

Day County 4-H Leaders Association ~ Regular Meeting

Monday, May 18, 2026, 7:00 pm

Day County Courthouse

A Meeting of the Day County 4-H Leaders Association was held Monday, May 18, 2026, at the Day County Courthouse.

1. **Call to Order:** President Merrie Atherton called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.
2. **Flag Pledges:** Leaders recited the American and 4-H flag pledges.
3. **Approve Agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda by Brandon Zubke. Seconded by Missy Bartelt. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
4. **Roll Call:** 20 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 Jessica McGregor with last meeting, Monday, March 9, 2026, minutes). Motion to approve the Secretary's Report by Jamie Larson. Seconded by Andy Paulson. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
6. **Correspondence:**
 - a. Thank You card from the family of Marvin "Bud" Stern.
 - b. Thank You card from Harvey Opitz for the gift card.
 - c. Lake Region Electric made a \$750 donation to Day County 4-H.
7. **Treasurer's Report** (provided by Amy Fischer):
 - a. Day County Leaders' Financials presented as of 5/18/2026.
 - i. Balances:
 - Leaders' Checking Account Balance: \$11,946.55
 - Money Market Account Balance: \$20,402.15
 - ii. Earmarked funds to deduct from total funds:
 - Animal Clinics: \$823.14
 - DASH: \$343.38
 - Women Who Give: \$462.50
 - Kid Kare: \$406.83
 - Bike Rodeo: \$1,701.09
 - Education Programming: \$1,413.00
 - T-Shirts: \$2,000.00
 - Women's Building: \$12,000.00
 - Awards: \$15,000.00
 - iii. 4 CD's: \$22,865.92 (renew in August 2026)
 - iv. Total Funds available: \$21,064.68
 - b. Expenditures/Bills presented for approval:
 - i. Justin Zubke – volunteer \$10, State Leaders dues \$5
 - ii. Andy Paulson – \$90 for Henry's livestock purchases from fair awards
 - iii. Wayne Fisher – \$150 + mileage for Poultry Clinic out of earmarked animal clinic funds
 - iv. AIL Insurance Payment – \$372.50
 - c. Motion by Jamie Larson to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented, and to pay the bills presented. Second by Brandon Zubke. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
8. **Shooting Sports Report:** Josh Atherton and Allison Gaikowski reported that the season went well. Spring Shoot bill will come out after May 16 - they have not seen it yet. They are still looking for more coaches to complete training - specifically in Archery, as Vince Hanson has retired. If anyone is interested in coaching, they will need to complete fall training.

- 9. State Leaders Association Report:** Amy reported that the 4-H Dance at the State Fair will only be one night this year, and the leaders are working on new t-shirts.
- 10. Junior Leaders Report:** Robin reported that the Junior Leaders will meet on Friday, May 22, at 10:30 am, at the fairgrounds to plant flowers in the planters. The Junior Leaders will also discuss activity ideas for the fair. Reminder to let the Junior Leaders in your club know about the meeting.
- 11. Audit Committee Report:** No meeting yet for this year.
- 12. Awards Committee Report:** Robin Dorsett & Jessi Wik reported that the committee has selected a new chair - Heather Gaikowski. The Awards Committee has met twice so far. Robin & Jessi shared that the committee discussed possible changes to the Awards with the \$15,000 allocated for awards, and any leftover money will go back to the general fund. They suggested that a Joint Committee be formed so the extra money can possibly be focused toward putting a cover on the show ring. Discussion was had over \$30-\$60-\$90 awards and banners. There were also 3 bids for county t-shirts. The committee asked each club to choose their top choice for the county t-shirts with 1 vote allowed per club.
- 13. Livestock Committee Report:** The Livestock Committee met at 6:00 pm on April 20. Jennifer reported the committee met after the State Fairbook came out with significant changes. The committee discussed the changes, reviewed the Day Co. Fairbook, and will follow the State Fairbook with the exception of RFID-readable tags. The SD Pork Council had freebies and a wand for free to be used to read pig tags at the county fair. The Webster Vet will have a fillable *Day Co Fair Health Information Form* to be filled out prior to having animals checked for the Day Co. Fair. This form is only for the Day County Fair. This form is not the same as the health paper required for the State Fair. If going to the State Fair, you will need an electronic health paper that is destination-specific within 30 days of the show. It was also discussed in the meeting to add a Sale of Champions to the Livestock & Premium Sale this year.
- a. Horse Update
- i. Youth Horse Literacy held on April 19 was well attended. There will be one more in either Marshall or Grant County.
 - ii. Request compensation for presenters - compensation is not needed for Shawn, Jean, or Roger as they don't want to be paid. Last year, Roger received \$100 for each horse practice. At the next gathering, they would like to offer a meal with an estimate of 40 4-H members attending. Motion made by Jamie to pay up to \$250 for the meal. Seconded by Angela Shoemaker. The Horse Committee was asked to submit their bills after the meal to be reimbursed.
- 14. Advisor Report:** Extension Educator, Jennifer Ringkob, gave her report on the following:
- a. State Fair Book Updates
- i. State Fair Book theme is to "READ THE BOOK" for new updates. June 1 is the deadline for entering animals in 4-H Online. Only Youth in Action projects at the State Fair have a \$50 late entry fee; although members will not be eligible for top awards or national trips.
 - County qualifier is required again. For example: horse family must participate at the county level to participate at state. Display exhibits - 1 project must be taken to the county fair, then can take projects in that area to the state fair. Livestock - take cattle to county, then can take same species to the state fair. It can be a different animal, but have to exhibit the same species.
 - Be sure to read the Fitting Rules. No dye on animals at the State Fair.
 - There is a charge for DNA for animals to verify champions. \$15 for market beef, and \$12 for market goat, lamb, and swine. All envelopes

you take from the office must be returned according to the state fairbook, even if you wash it or get it dirty. There will be random DNA and Drug testing for all champion animals. Dairy farmers are the most concerned about the new standard verification or disclaimer.

- See page 8 (State Fair Book) - livestreaming of shows now.
 - There will also be an enforcement team to make sure the rules are being followed.
 - See page 17 (State Fair Book) - new animal replacement rules.
 - Sheep & Meat Goats have a wether dam class now for market lambs.
 - **REMINDER:** Livestock entry deadline is **June 1** by 11:59 pm.
 - Special Foods flip-flopped My Plate. See the rules. Prairie Farms will donate milk products to be used at state fair contest.
- ii. CDM Judging is returning to the State Fair. Jennifer may offer CDM judging 3 times this summer and compete in all 3 to be eligible for Grand or Reserve.
- b. YLL/YHL - roughly 20 kids left to complete the training. The last two weeks in June (date to be set) will be the final option with YLL/YHL due by July 1.
 - c. Integrity Pledge - n/a for non-livestock.
 - d. COC - reminder to submit information 3 business days prior to the event, or it will not be sanctioned/approved. Please plan ahead and do not wait til the last minute.

15. Old Business:

- a. Day County Fair Fundraiser Meal - Saturday, August 8, 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm & Compensation
 - i. Harvey's 40th Anniversary Day - Saturday, August 8, 2026
 - ii. Matt Baumgarn, Missy Bartelt, and crew will make a rib meal consisting of:
 - ½ rack baby back ribs, potato, baked beans, coleslaw, cornbread muffin, Harvey's Dirt Cup, lemonade/water.
 - iii. Timeline for ticket sales would be earlier in July (pre-sell tickets - \$20 each, and return with money to office by July 22)
 - iv. Separate compensation for Missy's food booth & for Missy, Matt Baumgarn, and crew making Saturday's ribfest meal.
- b. Vintage Windows for Projects - still available under the Grand Stands if interested.

16. New Business:

- a. Day County Fair Schedule
- b. Day County Fair Book Draft Review - go through 14 pages
 - i. Deadline for all livestock and display Day Co. Fair Entries is Monday, July 27, 2026, by 11:59 pm. Clover Buds do not have to enter projects in Fair Entry.
 - ii. Look at Schedule of Events
 - Sunday, August 2, barns will be open for clubs to clean.
 - Tuesday, August 4, Dog Show in Show Ring - please do not have livestock in show ring for at least 24 hours prior to Dog Show.
 - Wednesday, August 5, free meal in food booth for 4-H members provided by NOVA Clean Energy.
 - Livestock Check-in Times have a 2-hour time span to be checked in with respective livestock committee.
 - Poultry Show will be Friday, August 7, 9:00 am, per judge availability.
 - iii. Late Entry Policy for Day County Fair - page 3. Members may still participate, but will not be eligible for special awards.
 - iv. State Fair Qualifications Requirements - page 3. *new addition* per State Fair Book changes.

- v. See Fairgrounds Clean Up & Building Set Up for club assignments - page 4. County equipment will be out of barns by July 27.
- vi. There is also a sign-up for assistants to help with display exhibit judging, Wednesday, August 6, 2026, 3:30 pm - approximately 7:00 pm.
- vii. Interview Judging - do not need forms filled out unless not able to be interviewed. Best of Show & Judges' Choice may be given to any category without needing 5 entries, but must have received a purple ribbon.
- viii. Animal Ownership & Identification - due June 1 (including animal replacements)
- ix. Youth Livestock Literacy (YLL) - due July 1
- x. Day County Fair Entries - due July 27
- xi. State Fair Entries - due August 1
- xii. Integrity Pledge will be completed online when registering animals for Day County Fair and State Fair.
- xiii. Members should hand in Livestock Sale Forms when checking in to the livestock committee. May add information after respective shows. May sell one premium and two animals. *Sale of Champions* added to livestock sale this year.
- c. Day County Fair Food Booth - work on getting sign-up list out to 4-H families.
 - i. Remind club members to bring their allocated amount of pies and bars to the food booth.
 - ii. Remind all 4-H members to sign up on signupgenius.com to help work the food booth throughout the fair.
- d. Joint Committee - Awards Committee recommended forming a Joint Committee again as there is interest in a covered show ring. Missy Bartelt and Brandon Zubke will represent 4-H Leaders. Will need 2 Fair Board members and 2 County Commissioners.

17. Other - none

18. Next Meeting: Set for Monday, July 20, 2026, at 7:00 pm.

19. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Traci Ellingson. Second by Cindy Weyh. All members voted in favor. Motion carried at 8:48 pm.

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