

Lewis and Clark County 4-H Leader's Council

Meeting Minutes May 13, 2026
5:30 PM @ BHB

Voting Members by Club			
Club Name	Member Name	Club Name	Member Name
Augusta Livestock		Prickly Pear 4-H	Crissy Kelly
Big Sky 4-H	Jessilynn Emmons	Silver Spurs	
Birdseye Hi Altitude		Sleeping Giants	Brandon Dearing
Bits and Bridles		Sweet Clovers	
Canyon Creek Stock	Lisa Grady	Treaters and Feeders	
Farm Kids		Wild Roses	CJ Lassila
Gold Nuggets	Veronica Champer	406	
Last Chance Livestock	Trish Pentecost		
Montana City Mavericks	Kendra Ostberg		

Non-Voting Members by Club			
Club Name	Member Name	Club Name	Member Name
Big Sky 4-H	Jenne Caudle	Independent	Shea Sullivan
Big Sky 4-H	Molly LaChere	Independent	Shea Sullivan
Big Sky 4-H	Karyn Hamilton	Independent	Laurie Sullivan
Big Sky 4-H	Carly LaChere	Independent	Bill Sullivan
Big Sky 4-H	Thomas LaChere	Montana City Mavericks	Michelle Ostberg
Big Sky 4-H	Annaliese LaChere	Prickly Pear 4-H	
Big Sky 4-H	Marcella LaChere	Silver Spurs	
Big Sky 4-H	David Hamilton	Sleeping Giants	Michelle Eckhart
Canyon Creek Stock	Katie Grady Selby	Sleeping Giants	Brandi Dearing
Canyon Creek Stock	Melissa Velin	Sleeping Giants	Emily Dearing
Extension		Sleeping Giants	Kiley Eckhart
Farm Kids		Sweet Clovers	
Gold Nuggets	Jana Gruber	Sleeping Giants	
Independent	Laurie Sullivan	Sweet Clovers	

Agenda Item	Discussion	Motion/Recommendation
Call to Order/Pledges	Katie Grady called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Pledges were led by the group.	
Minute Approval	Minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The February minutes were approved. 	Karyn moved to approve the minutes. Trish seconded. Unanimously approved.
Treasurer's Report	Council: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Balance – \$ 59,147.18 (Checking account balance) Livestock: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Balance – \$ 45,360.68 (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"> Carolyn Williams has joined the office as a full-time temporary administrative assistant Lexi Foust has rejoined to help with fair prep behind the scenes with fair entry, social media and other items Interviewed 6 candidates and are working on background checks. May have a new face by the end of May. County Budget Commissioner Meetings for FY27 are scheduled for May 20th at 4 pm Cameras are still in the planning phase. Multiple county departments want to participate and get a group rate. Taxes were completed and entered into the new system. Club leaders may get a Docusign, sign it. Registration is open for Pre-congress and Congress. Recommend doing Congress before going to pre-Congress. You may select a roommate, but they may not assign what you requested. If financial aid is needed, please reach out to Foundation leadership. Outdoor Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tagging completed Pate Auction 60th year anniversary of donating time to fair. Extra recognition including at rodeo on Saturday during 4-H entry. Raffle drawing donations needed for after sale Email went out to processors for pricing with a deadline of May 30 Lots of effort going into fair prep Need a larger dump truck or dump trailer as we have to move all of the shavings and would like to move periodically during the fair. Loaded livestock panels to the new racks. Short loading racks, 2-3 racks left. Pay close attention to fair schedule. Animal move in time on Tuesday is bumped up. Fair is opening a day early. Opens Tuesday at 4:00 pm. Wednesday will be a full day. Meeting next Monday for May/June combined meeting. 	

Indoor Committee:

- N/A

Youth Council:

- June 28 at 12:30 is the next meeting
- Talking about making a basket for Pate Auction along with a card from each club.
- Adult Round Robin planning
- Planning for treats for donations
- Planning games for fair
- Lake Day July 11 3:00 PM

Ambassadors:

- 9 members as all members that applied were accepted
- Spring Awards

Foundation:

- \$47,655.97 account – some held for scholarships and club closures
- Managed Money Account – 168,767.98 – removing all except 10K for BHB project
- \$1,000 will be donated to the tent

Clubs:

- Big Sky pig raffle includes processing. Tickets are \$10 each. Drawing will be post fair auction
- MT City Mavericks will be doing a car wash on August 20 2-6 pm at Colonial Car Wash
- Gold Nuggets June 13 8-10 at Clancy Fire, pancake breakfast fundraiser
- Prickly Pear ice cream social was a hit
- Canyon Creek did a new wash rack on the south side of the BHB

Building Committee:

- BHB Building Addition Update – met with Slate and an engineer from Morrison Maierle to plan right before council to plan. Plan is to start right after fair. Contract has been signed and two invoices have been paid. Another meeting on Monday
- New lock boxes for the heating. Temp will now be set at 65 for winter.

Awards Committee:

- N/A

Nominations Committee:

- 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 	
<p>Old Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candy Bar Sales • BHB Cameras • County Scholarships • Indoor Silent Auction Baskets • Tent Donations/Drawing for Livestock Sale • Building Reminder and Heat Settings • Fair Book Changes • Sewing Review • Other 	<p>Candy Bar Sales:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 81 boxes left to sell <p>BHB Cameras:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan in progress <p>County Scholarships:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Were due May 1 <p>Indoor Silent Auction Baskets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link will go out soon for clubs to sign up <p>Tent Donations/Drawing for Livestock Sale:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reminder <p>Building Reminder and Heat Settings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will remove. Covered under year building committee. <p>Fair Book Changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft put together last night. <p>Sewing Review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A <p>Other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	
<p>New Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pate Auction • Banking Accounts • Fundraiser by Family • Fair Entry Payment Drop-off Dates • Fair Check Pick Up Dates 	<p>Pate Auction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60th anniversary – Youth Council will be reaching out to clubs. <p>Banking Accounts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foundation is their own overarching entity that has their own checking account. They also have a Managed agency account. • Council has their own checking account 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indoor Project Workshop Numbers • Other 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Livestock has their own checking account • Each entity has funds that are allocated to different areas. • Previously Council was running in the red and having to go to Foundation for \$15K every year. Council now stands on its own, not in the red. Plus we have to plan for the future. <p>Fundraiser by Family:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Looking to do a fundraiser where families can sell something or pay a fee. • Spreads the fundraising across all families • Would like to not collect the fee during enrolment as some families have a really large expense. How would you enforce this if not at enrollment? What about a check box by family at enrollment to say pay fee or sell? • Raised fees previously for council, but that doesn't replenish the MMA account. • Funds would be for future planning and maintenance • Other counties do attach fundraiser to enrollment fees. • Another suggestion would be to charge at fair entry. This would be hard on indoor kids. • Families could sell the chocolate or could just keep the chocolate and eat that expense. • 4-H is much cheaper than any sport. • Concern about people getting a box of chocolate and selling as higher than what the expense is. It could be happening now. • Table for now. • Enrollment fees some go to MT 4-H, ribbons (non-fair events, heating, etc. Fair fees go to fair expenses, judges, hotels and other expenses related to fair. • Need a goal and the fundraiser would be more toward future planning. Paying it forward through the Money Market Account. • Foundation is almost 100% donation whereas Council is more enrollment and fair fees. Council can ask Foundation for money. Foundation also does a lot of sponsorships and scholarships. <p>Fair Entry Payment Drop-off Dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No online payments • Office is only open 8-5 when staffed, closed noon-1 for lunch • Fair Entry opens June 2 • BHB after hours June 10 5-6 pm (right before Council), June 23 6-7 pm • Payments may be mailed too. • \$25 Senior and Junior, \$10 per species, \$10 Cloverbuds – make sure you have the right amount <p>Fair Check Pick Up Dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dates will be coming. 	
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	<p>Indoor Project Workshop Numbers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions about required or not required workshops for indoor projects. Some notified their members ahead of time and others are just now notifying members that they have to attend workshops to come to fair without warning ahead of time. • Outdoor had to set a standard and it came through council. If indoor wants to impose a limit they should notify members at the beginning of the 4-H year. There needs to be discussion if this would need to be implemented for next year. Currently on the website, it has photography requiring 4 workshops and member have known about this since the beginning of the year. Most others have 1 workshop or so many sections in the workshop. If mandatory indoor, the workshops need to be useful. Example 1 quilting instructor cannot help a large group of kids with different levels. • Clubs need to talk to members about what they want to see for indoor and what are the standards. Come back to Council next month on what they would like to see going forward. • Suggest Extension Agent needs to talk to overall indoor about not imposing changes midyear, so that this year members are not impacted by requirements that weren't given up front. <p>Other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	
<p>Community Nights</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mackenzie River Pizza May 13, 2026 11:00 AM – 9:00 PM • Buffalo Wild Wings June 10, 2026 4:00 – 9:00 PM • Lakeside July 9, 2026 3:00 PM to Close 	
<p>Upcoming Events</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photo Show May 8 – 31 • Spring Awards Night and Dinner May 17 5:00 PM Awards at 6:00 PM • Pre-Congress July 5 - 6 • Congress July 7 - 10 • Fair July 21 - 26 • Summer Camp August 3 – 6 	
<p>Guest Presentation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A 	
<p>Announcements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Meeting: June 10 5:30 PM BHB • Indoor Meeting: May 27 6:00 PM BHB • Foundation Meeting: June 10 6:30 PM BHB • Outdoor Meeting: May 18 5:00 PM BHB • Youth Council: June 28 12:30 PM BHB • Awards Committee: TBD • Fundraising Committee: TBD 	

Adjourn	Meeting was adjourned at 6:25 PM.	Michelle Ostberg moved to adjourn the meeting. Karyn Hamilton seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.
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UNAPPROVED