

UPSF Department Advisory Committee (DAC) Minutes
September 30, 2023
2023 Fair Wrap-up meeting-All agenda items to address 2023 U.P. State Fair

Members present:

Dairy: Melissa Gatien **Sheep & Goats:** Carol Quist, Sally Ebsch, Rochelle Sundstrom

Beef: Veronica Wallace, Connie Wells (Zoom), John Stapleton, Steve Palosaari

Swine: Sue Baumler, Jodi Spaude, Tyler Labadie (Zoom) **Draft Horse:** Crystal VanElsacker (Zoom)

Poultry/Rabbits: Andrea Sorenson, Carol Chadwick **Community Arts:** None

Equine: Jackie Hurley, Judy Nelson **Skillathon:** Sandy Gill **Community Arts:** Kate Oman

Junior Rep's: Bridget Paidl, Sydney Ebsch

Management: Vickie Micheau (Zoom), Kelly Zellar, Sheila Krueger(Zoom)

Others: Ed McBroom, Ann Harrington, Lori Dalgord (Zoom), Phyllis French

21 voting members present

Public: Lori (Jackie's daughter), Lindsey Kronemeyer, Chrissy Campbell, Lee Marciniak, Jan Strieter, Pete Kleiman Jr., Dr. Laura Gill, Dr. Barry Wehner, Jamie Sundberg, Jesse Willour, Jenny Grabowski, Darryl Leese, Karen Easy, Dr. Barry Wehner, Laci Mitchell, Heidi Mitchell, Mark Cowman, Ginna Hofer. I apologize if not everyone is listed as they were unable to be heard on the recording.

1) Introductions

- 2) Public Comment:** Dr. Laura Gill discussed swine biosecurity and swine to human transmission. Discussed building density and reducing pig numbers in the barn, first come first serve, no pigs from out of the area, limit number of species to be shown per exhibitor. 72 hours gets animals out before sickness is spread, terminal sale all animals that get out of the trailer need to stay. Swine influenza vaccine would not be effective. Temp pigs when they arrive and disinfect boots between loads. She is available for questions. There could have been a meeting with the exhibitors sooner.

Dr. Barry Wehner stated that we could limit species per exhibitor to 2. Best way to decrease hog numbers is to make it a terminal sale. Agrees with shorter time, come in on Wednesday, rest a day, show Friday, sell Saturday, ship out Sunday morning. 2023 was the perfect storm, the confirmed fair vet had a medical emergency right before the fair and our state vet passed away. Dr. Wehner & Dr. Hoholik volunteered to be the fair vets to fill the void. The state did not have a backup available to attend our fair and help guide us. Dr. Goodrich (SOM Fair & Exhibitions Manager) notified him Saturday evening of the swine flu diagnosis. Dr. Goodrich stated 'your fair went as good as it possibly could have, normally swine flu cases result in 60-70% mortality'. Usually you see coughing sneezing, none of the normal symptoms were observed. The kids were allowed to show, allowed to sell, the only death was the original animal, all pigs made it to slaughter. The decision was made to allow people to take their animals home if they chose. Dr. Goodrich did not advise Dr. Hoholik or Dr. Wehner to contact the health department. In his opinion things turned out the best they could have. Agrees to temp animals as they come in. The pig that died had no symptoms.

Jamie Sundburg, co-leader of Knee Deep 4-H club. Would like to draw attention to lack of communication, need protocols for communication to exhibitors. Questioned the quarantine area. Addressed the letter she sent to the DAC and also the response letter she received which are on file.

Jenny Grabowski expressed concern about not closing the barn.

Chairman McBroom stated based on the information that we had at the time we did what was recommended to us by the state and in no way did fair personnel act unethically or criminally as suggested in the letter.

Dr. Wehner talked with the state vet on Monday and the state vet stated he did not believe the barn needed to be closed. Multiple individuals from the state advised it was not necessary to close the barn to the public. The fair was acting on the advice of the state. There was a time lapse between when he was the vet and when Dr. Hoholik took over. The fair needs an account with the state to get the results directly to fair personnel. The state would not give test results to Dr. Hoholik. On Friday when 3 other pigs became sick and again state and lab personnel said it was not necessary to close the barn. The Labs opinion at that time was that it was a virus. Saturday night he was notified that the pig died of swine influenza. When he asked the state what should be the course of action they stated all pigs should be temped before they are loaded out on Sunday morning, if the temp is above 103.5 they would need to remain on the grounds quarantined until the temp is down to normal. That is what happened and no animals had temps higher than 103.5 all were shipped except the 3 that were still in quarantine.

Chairman McBroom feels a subcommittee is in order to review the quarantine plan. Chairman clarified the rule that we certainly allow treatment of any animal in need on the fairgrounds, but, the treatment may affect whether that animal can then show or sell. He has met with the Director of the Department of Agriculture to discuss how the situation was not handled well on their end.

Ginna Hofer-mother of exhibitor with one of the sick pigs. The quarantine pens were not clean upon arrival and should be prepared before needed. There is no electricity or water. No state officials showed up to test their pig. Additional communication is needed.

Jenny Grabowski-1 of their pigs had symptoms and a temperature; they chose to take both of their pigs to quarantine. Dr. Gill checked on their pigs. As they had no place at home to quarantine their sick pigs, they remained on the fairgrounds with fair personnel taking care of them until their temperatures came down and they were then hauled to the processors.

Lindsey Kronemeyer-there should be a designated area for autopsy and sampling.

- 3) **Adoption of Agenda:** Phyllis moved, Sydney supported motion to approve. Motion passed unanimously.
- 4) **Approval of meeting minutes from August 5, 2023.** Sandy moved, Veronica supported motion to approve. Correction-Lori Dalgord did attend. Motion passed unanimously.
- 5) **Buildings & Ground Report:** No one present
- 6) **Management Report:** *We extend our heartfelt appreciation to each and every one of you for your unwavering support of the U.P State Fair. Your dedication and commitment have not gone unnoticed and are greatly appreciated. Many of the relevant suggestions from the suggestion boxes have already been incorporated into the 2024 fair-week planning document., which are highlighted on the compiled recap. Additionally, any remaining suggestions will be directed to our Operations Manager, Matt Valiquette, for inclusion in the **long-term facility and improvement plan**, which ultimately will guide budget development for maintenance and other projects through 2028 and beyond. Rather than investing considerable time in discussion at this meeting, we encourage you to schedule time with Matt in the coming months to foster comprehensive discussions and delve deeper into any departmental shortcomings or achievements. Once again, thank you for your outstanding contributions. Best regards, Vickie On behalf of the Management Agency*
- 7) **Chairman's remarks:** None
- 8) **Exhibitor Department Report:** Kelly. Thanked everyone for their hard work this year and for the public's input. There were 2 disqualifications, reserve goat & a horse pulling team. She will be making disciplinary recommendations to the Authority. All Superintendents will be receiving a packet with their department from the fair book and asked to review & update. She plans to complete a thorough review of the fair book.
- 9) **Items to discuss as a group as it pertains to the 2023 Fair**

- a) **Maintenance:** Missy stated the grounds were not fully prepared prior to the fair. Others agreed. The grass/weeds were tall. Steve stated there was an extreme shortage of labor. Each Superintendent took it upon themselves to clean up their own areas, but that would normally have been completed by maintenance. A pile of benches was behind the sheep barn that were not put out. Kate thanked maintenance for promptly fixing a glass display that was broken & painting benches. CA was also missing benches out front of their building. Kelly has discussed with Matt fixing the beef & dairy barn bathrooms. Also looking at fixing the beef arena.
- b) **Camping:** Sandy stated there were 15 exhibitors that were told they did not have a campsite and would not have been able to come. The issues were fixed only a couple of days before the fair.
- c) **Sound:** Kelly has discussed with Matt the indoor horse arena sound system. Crystal said the indoor sound system has been bad for the last 3 years. This is during the horse pulls. Steve talked with the announcers, and they made some adjustments, but it remained hard to hear. Judy stated the system is outside is working now as they recently had a horse show, and it was fine. Andrea requested a sound system and did get it, but only shortly before her event, it is needed sooner so there needs to be better communication as to when the sound systems are needed.
- d) **Cleaning crew:** Kelly stated the grounds need to be cleaned the Friday before the fair in preparation for exhibitors coming onto the grounds. Sue saw the MOL bathrooms not cleaned during the week. Lee stated the men's MOL bathrooms were cleaned thoroughly. Jackie stated the horse bathrooms were excellent this year. The MOL showers were excellent. Crystal felt the Superintendents could be more active with cleaning their bathrooms. Ed stated we are paying for the cleaning service and the question is did we receive good enough service for the funds spent?
- e) **Showworks:** online registration, judges books. Kelly plans to develop a cheat sheet for online registration. She would like the judges books delivered to the fair office as soon as shows are completed during fair week to allow her to start entering results. Kate suggested a link to online registration on the home page of the fair website. She was grateful for all of the pre-registrations, worked great, the day of registration exhibitors was more challenging. Ed was asking if there is a way to save information from one exhibitor to the next to avoid having to reenter a lot of information for each child.
- f) **Veterinarian:** Ann thanked Dr. Hoholik and Dr. Wehner for stepping up to help us when our contracted fair vet had a medical emergency shortly before the fair. John stated it would be nice if we could have a vet on the DAC. The state should have a backup veterinarian available, and that person should be required to attend a fair if needed as it was this year.
- g) **Superintendent folders:** Agreed they were good.
- h) **Urine collection:** Sally spent hours waiting. No other issues.
- i) **DNA collection:** Sandy stated the date when DNA was due the office was closed. Ann stated when there is an issue an exhibitors first call should be to Kelly. Kelly & Ann stated when they set the date, they did not know the office would be closed as it was to repair flooring. Phyllis felt collecting when exhibitors arrived and immediately after they show is working well for the beef barn. Ann stated that some of the forms which the Superintendents fill out need to be more complete. Ann stated the fees charged to exhibitors were sufficient to cover all costs of testing, cards & postage. No change to the DNA fee is needed.
- j) **Wristband Distribution:** Phyllis requested a list which all of the others received. Sue stated no issues this year as the lists included where each exhibitor could pick up their wristbands. Some dairy exhibitors were sent back and forth between offices to get their wristbands. Ann stated that should not have happened as they were all at the chamber office in envelopes with the exhibitors names on them. Andrea stated in the past they were available at the office. Ann stated management requested this type of distribution. Ed stated there can be huge lines at the office during check-in which our exhibitors do not have to wait in by distributing them by department.
- k) **Judges:** Kelly is hoping Connie will be helping with hiring judges again next year. She requested a dairy judge from out of state. There were also some suggestions in the boxes about judges.
- l) **Ribbons:** Nobody had enough ribbons. Kelly will be looking into a skinnier ribbon specifically for CA. Phyllis stated there were no blue ribbons available for the beef barn. There were ribbons available again later in the week, so some departments took more than needed. Registration reports were given to each department with the number of entries in each class so they could take the appropriate number of ribbons. Kate didn't feel it is fair that the CA exhibitors don't pay any fees to help cover the costs of ribbons.
- m) **Auction Sale:** Ann stated a buyer informed her an exhibitor was talking to buyers about buying his animal that was not going through the sale and the buyers did not appreciate this. We need to inform the exhibitors they are not allowed to advertise or try to private sale their non-auction animals until after the auction. Lori stated Jr.

Market will address this at their Sunday fair meeting. Ann stated the Branstrom hog donation raised \$6,552, and thank you notes were sent to each donator detailing the use of the funds in 2023. Phyllis requested a way to contain the donations coming in. Lori stated the auction needs more volunteers to help. Sally suggested Jr. Market send the thank you's to the buyers as she doesn't think the exhibitors are doing it.

- n) **Parking:** Kelly said we need to go back to assigned parking spaces with laminated signs detailing who the space is reserved for. John stated there needs to be better signs for parking in pocket park as the public was coming in and parking in camping spots. There needs to be signs "Do not enter, camping permit holders only, violators will be towed at owners expense". Possibly the main gate needs to be closed to vehicles. Andrea stated fire lanes are being closed off with vehicles parking. She also suggested moving the septic pump out location from the main gate as the public is still entering when campers are being pumped out, a health issue. Needs to be part of the long-term plan. A secondary one for fair week? Phyllis saw many cars entering without parking permits with gate attendees waving them through. Jackie stated Gate 5 is a challenge as there are vehicles, trailers and the public all coming in at the same time. Ann stated management recognized an issue with parking as it was set up for the festival and not changed to the normal way it is set up during the fair, unfortunately it was too late to change it at that point.
- o) **New early release procedure & release in general:** Ann talked with a hauler and he would like to see the release times for the swine & beef to be a little closer together, so when the close haulers return from their load of swine they don't have to sit and wait for hours before they can start hauling beef. The hogs were loaded out in record time this year, the fastest Jodi has seen it (approximately an hour). Jodi also stated it was the first year she did not end up with a pig left that she did not know where it was to go. It was a trial year and we can look at improvements for next year. Everyone was out by 6:00. The city police helped at different times, unless they left on a call. Would be nice to have a dedicated police car for the entire day. Ed stated there were still many trailers coming through by the MOL building trying to turn left which would have caused back-ups if he wasn't there to redirect them. Overall it was a big improvement. John asked about opening the highway gates on check-in day. Missy stated it was difficult to load dairy cattle with the public coming through. Steve stated during the Highland release only 1 truck & trailer is allowed at a time. They must wait in the infield until they are called to come onto the fairgrounds. Steve also said that's why a lot of fairs require early or late load out when the public is not there.
- p) **Saturday night dance:** Veronica stated it was good. Judy wasn't aware there was a dance for the junior exhibitors in the beef arena. Bridget said it was good, although the arena should have been watered down as it was very dusty.
- q) **Fitting survey results:** 41 returned from 73 exhibitors (56%). 22 keep rules the same, 12 remove or reduce, 7 comments most asking for family fit. Ed asked to possibly consider polling the remainder. John felt it was good participation.
- r) **Review of suggestion boxes:** Results were available to all attending. Management had added highlighted items. CA stated she didn't have one, Kelly stated Dave forgot to put it out. Sarah McBroom tallies the results and removes only the comments naming individuals. Those comments are given to management for review. Many good comments and suggestions. All comments should be reviewed with departments making recommendations in the future for any changes.
- s) **Miracle of Life:** Farm Bureau asked John to discuss the MOL building is too hot. They are looking for large fans. Ed stated that many times the doors were not opened as some of the exhibitors said it blew their papers around. Opening the doors and fans will keep it plenty cool. The pig barn gave them 2 fans, 2 years ago. Missy stated there were fans that were not turned on. Farm Bureau is considering purchasing ewes to have lambs in the future.

10) Department reports-Summaries only

- a) **Dairy:** 94 animals, 25 milking, 2 new exhibitors.
- b) **Beef:** Had a good week, kids were great. John stated steer numbers continue to decline. Hopefully by adding market heifers this will help the numbers.
- c) **Highland:** New show ring with tent was good, did reduce access to the manure pit. Had a merchant table and sold \$5,410 worth of items, 10% goes to the Authority for a vendor fee. Very busy, safety is a major problem and did not work any better this year.
- d) **Sheep/Goats:** Ed asked for a recommendation from the DAC on the penalty for the disqualified goat. Rochelle stated any punishment for the disqualified exhibitors needs to take into account their behavior after the

disqualification. Ann stated Kelly has written up a report with Carol's input to present to the Authority, and it is up to them to impose a penalty. Phyllis suggested providing a recommendation. Questions were raised as to what happens in the barns at night. Ed is checking the barns at night. Ann stated Delta Force has a night watchman dedicated to all of the livestock buildings and he is continually making rounds during the fair. Carol recommended a minimum 2-year ban. Previous drug punishment was a 2-year ban with mandatory testing the 3rd year. Steve moved, Rochelle supported a motion to recommend a 2 year ban with mandatory drug testing the 3rd year. Andrea asked if we want the same punishment for a junior exhibitor as an open exhibitor. Kelly will be recommending a minimum 2-year ban. Ann amended the motion that the mandatory drug testing must be paid for by the exhibitor, the maker and supporter approved the friendly amendment. Motion passed unanimously. Subject to UPSF Authority approval.

- e) **Swine:** Jodi thanked Lee, Sue and everyone that helped her throughout the week.
 - f) **Poultry/Rabbits:** Went well, auction went well, raised an additional \$400. for new pens.
 - g) **Equine:** Jackie stated not the best fair, there was low participation. 2 bad accidents with horses one in the indoor arena and one in the outdoor arena. Judy stated the rings are not good for speed horses. The sand is not deep enough. It is too hard. Jackie said there have been 2 arenas fixed with money from a safety grant from the State. Steve stated the quarter horse people think the arena is great. Thank you again to Jackie for her many years of work for the fair.
 - h) **Draft Horse:** Good pull. Loader tractor does not work for the pulls, a skid steer is required. Received complaints about awards. She purchased engraved Yeti coffee mugs. There were ribbons up to 7th place. Will probably return to trophies. Some on the committee felt the mugs were a good idea. Judy saw draft horses tied to the arena and digging holes. This is not allowed and needs to be brought to Crystal's attention at the time for her to take action. Carol moved, Sue supported a motion to recommend a letter be sent from the Authority regarding the drug policy to the disqualified draft horse Exhibitor. Motion passed.
 - i) **Community Arts:** Skerbek's traveling exhibit was popular. Some parking was removed from them. Suggested moving the garbage bins next to the building to open up parking behind the building. More art was in the exhibit than in the past. Less veggies & flowers, probably due to the weather. Needs another 25 crates. Requested the theme for the raffle quilt be publicized sooner.
 - j) **Youth Representative:** Handled exhibitors questions. Bridget felt went well for the most part. Ed thanked Sydney for her 2 years of service.
 - k) **Jr. Market Livestock:** Thank everyone for their help during the sale. Another record year, sale totaled \$601,460. \$31,972 was donated to Eden Bollon. Checks were sent last week.
 - l) **Overall Showmanship:** None
 - m) **Queen Contest:** None
 - n) **Skillathon:** Sandy thanked sponsors and had others requesting to be a sponsor. Takes 40 volunteers. Has someone willing to consider taking over the skillathon.
 - o) **Recordkeeping:** Sandy stated books were completed better, interviews were good. 17 volunteers and completed them in 1 day from 9am-6pm. All of the books were dumped in the swine barn, normally goes to each barn.
- 11) **Member comments:** Ed stated how proud he is to work with everyone and for the success of one of the biggest events in the U.P. Everyone is outstanding and very dedicated. Ann wanted to thank Kelly and tell her how well she handled all of the issues thrown at her during the fair. Sue stated no one understands all of the things that happen behind the scenes, and that Kelly did great for her first year. Missy asked for the DAC minutes and meeting dates be posted on the UPSF website. Steve would like to see envelopes with the U.P. State Fair Authority with the return address especially for sending fair checks. John stated he appreciates everyone's efforts and passion for the fair.
- 12) **Public Comment:** (did not get her name) Observed exhibitors whipping their pigs during the show and members of the public were very upset about it. Ed stated some fairs have outlawed the use of whips. Sue stated the exhibitors don't know the correct use of the whip. Would like to see showmanship clinics.
- 13) **Adjournment** at 12:45 pm.

UPSF Department Advisory Committee (DAC) Minutes
September 30, 2023 2023-2024 Organizational Meeting 1:05 pm

Members present: Dairy: Melissa Gatien

Sheep & Goats: Carol Quist, Sally Ebsch, Rochelle Sundstrom, Lindsey Kronemeyer

Beef: Veronica Wallace, John Stapleton, Steve Palosaari, Jan Strieter

Swine: Sue Baumler, Jodi Spaude **Draft Horse:** Crystal VanElsacker (Zoom)

Poultry/Rabbits: Andrea Sorenson, Carol Chadwick, Pete Kleiman, Jr. **Community Arts:** Kate Oman

Equine: Jackie Hurley, Judy Nelson **Skillathon:** Sandy Gill

Junior Rep's: Bridget Paidl, Sydney Ebsch **Management:** Vickie Micheau (Zoom), Kelly Zellar, Sheila Krueger (Zoom)

Others: Ed McBroom, Ann Harrington, Lori Dalgord (Zoom), Phyllis French

23 voting members present **Guests:** Lori (Jackie's daughter), Chrissy Campbell, Jesse Willour, Daryl Leese, Crystal Mellgren, Rob Mitchell, Laci Mitchell, Tammi Hill (Zoom), Lynn Labadie (Zoom), Tyler Labadie (Zoom)

- 1) **Introductions:** Letters were available from most of the individuals nominated for positions. All of the 2022-2023 representatives terms have expired and will not be voting. Kelly introduced Jesse Willour as the applicant for horse superintendent. She lives in Gladstone and has shown horses her entire life, her kids are in 4-H and she has new ideas for the horse department. She will need to meet with the Management team to discuss the position.
- 2) **Public Comment:** Lindsey would like a breeding class for November born goats. PeeWee classes should be all the same age for each department.
- 3) **Adoption of Agenda:** Kelly asked to move New business item c to the next meeting. Kelly asked to table New Business item a to next meeting, as Kris is not in attendance. John moved, Missy supported motion to approve. Motion passed unanimously.
- 4) **Member Representative Elections:** Odd year positions open-Dairy, Sheep, Goat, Poultry, Beef Breeding, Community Arts, Junior Representative replacing Sydney Ebsch.

Poultry: The only nomination is Pete Kleiman, Jr. Carol moved, Andrea supported a motion to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Pete. Pete accepts the nomination. Motion passed unanimously.

Sheep: The only nomination is Sally Ebsch. Sue moved, Jodi supported a motion to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Sally. Sally accepts the Nomination. Motion passed unanimously.

Goat: Chrissy Campbell and Lindsey Kronemeyer are nominated. Lindsey is from Pickford. Been showing goats for a couple of years. Showed goats when she was younger. Feels can bring new ideas. Chrissy is from Pickford, she does not have goats but is willing to help in any departments. Ballots were distributed. Winner is Lindsey Kronemeyer.

Dairy: Nominees are Crystal Benson-she provided a letter, Lindsey Kronemeyer grew up on a dairy farm, showed dairy since 9 years old and continues to show dairy, has some new ideas, a good dairy advocate, Olivia DeVooght (not present, no letter), Crystal Mellgren-she talks with everyone and people discuss issues with her, willing to help behind the scenes, Kris Havelka-not present, but willing to accept the nomination. Ballots were distributed. Winner is Kris Havelka.

Beef: Jan Strieter-from Lake Linden has had cattle his entire life, showing at UPSF for 21 years, enjoy it as a family activity and would like to be more involved, Laci Mitchell lives in Marquette county and she provided a letter, Jim Moker provided a letter, Daryl Leese-started showing at UPSF 27 years ago, shows all over the country, lots of ideas and wants to get more involved as he has young kids showing. Tammi Hill-Zoom from Cooks been involved showing at the UPSF for 35 years. Raise and show cattle all over and that experience could be helpful. Her kids said best year ever in the beef barn. Ballots were distributed. Winner is Jan Strieter

Junior Representative: Sidney Ebsch is the only nominee. Sue moved, Jodi supported a motion to appoint Sydney. Motion passed unanimously.

Hog: Current representative has resigned. Nominees are Lee Marciniak and Laci Mitchell. Ballots were distributed. Winner is Lee Marciniak.

There are no nominations for community arts, so if anyone knows of someone, they can still be added to the committee.

Zoom attendees are not allowed to vote as per state law.

All nominations subject to UPSF Authority approval. Poultry: Pete Kleiman, Jr., Sheep: Sally Ebsch, Goat: Lindsey Kronemeyer, Dairy: Kris Havelka, Beef: Jan Strieter, Hogs: Lee Marciniak, Junior Representative: Sydney Ebsch

- 5) **Officer Elections:** Chairman-John nominated Ed for Chair, Jodi supported nomination. Carol moved, Missy supported motion to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot. Motion passed. Vice Chairman-Rochelle nominated Veronica, Carol supported nomination. Sandy moved, Phyllis supported a motion to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot. Motion passed. Secretary-Sue nominated Ann, Rochelle supported the nomination. Carol moved, Sue supported a motion to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot. Motion passed.
Chairman-Ed McBroom, Vice Chairman- Veronica Wallace, Secretary- Ann Harrington Subject to UPSF Authority approval
- 6) **Election of DAC Representative to the Authority Building & Grounds Committee:** John stated the committee has not been very active. Phyllis stated the Authority needs to revamp the building & grounds committee and appoint new members as it has not been updated in years. Ed agreed the Authority needs to review that committee. Judy feels the DAC representative is needed as no one from building & grounds regularly attend our meetings. **Steve moved, Phyllis supported a motion to appoint John as the DAC representative to the Authority Building & Grounds committee. Motion passed unanimously. Subject to UPSF Authority approval.**
- 7) **Chairman to Appoint Executive Committee:** Chairman(Ed), Vice Chairman(Veronica), Authority Representative, Exhibitors Manager (Kelly), UPSF Staff Representative(Vickie), and one other DAC member. Ed will appoint at the next meeting.
- 8) **Management Report:** none
- 9) **Building & Grounds Report:** none
- 10) **Chairman's remarks:** This committee continues to support public input and we will take into account the comments from the prior meeting.
- 11) **Exhibitor Department Report:** Kelly. Would recommend a 72-hour swine show and make it terminal. Jodi stated any changes to the swine show need to be made sooner rather than later. Ann stated lots of moving parts. Kelly would like to see the goat show moved to beef arena. Looking into a professional group to take over the Miracle of Life barn.
- 12) **Old Business**
 - a) Fundraising reports: Ann reported they are not due until December 1st for the period from 10/1/22 to 11/30/23
 - b) **YQCA:** A video presentation from the YQCA Executive Director was shown outlining the program. Information was previously sent to all members for their review. Youth for the Quality Care of Animals is a national multi-species quality assurance program for youth. YQCA is designed as an annual education and certification program focused on food safety, animal well-being and character awareness. Not for profit. Board members are 7 University educators, pork, sheep, rabbit and beef board representatives, show representative & veterinarian, 75,000 youth certified nationwide in 2022. Teachers are Extension educators, FFA teachers & veterinarians. Designed for exhibitors showing animals that will end up in the food chain. The training is one hour, cost is \$3.00 in person, \$12 for online. Does not cost the fair anything. Coupons can be bought for exhibitors to use (4-H clubs could buy for their members), grants can be used to pay for. Currently there are 14 state fairs/shows that require, 6 of those states require it for all county shows and an additional 34 county/local fairs also require. Certification is by age level and is good for 1 year. Sue & Sydney don't feel as effective online, would like to see in person classes. Parents could do it online at home instead of exhibitors. Ann stated there are many parents that could certainly learn something from taking the classes. Sue thinks the program is great. John feels it would be more beneficial to exhibitors than completing the record book. Ed asked if adopting this program would provide the fair with additional credibility with any problems which may arise. Jan questioned where an older exhibitor would start in the program. Ann stated they would start with the curriculum at their age level. John stated if we are going to call ourselves a state fair, we need to act like one. An exhibitor would only complete the

training once, no matter how many species they show. There will always be some that will take the easy way out. Andrea asked about the deadline. Ann stated if it's a requirement like the DNA it would be required to show and the recommendation is to require the certificates at the same time as DNA is required. The market poultry and eggs would need a different due date. Ann moved John supported a motion to implement YQCA for all Junior market livestock animals and the poultry market and eggs for the 2024 UP State Fair. John stated it would be good if it could replace some of the record book requirements, it would make it easier for exhibitors. Kelly & Ann will be the point of contact. Motion passed with Ed dissenting. Subject to UPSF Authority approval.

- c) **Record books:** John stated a lot of time is spent completing & judging the books and feels it could be used in a better way. He agrees to leave the accounting portion but change the essays to a review of their project as an example. Not sure how effective the record books are as a learning tool. Lindsey feels the questions could be duplication with YQCA, but keep the math needed to calculate a break-even cost. Ed, Carol & Sally agree knowing their breakeven price is important. Ann stated there are a number of exhibitors that take great pride in their record books and doesn't feel it should be discontinued, but a meeting with Dave to discuss changes due to YQCA implementation is in order. Sydney stated a lot of the questions don't seem productive. She suggested one questions 'What makes your project different this year than others'. Table discussion until we can talk with Dave.
- d) **Market/Showmanship fitting rules survey:** 41 returned from 73 exhibitors (56%). 22 keep rules the same, 12 remove or reduce, 7 comments most asking for family fit. Ed asked to possibly consider polling the remainder. John felt it was good participation. John stated the beef department has had good discussions about the rules. Ann stated the beef department will meet to come up with a recommendation.
- e) **Non-ambulatory/deceased/isolation animal procedure:** Ed appointed a committee to work on this: Ed, Kris, Andrea, Kelly, Dr. Wehner, one youth rep. Ed asked if anyone knows someone that would like to be involved in this committee to let him know.

13) New Business:

- a. **Clarifying age rules for showing breeding stock-**Kris. Tabled to next meeting.
- b. **Horse pull rules-Crystal.** Need to add to the premium book that our show follows the Michigan Horse Puller rules. Kelly said we need to go through the rules to be sure they all apply to us. We should know when exhibitors have been expelled from the horse pullers association. It has been brought to her attention that shock collars are being used. Need to add inspection rule so she can inspect collars before the pull. Crystal & Kelly will make a recommendation for the next meeting. Crystal would like to survey the pullers. Will work with Kelly on that.
- c. **Medical emergency rule-Kelly** requested to move this to the next meeting.
- d. **Entry processing fee-**Kelly would like a small entry fee for still exhibits. She would also like to add a \$3.00 processing fee for manual entries. Kate told all of their walk-in entries this year they would not be allowed next year. Carol stated older people may have problems entering online. They can go to the Extension office or the chamber for help entering online. Ed would support a \$3.00 manual processing fee, but not a still exhibit entry fee as their premiums are small and there has been no increase in premiums in probably 50 years. There is no online fee unless there are entry fees. The manual processing fee would equal the online processing fee. Kelly moved, Sue supported a motion to implement a \$3.00 processing fee for all manual entries. Motion passed with 1 dissenting vote. Subject to UPSF Authority approval.
- e. **Changes to swine show:** Kelly moved, Carol supported a motion to make the swine show a terminal sale. Do they have to go through the sale if it's terminal? Jodi stated a terminal sale means if they get off the trailer and are weighed, they must go in the barn whether they are over or underweight, so this might not help with any overcrowding issues. As of Saturday, they were 8 pens short. Had enough room as there were some sent home. If an exhibitor brings more than one species they would not have the choice what to sell? This could reduce numbers in other species. Ann asked which will solve their problem better a 72 hour show or a terminal show. The vets felt a terminal sale would reduce numbers. Daryl suggested a tent for overflow animals. Sue stated there is nowhere that doesn't have a dirt floor. Daryl said a fair can make it terminal after the animals arrive. John said a 72-hour show means coming in on Thursday. Jodi is in favor of

shortening the time. Carol Q asked about drug testing timeframe, the results would not be back before the sale. Chrissy suggested allowing multi species pre-registering, but can only bring one. A lot of no sales get shipped to packers directly from the fair even though they don't go through the sale. Ed feels the 72-hour rule makes no sense. Kelly asked if we could define a terminal sale as after they enter a pen, Ed said we can make our own rules. John suggested to consider building a pavilion type barn which would also allow larger campers/boats to be stored. Ed stated the people complaining about the ventilation in the building are missing the fact that there were only 3 additional sick pigs when the state tells us swine flu usually results in 60% morbidity. Therefore, he is reluctant to make any changes. Sue stated people don't realize that the ventilation system keeps the pigs cool in their pens, not for the people in the aisles and many people don't understand that. Ed does agree that another building should be considered. Ann stated the disinfection at check-in helped this year and suggested additional bio-security at check-in. 105 pens, 142 pigs. Jodi also stated another change that needs to be made is to require in the pre-show rules that all animals raised at the same address must be able to be housed in the same pens. Kate felt some change should be implemented to address the public's concerns. Kelly retracted her motion. Ed asked members to be thinking of the different options to be discussed at the next meeting. **Sally moved, Sue supported a motion to ask the Authority to research a new building for the hogs. Motion passed.** The pig that died on Monday came directly from the farm., and had never previously left the farm

f. **Rewrite of veterinary procedure policy:** Ed appointed a committee-Ed, Ann and Dr. Wehner

g. **Camping committee:** Ed appointed John as Chairman. Lindsey, Jan Exhibitors should get the first rights to spots.

14) Department reports-Summaries only

a) **Skillathon**-none

b) **Queen Contest**-none

c) **Overall Showmanship**-none

d) **Jr. Market Livestock**-Lindsey suggested to recognize at the record book award ceremony the kids that are aging out. They post exhibitors bios and post those throughout the fairgrounds.

e) **Youth Representative**-none

f) **Community Arts**-none

g) **Draft Horse**-Questioned if employees had been paid, she needs to contact Vickie.

h) **Equine**-Ed would like to meet with the equine department to discuss bringing exhibitors back. Concerned about the condition of the ring as some horses were hurt this year.

i) **Poultry/Rabbits**-Would like entry fee to be a straight \$2.00. Working with Dept. of Ag. to get a testing school set up to get more pullorum testers. Try to get the testing done before the fair, but need more testers available before that happens. Tests are good for 90 days. A clinic before the fair could be held. A whole flock test is good for a year.

j) **Swine**-none

k) **Sheep/Goats**-Lindsey agrees that the market goat show could be moved to the beef ring, but not necessarily the breeding. There were many suggestions in the boxes and the department needs to review them and come up with recommendations for changes. Lindsey would like Reserve Supreme added to the sheep & goat shows.

l) **Highland**-Concerned about the safety. The barn is too small for the Highland cattle. Their barn is very busy and everyone wants to touch the animals. Other state fairs, animals come in for a few days at a time. He would like to consider working with the sheep & goat barn to come in at different times or change barns. Committee: Steve, Matt, Kelly, Lindsey, Carol Q., Rochelle and Sally.

m) **Beef**-will be meeting to discuss the fitting rules

n) **Dairy**-none

15) Public Comment: none

16) Next Meeting Date: Next Authority meeting October 27, 2023. Next DAC meeting November 18, 2023 10:00 EST in the conference room of the multi-purpose building.

17) Adjournment at 3:55 pm.