

Lewis & Clark 4-H Foundation

May 14, 2025

Bill Hamilton Building

Karyn Hamilton- President	Katie Grady-Selby 4-H Council President
Michelle Eckhardt- Vice-President	Alyssa Schmidt- 4-H Extension Agent
Janet Cervoski- Treasurer	Jana Gruber- 4-H Council Treasurer
Laurie Sullivan- Secretary	Jenny Caudle- 4-H Council Secretary
William Sullivan- 4-H Council Representative	Melissa Velin- 4-H Council Vice President
Zachary Eckhart- Foundation Youth Rep	Gerald LaChere-Guest
Shea Sullivan-Guest	Kiley Eckhardt-Guest

Meeting was called to order by Karyn Hamilton, President, at 6:49 p.m.

Minutes were approved as printed, with no objections.

Jana Gruber was given the floor to speak on two points. The first point was to review and select the Above and Beyond applicants in the Fall. The second point was to consider increasing our financial commitment for the 4-H Camp Counselors. A suggestion was put forth to pay the entire cost of the counselors to attend camp. Discussion would be carried forward to the next meeting.

Gerald Lachere was present and responded to the Foundation questions about the cost of making the donor signs for the BHB. The cost would be \$11.00 - \$25.00. The cost was based on the volume of signs being made. Janet asked Gerald if he could make window clings and the turnaround time. She would reach out with the number of clings she would need made.

Janet gave the Treasurer's report. Report was approved. The sponsorships have grown to \$10,784.56 with Big Sky and American Chemet making contributions.

Laurie Sullivan made a motion for a donation of \$1,000.00 towards a tent sponsorship. Zachary Eckhardt seconded, and the motion was approved.

Old Business:

Janet and Luke applied for the Helena Area Community Grant. They received a letter stating that they had not received the grant money.

Alyssa Schmidt followed up on her grant opportunities to the Foundation.

1. Professional Development Grant. She was not able to use this grant for 4-H Camp, but she was able to apply for Gardening and Robotics.
2. MJ Murdoch Grant. This is a grant aimed to help with the expansion of the Bill Hamilton Building. It is intended to help with groups that have a cultural significance, educational in

nature, and are in the Western U.S. The grant is not usable from one foundation to another. If we want to apply for this grant, we need to investigate a different way to apply. Alyssa was going to delve deeper into different ways to apply.

3. A fundraising idea brought forth by Alyssa would be a community wellness screening in partnership with St. Peter's Health. The screening would be done at the BHB in the fall with the 4-Her's helping with various tasks designated by St. Peter's health and then receiving a portion of the proceeds. Alyssa received names from Michelle Eckhardt and was looking into more direction and assistance from St. Peter's Health.

New Business:

Alyssa gave us an update on renovating the animal scale in the BHB. The scale needs to be updated, and she called around the state and found three different companies that could come in and work on the scale and have it completed by Fair time. It would cost approximately \$4,000.00 to upgrade. The Lewis and Clark Extension has maintenance money that has not been spent for the year. The time frame to use this money is by June 30th. Timing of the scale payment and the deadline to use the County money is being worked on by Alyssa and Dave Hamilton.

Scholarship requests were made to help 3 individuals with 4-H Camp tuition. A motion was made by Bill Sullivan to fund the requests and seconded by Janet Cervoski. The motion passed.

Laurie Sullivan made a request to look at the growth of 4-H in our county and to look at the numbers in the projects. Growth in the animal projects for fair is exceeding the space available and we may need to look at different ideas on how to develop more space to accommodate the growth. The discussion will be ongoing.

Three record books were reviewed, Stella Duran, Carter Petrie, and Rebecca Gruber were awarded each a \$500.00 scholarship from the Lewis and Clark 4-H Foundation. Colter and Rebecca's books were forwarded to Greta Wacker for the Brian Wacker scholarship.

Karen Hamilton adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m. with the next meeting scheduled on June 11th at 6:30 p.m. directly following the Council Meeting.

Laurie Sullivan

Secretary