Day County 4-H Leaders Association ~ Regular Meeting
Thursday, September 10, 2026, 7:00 pm
Day County Courthouse

A Meeting of the Day County 4-H Leaders Association was held Thursday, September 10, 2026, at the Day County Courthouse.

1. **Call to Order:** President Merrie Atherton called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.
2. **Flag Pledges:** Leaders recited the American and 4-H flag pledges.
3. **Approve Agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda by Robin Dorsett. Seconded by Kristi Gaikowski. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
4. **Roll Call:** 13 leaders attended (no one on Zoom), 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, July 20, 2026, minutes). Motion to approve the Secretary's Report by Curt Weyh. Seconded by Amy Fischer. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
6. **Correspondence:**
    a. Land O'Lakes Foundation provided a matching donation representing their match with AgWrx Cooperative in the amount of $1,000 to the Day County 4-H Leaders for the benefit of the 4-H club for general operating support.
    b. Thank You Notes - There will be 3 thank you notes for 4-H members to sign as they pick up their livestock & premium checks. 4-H members are to sign their name to the thank you notes for AgWrx, Land O'Lakes, and Groton Ag Partners for their generous donations.
        i. Groton Ag Partners donated $100 to each 4-H member selling a livestock/premium.
7. **Treasurer's Report** (provided by Amy Fischer):
    a. Day County Leaders' Financials presented as of 9/10/2026.
        i. Balances:
            1. Leaders' Checking Account Balance: $28,130.28
            2. Money Market Account Balance: $20,422.78
        ii. Earmarked funds to deduct from total funds:
            1. Clinics: $436.83
            2. DASH: $478.38
            3. Women Who Give: $462.50
            4. Kid Kare: $406.83
            5. Bike Rodeo: $1,701.09
            6. Education Programming: $1,190.50
            7. Women's Building: $12,000.00
            8. Awards: $15,000.00
        iii. 4 CD's: $22,967.96 (renewed in August 2026, will renew again in March 2027)
        iv. Total Funds available: $39,844.89
    b. Motion by Jamie Larson to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Seconded by Brandon Zubke. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
    c. Expenditures/Bills presented for approval:
        i. Reporter & Farmer - $335.97 cost for livestock sale advertisement & banners
        ii. Missy Bartelt - $1,356.90 bill for food booth (disp paper product & misc)
        iii. Matt Baumgarn - $180.48 bill for spices and supplies for Ribfest
        iv. Carlson & Stewart - $570.92 repair bill for fixing the fridge in the Food Booth.

d. Motion by Robin Dorsett to pay the bills as presented. Second by Cindy Weyh. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
e. Livestock & Premium checks are ready to be distributed. 4-H members must show proof of Thank You to the office before receiving checks. Reminder to please cash/deposit checks by the end of September.

8. **Audit Committee Report:** Office will send out an email to see if any leaders are interested in being on the committee before appointing leaders. Audit Committee Members cannot be signers on the account. Once members are determined, a date to meet will be set.
9. **Awards Committee Report:** It was discussed that the Awards Committee will meet the first week in October. The prize sheets were ready, printed, and may be handed out when members pick up their livestock & premium checks. All members with prize sheets should return forms to the office by October 1 to be able to order prizes and have them in time for the Recognition Event.
10. **Joint Committee Report:** Missy Bartelt and Brandon Zubke reported that more people have come forward with money to help with adding a roof to the show ring. The Fair Board has mentioned they would contribute $10,000, 4-H Leaders would contribute $10,000, LREA possibly $10,000, Basin possibly $10,000, First Interstate Bank with $5,000, and Dacotah Bank with $5,000. Discussion mentioned that the roof could be potentially about 62'x100' with a local general contractor and local businesses helping with rafter discounts, etc. There are grants such as the SD Building Our Rural Communities to help with costs. LREA and Basin could help with electricity and donate time, supplies, and materials. A proposal would need to be submitted to LREA by September 23, 2026.
    a. Motion by Amy Fischer for Joint Committee to move forward with submitting a proposal by September 23, 2026, to add a roof onto the show ring, with 4-H Leaders Association committing to $10,000. Seconded by Robin Dorsett. All members voted in favor. Motion carried. Missy and Brandon will work with Tim Gaikowski's assistance on pursuing the LREA community grant option to submit a proposal.
11. **Shooting Sports Report:** Laura mentioned that the State Fall Shoot was this weekend, with five members participating.
12. **Advisor Report:** Extension Educator, Jennifer Ringkob, gave her report on the following:
    a. Congratulations to everyone who participated at the State Fair and endured all of the weather. The display projects are in the office and ready to be picked up.
    b. As members are working on their end-of-year Record Books, she is available to anyone who might need assistance or have questions.
13. **Junior Leaders Report:** Robin reported that the Junior Leaders' flowers in the planters have lived another month to be used for the Harvest Bash. Amy will clean out the planters after Harvest Bash to be used again next year. New officers will be elected at the October meeting during National 4-H Week. The dance turned out okay with about 30 members attending.
14. **State Leaders' Association Report:** Amy reported that the State Fair 4-H Dance was only held on Sunday. Nothing more to report.
15. **Old Business:**
    a. Day County Fair
        i. Sincere Thank You to all who made the fair a success
        ii. Feedback and suggestions for future DCF
            1. Overall, comments that DCF went well. It was mentioned that the write-ups with the Parade of Champions caused a loss of momentum and not sure it did anything to help the sale. Comments were made that the extra talking during the Parade of Champions made the sale too long, and it needs to just be a sale. Overall, it was good to try, but needs

to be revised. Possible suggestion: The Parade of Champions could be done at 1:45 pm before the sale starts to give the members and their animals recognition so the sale can start at 2:00 pm.
2. Jamie Larson needed his lambing pens back, so the sheep barn will need to find another 24 pens for next year. Brown County might have pens available to purchase reasonably for sheep and goats.
3. Jamie Larson also took home his free-standing panels in beef barn.
4. CD's just renewed in August and will renew again in March. May need to look into using CD's to help with purchasing pens and panels.
5. Reminder that Clover Buds cannot bring anything with a hoof to the fair. If the Joint Committee could find out if any Clover Buds planned to bring an animal to the fair for the Fair Board's PeeWee Showmanship, the livestock committee could plan on providing extra stalls for them.

b. Record Book Due Dates
   i. Leaders Reports due to Extension Office by Tuesday, October 13
   ii. Club Record Books due to Extension Office by Tuesday, October 13
   iii. Special Award Applications Due October 13
      1. If need help with applications, contact the office for tips.

c. Recognition Event Sunday, November 1 - Waubay
   i. Start Time - 2:00 pm
   ii. Refreshments - milk and cookies
   iii. Club assisting with set up - Tails 'n Trails & Dakota Kids
   iv. Cindy Weyh will fill out the paperwork and talk to the Waubay School about use of the school for the Recognition Event.
   v. Amy Fischer made a motion to spend $300 on milk and cookies for the Recognition Event. Seconded by Brandon Zubke. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

16. New Business:

a. Food Booth Report - Missy Bartelt
   i. NOVA Clean Energy sponsored the taco meal for 4-H members on Wednesday.
   ii. Thank You to all who supported the Food Booth during the fair!
   iii. More sponsors this year, so Food Booth profits were up from the prior year. Actually lost money on the Demolition Grand Stand Food Stand this year. The help was phenomenal for all the shifts. Thank you!! Overall, profit was $15,545.
      1. Amy Fischer made a motion to pay Missy Bartelt $4,554 for managing the Food Booth. Seconded by Kristi Gaikowski. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
   iv. Rib Fest was a success. 526 tickets were sold. Profit of $6,081.93.
      1. Jamie Larson made a motion to pay Missy Bartelt $1,608 and Matt Baumgarn $1,000 for managing Rib Fest. Seconded by Brandon Zubke. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
   v. Thank You, Missy, for your hard work and good food!

b. Appoint/Approve Interview Committee for Best Beginner, Top Junior, Top Senior, Outstanding 4-Her, CWF, & Outstanding Club
   i. 3 people needed on committee - several names were mentioned. Will check on their availability and look at the calendar for the interview date.
   ii. Interviews will possibly be held the week of October 19. Date decided on is Wednesday, October 28, 2026, from 4:00 - 8:00 pm. Sign-up Genius will be sent out for interviewees to select the best time to interview.

c. Special Award Nominations and Selection
    i. Outstanding Alumni - Miranda Hanson & Tim Gaikowski
    ii. Meritorious Service - AgWrx Cooperative
    iii. Friend of 4-H - ACE Hardware
    iv. Motion by Cindy Weyh to approve Special Award selections for Outstanding Alumni to Miranda Hanson & Tim Gaikowski, Meritorious Service to AgWrx Cooperative, and Friend of 4-H to ACE Hardware. Seconded by Curt Weyh. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.
d. National 4-H Week is October 4 - 10, 2026
    i. Theme: Beyond Ready
    ii. We would Love to see each club do something to promote 4-H
        1. Ideas: do a social media post or participate in the Pumpkin Fest Parade on October 3
    iii. National Theme Days:
        1. Monday - Go Green - wear green to promote 4-H
        2. Wednesday - County-wide 4-H T-shirt Day is October 7, 2026
        3. Thursday - Thankful Thursday to recognize 4-H's impact on youth and the community, highlight local achievements
    iv. Encourage members to write a letter to the editor to share why 4-H is an awesome organization to join (also goes towards the Key Award)
    v. Social Media - share what you love about 4-H through photos, projects, community service, education, accomplishments, etc., #4HBeyondReady

17. Other Business

a. German Exchange Friendship Club would like to borrow the fryers for the German Fest on September 26, 2026.
    i. Robin Dorsett made a motion to approve the German Exchange Friendship Club's use of the fryers for German Fest on September 26. Seconded by Amy Fischer. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

18. Next Meeting: Set for Monday, November 9, 2026, at 7:00 pm.

19. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Robin Dorsett. Seconded by Cindy Weyh. All members voted in favor. Motion carried at 8:45 pm.

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