

**Day County 4-H Leaders Association ~ Regular Meeting**  
**Monday, March 9, 2026, 7:00 pm**  
**Day County Courthouse**

A Meeting of the Day County 4-H Leaders Association was held Monday, March 9, 2026, at the Day County Courthouse.

1. **Call to Order:** President Merrie Atherton called the meeting to order at 7:16 pm.
2. **Flag Pledges:** Leaders recited the American and 4-H flag pledges.
3. **Approve Agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda was made by Brandon Zubke. Second by Kristi Gaikowski. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
4. **Roll Call:** 22 leaders attended (no Zoom attendees) with 6 of 9 Clubs represented – quorum met. Staff present: Laura Kuecker and Jennifer Ringkob.
5. **Secretary's Report** (provided by Robin Dorsett with last meeting, Monday, November 10, 2025, minutes). Motion to approve the Secretary's Report by Allison Gaikowski. Second by Kayla Czmowski. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
6. **Correspondence:**
  - a. Thank You card from Catholic Daughters of Webster - Waubay thanking the leaders for allowing them to put up their Christmas tree at the Courthouse.
  - b. Thank You card from the ladies for letting them share cookies at the November meeting.
  - c. Invite to a Surprise Appreciation Party honoring Harvey Opitz for 40 years of Service on the Day County Fair Board on Sunday, March 15, 2026, at 2:00 pm, at the Waubay Community Center.
    - i. Motion by Jamie Larson to get a \$50 gift card to Roots and a \$50 gift card to The New Frontier for Harvey Opitz from the Day County Leaders Association. Second by Robin Dorsett. All members voted in favor. Motion approved. Amy Fischer, treasurer, will sign two checks for gift cards. Brandon Zubke will get the gift cards and deliver them.
7. **Treasurer's Report** (provided by Amy Fischer):
  - a. Day County Leaders' Financials presented as of 3/9/2026.
    - i. Balances:
      1. Leaders' Checking Account Balance: \$1,296.85
      2. Money Market Account Balance: \$20,391.92
    - ii. Earmarked funds to deduct from total funds:
      1. Animal Clinics: \$823.14
      2. DASH: \$343.38
      3. Kid Kare: \$406.83
      4. Bike Rodeo: \$1,701.09
      5. Women's Building: \$12,000.00
      6. Awards: \$15,000.00
    - iii. 4 CD's: \$22,865.92 (renew in August 2026)
    - iv. Total Funds available: \$14,280.25
  - b. Clarification about questions from November's Treasurer's Report:
    - i. It was noted that there was a \$15 discrepancy in the Leader/Volunteer Dues for an adult who is a volunteer instead of a leader.
    - ii. T-shirt Sales in question were clarified, as there was an envelope of checks totalling \$755 found that needed to be deposited.

- c. *Note:* There will be no DASH clinics held as of now due to Regional programming being redesigned. It was decided to still hold onto the money in the T&A from the state, as it goes into the general fund.
  - d. **Bills presented:** 4-Hers Kelsey Fischer, Makayla Meland, and Allison Meland have submitted receipts for their belt buckle reimbursements.
  - e. Motion by Jamie Larson to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented with clarifications from November's meeting, and to pay the outstanding bills for the award recipients. Second by Brandon Zubke. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
  - f. 2025-2026 Day County Leaders Association Budget has been submitted to the state.
- 8. Audit Committee Report:** Angela Shoemaker reported that the Audit Committee (Angela Shoemaker, Jessi Wik, Misty Hemmingson) typed up their Audit Report and submitted it to the office.
- 9. Awards Committee Report:** Robin Dorsett reported that the committee has not met. It was recommended that one leader from each club be a part of the 2026 committee. Discuss with your clubs, and please let Brandon Zubke know who your club's representative on the Awards Committee will be. The new committee members will meet, and a committee leader will be chosen.
- 10. Joint Committee Report:** Curt Weyh and Josh Atherton reported that they did not meet in 2025. Curt made a motion to dissolve the Joint Committee. Josh seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
- 11. Shooting Sports Report:** Josh Atherton and Allison Gaiowski reported that the season is going well. The practices in the first few weeks were very busy, with times from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm. They have recently dissolved the 7:00 pm line for practice times. Many shooters have qualified to go to the state competition on April 24-26, 2026, in Ft. Pierre. They are looking for more certified coaches in BB gun and Archery to help with practices.
- 12. Livestock Committee Report:** The Livestock Committee met at 6:00 pm before the leaders' meeting. They are waiting for the State Fair Book to be approved, as there will be many changes and updates. It is recommended that all 4-Hers read the State Fair Book in its entirety when it comes out to be fully aware of the new updated changes. The Livestock Committee will meet again in April after the State Fair Book changes have been approved. They are working on lining up judges for the Day County Fair. Kayla discussed updates on the changes with health papers at the Vet Clinic. Watch for webinars and Zoom meetings to educate families on the new State Fair Book changes. Take note that June 1, 2026, is a hard deadline for animals to be registered in 4Honline. USDA RFID tags will be needed for the State Fair. Ear tags for the Day Co. Fair will be discussed later, after the SD Fair Book changes have been finalized. Please pay close attention to the deadlines.
- 13. Advisor Report:** Extension Educator, Jennifer Ringkob, gave her report on the following:
- a. State 4-H Scholarships due to the State 4-H office by April 6, 2026, with letters of recommendation.
  - b. May 1, 2026, deadline for the National Resources Camp.
  - c. See "Thursday Thoughts" for more information about participating in 4-H Flavorful. One entry per completed survey, eligible for 3 gift cards (\$100 Jorgenson's, \$100 Meathouse, or \$100 Mike's Jack & Jill).
  - d. State Fair Book will no longer have a "changes" page at the beginning of the book. You will need to read the entire book to find all the changes.
    - i. Photography - there will be some changes.
    - ii. Livestock - read general information. Parents AND members both need to be aware of the changes.

- iii. There will now be NO EXCEPTIONS to the Late Policy, especially when competing at the State Fair. If you miss the deadlines, you will NOT be able to participate in the state-level event. No Exceptions.
  - 1. Examples are: State Shoot registration deadline (April 16, 11:59 PM CST), Clover Classic Quiz Bowl (late May), Animal ID in 4HOnline and DNA nomination (June 1, 11:59 PM CST), Youth Horse Literacy Event (due June 1), State Horse Show Registration & Quiz Bowl (July 1, 11:59 PM CST), Dog Championships East and West (late July/early Aug).
- iv. State Fair Entries due by August 1, 2026, 11:59 PM CST. This request was made by the State Fair Commission.
- v. Youth in Action Events MAY allow late entries within 7 days of the deadline by contacting the State 4-H Office with a \$50 fee per event. Members may be able to participate, but will not be eligible for ANY awards or honors or national events. Examples: Clover Classic registration, State Horse YIA, State Fair YIA events.
- e. Late Entries for the Day County Fair will still follow our Fairbook Rules.
- f. Rodeo Deadline is now April 1, 2026. Late entry is May 1. Talk to Laura in the office to check if a family is registered.
- g. General changes - YLL more to it. Training due July 1.
- h. Integrity Pledge will now be included online. No need for paper Integrity Pledge signatures anymore.
- i. Electronic Tags are required for the State Fair.
  - i. Breeding Sheep not needed. If you already have USDA Scrapie tags, but not readable, then you also need RFID/EID tags. Webster Vet Clinic has some.
  - ii. If not going to the State Fair, not needed for the Day Co. Fair.
  - iii. If going to the State Fair, need readable tags.
  - iv. Beef Tags are not RFID. If Bangs Vac., they are readable.
  - v. DNA envelopes fees - Market Beef \$15, Market Sheep, Goat, etc. \$12.
    - 1. If you pick up envelopes, use a BLUE pen, and return all envelopes taken. These are State Specific. Ex: Askarben DNA will need a different submission.
  - vi. There will be Zooms to provide education and share information about changes decided at the state livestock committee meetings.

**14. State Leaders Association Report:** Amy reported that the 4-H Gala had 113 attendees and raised \$43,924. On April 11, there will be a volunteer training in Mitchell, Watertown, and Rapid City. There will be NO SkillsX Camps this year due to recent State 4-H staff resignations.

**15. Junior Leaders Report:** Robin reported that the Junior Leaders met in December at the Hot Rod Garage with 14 kids and a few adults present for a Christmas Party, fellowship, snacks, games, and a white elephant gift exchange. The Junior Leaders will meet again in April to plan for planting flowers in the planters for the Fair and leaving them again for the Harvest Bash. The Junior Leaders will meet in May to plant flowers in the planters.

**16. Old Business:**

- a. Delivered \$210 to the Mark Ermer family from the Courthouse Christmas Funds.

**17. New Business:**

- a. Fruit Sales Fundraiser
  - i. Sales & Delivery Update
    - 1. \$23,270 income (\$17,000 expenses, roughly \$6,270 profit).
    - 2. Fruit Delivery set for March 26 at the Webster Vet Clinic.
- b. Calendar - Review

- i. Program Ideas
  - 1. Poultry Workshop - April 11
  - 2. YIA Communications Contest - last to schedule - July 14 (tentative)
  - 3. The Special Foods Workshop was well attended with 23 members present.
  - 4. YIA Judging Displays can be done at club meetings.
  - 5. Extra flash cards in the office to hand out to Special Foods members.
- ii. Identify Local talent/experts
  - 1. Looking for a club to put on a Communications workshop.
- iii. Workshop topics
  - 1. Possibility of a joint Fashion Revue workshop with Marshall County, end of May or June.
  - 2. Livestock clinics - additional dates, check Thursday Thoughts.
  - 3. No baby chicken eggs were delivered in Day County. Will hatch some in Mrs. Dorsett's classroom in May.
- c. Steak Supper Manager
  - i. Discussion on what to do to continue a fundraiser. Thoughts included checking into expanding the food booth for grilling, making pulled pork & salads instead of a steak supper, having meat raffles, or Chase the Ace/Track the Jack. It was mentioned that the goal of raising money could help put a cover on the showring. No motion or decision was made. Keep thinking about what to do.
- d. Vintage Windows from the Pavilion are available for possible 4-H projects from the fairboard, and are located under the grandstand. They are free.
- e. Women Who Give Donation deposit request
  - i. \$950 was given by the Women Who Give on the 1st Tuesday after Thanksgiving to Marshall & Day Co. 4-H Extension to be split. \$475 will go to each county. Motion by Jamie to earmark \$475 for Day Co. 4-H Extension. Second was made by Angela. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
- f. Other - none

**18. Next Meeting:** Set for Thursday, May 7, 2026, at 7:00 pm.

**19. Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Angela. Second by Amy. All members voted in favor. Motion carried at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jessica McGregor, Secretary. *(Unofficial until approved)*.