get 4 bills from the state \$546 bill received 5 or 6 districts across the state and meet 4 times per year. 3 adult members per region. Meet with state level 4-H. Review state wide projects. Volunteer support and adult support. At each state event the volunteers may get additional education from the council. Once a year the group puts on a Volunteer Institute weekend of programming and educational workshops. The money from the bill above puts on the annual event. One is Montanan's for 4-H which is a lobbyist for legislature and is required. One is 4-H Member Contribution which comes out of membership dues and is required. One is 4-H Leader's dues which is optional and funds the annual adult annual volunteer institute. The last one is 1% fee assessed on club/county assets and is required. Next year Citizenship Seminar would like to utilize the BHB to rent or Donate to the BHB. Breakfast will be a change as a walk through with a new location. Augusta Council Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Club would like a Council meeting in April or May in Augusta. Would like to get some time in Augusta to get face to face time. Suggest having members and volunteers come up for a workshop. 	<p>Jenne Caudle made a motion to spend up to \$4000 toward the new cameras. Trish Pentecost seconded. Unanimously approved.</p> <p>Jenne Caudle made a motion to donate the \$546 for 4-H Leader's Dues. Melissa Velin seconded the motion. Concerns about the expense when the county is trying to save for large changes. Another suggested paying this optional bill every other year. 7 yes, 1 no, 1 abstain. Motion passes.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Another suggestion to have Council, Outdoor, and a workshop in November. Look at a weekend. • Online Payments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No online payments. Fair fees will need to be paid in the office in person or via mail. There will also be a night or two set up similar to post fair check pickup where payments may be made in the evening in the BHB. • DIY Event – Feb. 21 10:45 – 1:00 or so. Kids each make something different and present on it. About 30 kids signed up to present from the various species. Please bring your kids down to check out the event and maybe they will want to participate next year. Helps kids with presenting, merchandising and marketing. Laurie Sullivan is heading up this event. • Meet the Breeds March 14 11-1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 12 different breeds of dogs and stations to learn about the breeds. Also a fundraiser to leave change for the dog(s) you really like. Pet psychic group. Parking will be an adventure as the Made in Montana Event. 	
Community Nights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Missouri River Brewing Bingo Night February 17, 2026 6 PM – 8 PM • Chipotle March 11, 2026 4 PM - 8 PM • Panda Express April 23, 2026 9:30 AM – 10:30 PM • Hammer and Stain May 7, 2026 6 PM <p>\$900 from events thus far</p>	
Upcoming Events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leprechaun Ball March 13, 2026 7:30 BHB • Communications Day March 14, 2026 EVMS • Rec Lab March 27-28, Columbus, MT • Pre-Congress July 5-6 • Congress July 7-10 • Fair July 21-26 	
Guest Presentation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	
Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Meeting: Mar. 11 5:30 pm BHB • Indoor Meeting: Feb. 25 6:00 pm BHB • Foundation Meeting: Mar. 11 6:30 pm BHB • Outdoor Meeting: Mar. 2 5:00 pm BHB • Youth Council: Feb. 15 2:00 pm BHB • Awards Committee: TBD • Fundraising Committee: TBD 	
Adjourn	Meeting was adjourned at 6:47 PM.	David Hamilton moved to adjourn the meeting. Lisa Grady seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.