

UPSF Department Advisory Committee (DAC) Minutes

November 18, 2023

Members present: Dairy: Melissa Gatien, Kris Havelka

Sheep & Goats: Carol Quist, Sally Ebsch (Zoom), Lindsey Kronemeyer

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

Swine: Sue Baumler, Jodi Spaude **Draft Horse:** none

Poultry/Rabbits: Andrea Sorenson, Carol Chadwick **Community Arts:** Kate Oman

Equine: Jesse Willour **Skillathon:** none

Junior Rep's: Bridget Paidl, Sydney Ebsch (Zoom) **Management:** Matt Valiquette, Kelly Zellar

Others: Ed McBroom, Ann Harrington, Dave Radloff

21 voting members present **Guests:** Brandon Hill, Laci Mitchell, Tyler Labadie

1) Introductions:

2) Public Comment: None

3) Adoption of Agenda: Agenda adopted.

4) Approval of meeting minutes from both September 30, 2023 meetings: Minutes approved.

5) Buildings & Grounds report: Winter storage recently completed. Brought in additional experienced help to place units and at the gate for check-in. Additional units & higher rate brought in additional income. Still have room for shorter units. Beef barn bathrooms are gutted, 2 retired plumbers working on, All new equipment has been purchased. New toilets will be pressure assisted. Dairy barn restroom renovations will be next. Placing ADA compliant hand railings in grandstand, only completing center section to be sure all works well. Quote to replace beef barn arena was a Cadillac request over \$450,000, included extended arena, concrete, arena totally covered to barn, demolition of office building. Ed would like the DAC to be able to make a recommendation to the Authority. He is requesting handouts, slides of plans for the next meeting. Will continue to work on. Andrea asked about beef barn airflow, John stated sufficient, but needs additional electrical capacity. Ed asked what the additional storage revenue would be for winter storage with the larger arena. Replaced a damaged transformer. Repairing & replacing dairy barn & horse arena sound system. Repairing fire suppression system in grandstand. Has quotes to replace big fair sign (\$50,000), Ed asked about used signs. Meijer signs felt the used would not be as good a quality. Changing the sign is a huge labor investment and current sign doesn't allow for much information. All equipment is on a maintenance plan now with 1 person responsible. He has a request for quote out for a hoop barn replacement for the current Highland barn. Trying to work with staff to be more proactive instead of reactive.

Facility Improvement Plan: He must determine the best way to show which items should be prioritized. Each Superintendent should review their barns information and let Matt know if there are any items that need to be addressed. Ed suggested to review the entire document.

Ed addressed that the shutters on the beef barn do not look good as they need to be painted.

Kate asked about fairgrounds security, Matt stated there are security cameras in strategic locations.

6) Management Report: Vickie provided the report which was submitted to the Authority on October 27. Additional information: Jesse Willour has accepted the Equine Department Superintendent position. We look forward to Jesse's enthusiastic involvement and her pragmatic approach to department management. Matt Valiquette will be revising the long-term facility improvement plan, and it's crucial for the superintendents to review and offer recommendations. The 2024 UPSF planning document is also being updated and it will be shared via email with department staff for their consideration. Kelly and I will review and update the Contracted Service Agreements with Department Staff. As a reminder, superintendents will be responsible for assigning responsibilities to department staff. Every position will require a signed agreement before compensation checks are processed. John asked about the DNR grant for the campground bathrooms, he is wondering what will be the priority with having to scale back the projects. Matt's understanding is we will be concentrating on a pocket park bathroom. John agrees that Pocket Park should be the priority. He also stated there may be additional space for camping on the north side of pocket park.

7) Chairman's remarks: Trust funds grants may be delayed. Met with DNR about Pocket Park, there is continued interest to expand their display. Authority did approve all of the DAC recommended changes and the new members. DAC Executive committee appointed: Chairman (Ed), Vice-Chairman (Veronica), Authority (Ann), Management (Vickie), 1 other representative (Sydney). Centennial fair committee (2028 fair) appointed: Andrea-Chairman, Lindsey, Carol C., Connie, Kris and Bridget. Connie requested a member of the public she knows to be on the committee. Gogebic County has had to cancel their 2024 fair due to a fire destroying some of their fair buildings. Their fair is the 2nd week of August. **Steve moved, Carol supported a motion to allow any Gogebic county residents to enter the 2024 U.P. State fair with no entry fees. Motion passed unanimously. Subject to UPSF Authority approval.**

8) Exhibitor Department Report: Ann-This meeting and the next will be the most important meetings for 2024 fair changes as there needs to be time to get them approved by the Authority, and in the premium book. Fundraising reports are due as of 10/31, most have provided, thank you. Reviewed 2023 income & expense report for each department comparing income (entry & stall fees) to premium expenses. Total payout over income was \$25,013, does not include department budgets, testing, ribbons, judges, etc. YQCA update: Authority approved. An informational email was distributed for review and plan is to send by first of December to all 2023 junior market exhibitors and club leaders. MSUE will be providing in-person trainings. A postcard with a QR code to an informational video will also be sent via US mail. YQCA certification deadlines: Beef-March 15, Swine, lamb, goat-June 25, Poultry, eggs-July 1. Dave stated need to click on purchase button to register for class. In-person training cost is \$3.00, on-line cost is \$12.00. Coupons can be purchased by clubs for their members. Sue suggested department staff should complete the training also for their knowledge. Instructor classes can have different ages in them. Bridget stated to be sure to provide club leaders with the information via US mail. Ed suggested reaching out to county fairs with the information. Lindsay said to post on FB. & website. Reviewed a spreadsheet with fair activities/shows by day. Kelly-Reminder she needs any premium book edits and 2023 sponsor lists. Market Superintendents need to review their pre-register letters and provide her with changes. Will be working with Connie to secure judges. 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. Authority approved the \$3.00 manual registration fee, a 2-year ban for the goat exhibitor and a 1 year ban for the draft pull exhibitor. Asked who would be sending letters to those exhibitors, Ed stated he would. Working on website updates, looking into livestock insurance for the week of the fair, MOL exhibit, draft pull rules. Community arts & draft pull pre-registration deadline will be August 1st. Ed asked if this was ever approved by the Authority. Looking at adding an Open Show exhibitor code of conduct. Beginning planning for 100-year celebration. Asked Ed to appoint the Executive committee.

9) Old Business

a) Medical emergency rule: Kelly-Would like to change the rule for when the medical emergency occurs from July 15th to the week before the fair. John is not comfortable with this change. Ed stated we have had it happen he thinks 4 times. He has received calls from many different people over the years wanting the exhibitor to be able to show, which is why they came up with the policy. He feels the policy has worked well until this past year. The executive committee met and decided to make the exception for the exhibitor in 2023. Would recommend that we stay with the July 15th date. Ann feels July 15th is a good deadline, but we also need to be able use some discretion for a different situation. Kris & John feels that it should be if the emergency has happened after the exhibitor has completed their final registration. Ed feels the policy gives us a benchmark but can always use discretion. We try to be a flexible and compassionate fair but also being fair to all exhibitors. Jodi requested to table this and take time to think about it. Motion to table approved.

- b) Clarifying age rules for showing breeding stock:** Kris-age requirements are different for the different species and people were questioning what those were. Ed requested Ann to complete a chart with the different ages for different departments. Kris questioned the age remaining at a minimum of 9 for dairy. John stated we had a very lengthy discussion about changing ages when 4-H reduced their age to 8. Kris would like to discuss the age of 8 to show heifers in dairy. Missy created 2 peewee classes in her department to allow younger kids to show. The beef department allows any age to show in peewee classes. The beef department also allows younger kids to be in the ring when their adults are showing during the Open show. This has been allowed in the beef department for many years. The dairy department does not allow anyone under 9 to be in the ring. Ann stated in previous discussions we had distinguished between showing a small animal and a large animal and decided that small animals minimum age would be 8 and large animals would be 9. Ann will complete the age spreadsheet and we will continue to discuss at the next meeting.
- c) Non ambulatory/deceased/isolation animal procedure committee report:** Committee has not met. Ed addressed Matt concerning the quarantine area at North coast. That area has been approved by the State to be our quarantine area. The Authority discussed and would like to be sure the area has access to water. Matt will look into. Ed suggested running a hose from the campground. The isolation area should be cleaned/sanitized and ready to go before the fair. This is on the plan and Matt will take care of.
- d) Swine show changes:** Jodi-Handout was available to review their recommendations. Due to the issues last year they are recommending swine to come in on Wednesday, show on Friday. There would be many issues with other shows and campers coming in and Sunday's exhibitors meeting. Hogs will be temperature checked when they arrive, boots, boards and scales will be disinfected between trailer loads. John felt the swine department did not get the recognition they deserved for the job they did during the fair. Many of the issues were not their responsibility (quarantine area). We back them 100%. Most county fairs in MI are still weeklong shows, Agree with the increased bio-security proposals. There were other fairs that had swine flu. Even with a shorter show doesn't guaranty animals don't get sick. We have had fairs here for almost 100 years and other animals have died over the years. He felt they had a good outcome and doesn't feel we need to fix something that may not be broken, yes there are things to address, reduce sunlight. We as a group need to support the swine department. Shortening the timeframe will affect the fair economically and other departments might want to be shorter. Ed doesn't feel the outcome was just luck, he attributes it to taking extra precautions. The state can't believe we didn't have 60% mortality. The only pig to die was the one on Monday and all others were sent to processors. The outbreak was reported to the Health department and their follow-up did not reveal any human cases. He doesn't feel the shorter timeframe is necessary. Carol asked about getting urine tests back in a short amount of time. If results don't come back until after, the exhibitor would not get their auction check. Jan agrees with John and feels the swine department was dealt a crappy hand, but they did the best they could have done. He doesn't feel we need to reinvent the wheel. Some changes can be made to improve how we do things. They did a great job with what they could do. Ed worries that hogs may be left on trailers for many days. There were only 6 exhibitors (3 families) with multiple animals that were more than 1 hour a way. Ann stated she felt the beef department are all on the same page agreeing that they did a great job and no changes to show days are needed, we want to support them in everything they do moving forward, but we feel with the additional bio-security protocols, we will be looking for an app to be used during fair week to improve communications with exhibitors, If we have hot days we can consider reducing the public viewing times in the barn to reduce the animals stress levels. A Lot of the complaints were about the quarantine area, which was not their responsibility. The Authority and management have already discussed and will be addressed before the 2024 fair. Cover south side with spray foam or tint the windows or cover with fabric to reduce heat from sunlight. Tyler asked about portable air conditioning, John stated additional moisture could be a problem in that building. Jodi is open to anything the committee feels should happen. Sue said they felt like they were put in a corner by the public and needed to react. Sue expressed her thanks to Steve & Ed for their support at the last meeting. Ed felt it was very important that any of our staff involved with the swine barn not be the ones visiting the quarantined animals to bring back any germs. We need to name a Quarantine Liaison to deal with the exhibitors and their animals that have been moved to the quarantine area, but who will not be bringing it back to the fairgrounds. It could possibly be a couple of Authority members. Ann asked the swine department if we did not make any changes to the timing of entries and shows and with all of the DAC members and management's support, would they be okay with leaving things as is with the addition of bio-security, communication improvement, quarantine area

improvement, having the ability to close the barn during the hottest part of the day. They definitely said they could continue with the same timeframe. It's good we have an alternate plan if at some point we are required to implement a shorter timeframe. Swine department discussion summary ideas to be implemented in 2024:

1) Increased bio-security at swine check-in:

- Temperature check all pigs before they are unloaded
- Disinfect staff boots and boards between trailer loads
- Disinfect scale between trailer loads

2) Prepare quarantine area prior to fair opening

- set-up pens
- clean and sanitize
- have a water source available

3) Establish a crisis communication protocol

- appoint a Quarantine Liaison to monitor and communicate between fair personnel and quarantined exhibitors
- research communication app's used to keep all exhibitors informed

4) Reduce the times which the swine building is open to the public during the hottest times of day if staff determines it is necessary to reduce animal stress

5) Reduce building heat from the south side of the barn

- research foam, tinting windows, covering with heat resistant fabric

6) Continue with no pigs through the sale ring to minimize stress

7) Continue with early Sunday morning load-out

8) Continue with no underweight or overweight hogs allowed in the barn

e) Camping committee report-John: He has received information that management is working on improving the camping. He doesn't feel we need a separate committee to work on. He feels they understand the priorities of camping for livestock exhibitors. Ann stated that after management has come up with a plan, she would like it presented to the DAC for their review. John says dogs in the campgrounds are a problem.

f) Veterinary procedure committee report-Ed, Ann, Dr. Wehner. Ed tabled until the next meeting.

g)

10) New Business:

- a. Lori Branstrom Memorial Award Grant**-balance \$16,697.65. Continue with 4 exhibitor awards of \$1,000 each? Offer department grants in 2024?-Ann Grant information has been updated-added need bids if cost is over \$500, changed dates, questions to Matt, removed award recipients can only receive a grant once every 2 years, added final report due upon completion of the project. In 2023 spent \$6,700, donations were \$6552. John stated to continue, good improvements completed. Ed moved, Carol C. supported a motion to continue the grant program and add the selection committee give priority to departments that had not received a grant in the previous year. Motion passed unanimously.

- b. Beef department recommendations:** Veronica-Handout items 1-6 need to be discussed.

1) **Department 4, rule 3c: replace with the following:**

All Junior market beef exhibitors (division 3) may receive assistance only from other Junior market beef exhibitors (division 3). (all get green wristbands) All other Junior beef showmanship exhibitors (division 1) showing a breeding beef animal (that must also be registered in their name in the junior beef breeding show), may receive assistance from any other Junior beef showmanship exhibitor (division 1). (all get red wristbands) Tyler said ok but need to offer showmanship clinics. Ask older exhibitors to mentor the younger exhibitors. Veronica agreed clinics are good, but the last 2 years the fair has had a judge offer clinics, some were not well attended. If an exhibitor wants to learn they should be looking for help. Sue doesn't believe it's the fair's responsibility to put on fitting clinics, possibly clubs, MSUE. Adults can continue to verbally assist. Jodi asked for verification that this rule is only in the beef department, Veronica stated yes. Jodi moved, Connie supported a motion to adopt the above change, Lindsey amended to change 'market animal to market beef'. Motion passed unanimously.

2) **Department 4, Division 1 Showmanship ages:** Change the age classes as suggested by the judge due to the smaller numbers in the beef department and to align with the Michigan points show.

Change the age categories to the following: 17-19 (Seniors), 14-16 (Intermediate), 11-13 (Juniors), 9-10 (Beginners), this would reduce classes from 5 to 4. Carol asked if this should be for all market animals. Jodi and Carol Q. thought it might make their shows easier. John moved, Kris supported a motion that the above apply to all Junior showmanship classes for sheep, goats, swine, beef (beginners 8-10 for sheep, goats & swine). Motion passed unanimously.

3) **Proposed Open & Junior Show Breed classes: Add Shorthorn class & add definitions**

5-Hereford-Purebred

6-Simmental- 50% or greater

7-Black Angus-Purebred

8- Maintainer-74% and less

9- Maine-Anjou-75% or greater

10- Shorthorn Plus-less than 15/16 (green certificate)

11- Red Angus-Purebred

12- Shorthorn-15/16 or greater (red certificate)

13- All other registered breeds (AORB) 14- Commercial/crossbred

15-Scottish Highland

*excluding the Highlands. Ed asked about adding a Holstein steer class, John supported and asked why dairy doesn't offer it. The beef department is open to that discussion. Jr. market livestock board needs to consider also. Ed asked the beef department to discuss with Jr. Market and report back at the next meeting. Must continue to have 5 entries to have a breed show. If someone comes in with 7 entries in a breed not listed needs to go into any other breed. John stated it would be nice to have all breeds available, but could lead to additional premiums, but may also bring in additional exhibitors. **Kris moved, Missy supported motion to approve adding a Shorthorn class to the Open & Junior beef breed shows and add the class definitions. Motion passed. Subject to UPSF Authority approval.**

4) **Steer load out recommendation:** Haulers & packers didn't like waiting between the hogs & steers.

Move load out time up to noon, as requested by haulers. The breeding side would remain open until 5:00 pm. **Sue moved, Jodi supported a motion to change the market beef load out time to noon or after the swine, whichever is later. Motion passed unanimously. Subject to UPSF Authority approval.**

5) **Judges:** Veronica has had many questions why we don't announce the judges

Beef barn recommends announcing all judges on July 30th. John stated most shows do announce. Andrea had an issue a few years ago when an exhibitor contacted the judge ahead of the fair. Connie stated if it's announced ahead it is fair to all exhibitors. Why does it matter if someone knows who the judge is? John stated there are some exhibitors that go judge shopping for information, he strongly recommends announcing. Sue doesn't announce because they have family members exhibiting. Jodi didn't think a problem if everyone knows at the same time and they are not involved in hiring the judges. Jesse stated horse judges are known at the beginning of the year, it wouldn't be a bad thing, might bring people in. Lindsay would like to know for the sheep & goat department so exhibitors could research the judge if they wanted. Ed asked couldn't we put something in the judges contract to have no contact with exhibitors. Community arts does not want to announce, judges may be local business owners. Also Ann stated CA judging is not public, it's completed before the fair. Kate requested copies of the judges contract, Connie will get her one. Dave agreed not for CA. Ed said each department can decide for themselves. Veronica moved, Kris supported a motion to announce all beef judges on July 30th. Motion passed unanimously.

6) **Department 4, rule #12 proposed new verbiage.** Last 2 years accusation of overage steers. Veronica doesn't feel the rule is specific enough. New verbiage is from Wisconsin State Fair. John thinks we may see this becoming a bigger issue with older animals being shown.

Current rule: The Grand & Reserve Champions may be mouthed by a qualified Veterinarian.

Proposed rule: Market beef animals are subject to mouthing for overage. Overage animals are ineligible to compete if the first prominent incisor tooth is in wear. Veterinarian makes the determination. A grievance must be filed to request a mouthing.

Ed suggested adding can be completed at Superintendents discretion, and when do we want the grievance filed?

John asked what compete means? Ann stated if can't compete means in all classes and can't sell.

Veronica moved, Missy supported a motion to accept the changed verbiage for the new rule. Motion passed unanimously. New rule: Market beef animals are subject to mouthing for overage at the discretion of the Superintendent at any time. Overage animals are ineligible to compete if the first prominent incisor tooth is in wear. Veterinarian makes the determination A grievance must be filed to request a mouthing prior to the beginning of the show. John stated needs to get out early to exhibitors.

- c. **Record book changes:** Dave- was not at the last meeting, doesn't agree with removing all of the record book questions, too hard to score and determine winners for interviews. He would look at reducing the numbers of questions and incorporating YQCA information in those questions. What did you learn in this project question is difficult to score, needs to have content questions. Will need to rewrite the rubric scoring. John suggested adding points for presentation, pictures, neatness. John suggested scoring the financials heavier, did they include all costs, DNA, entry, transportation, marketing, YQCA charges? Dave doesn't feel a one-hour class will compensate for the research that some of the questions require. Ann stated it might be easier for exhibitors to accept YQCA if the record books are somewhat condensed. Dave will bring suggested changes to the next meeting.
- d. **Ribbons:** Dave-had many issues with no blue ribbons for CA. Kelly will order special ribbons for the CA departments.

11) Department reports-Summaries only

Community Arts-Jacqueline Beach would like to be the exhibitor representative. John moved, Kelly supported a motion to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Jacqueline Beach. Motion passed. Subject to UPSF Authority approval. Kate will be recommending many changes to the premium book and will send them in. Steve suggested Kate propose some increase in premiums. Carol asked why there are no entry fees? Ed has not supported an entry fee due to the extremely low premiums that have never been increased.

Dairy-Fee taken out of the cheese baskets, Missy doesn't feel it's fair, would like a set rate. Jr. Market will refund this year's charges of \$78.00. Would be nice if dairy could be released earlier. Overall showmanship, some farms bring someone in just to compete. Not fair that they don't live on the farm. Considering adding a rule must compete for 2 years before can qualify for overall showmanship. They have to show an animal in the junior show. John stated beef has that issue and it is hard to stop. She heard there was cheating in the overall showmanship and not all species are involved. Ed thinks the Authority should pay the cheese basket fees. Ann withheld the funds from the checks and explained that Jr. Market spends a lot of money to hold the sale, there are costs for the checks, postage, auctioneer, buyer invites, passes and advertising. The 3% was withheld from all exhibitors (excluding the donations). The poultry auction said they can come to their auction, but they withhold 3% also. Syndey stated the Jr. Market livestock board discussed at their meeting and if the dairy department would like to continue being in their auction they would be included in all advertising and promotion and would still be charged the 3%. Veronica asked how much the cheese baskets cost the exhibitors? Missy stated they are donated. Veronica stated they are making 100% profit and they should pay the 3%. Missy is fine with the 3% withheld if they are included in the sale advertising.

Beef-on the back page of beef changes #7-12 will be implemented by the beef department. -7-PeeWee's any age under 9. 8-Beef barn staff will be checking tattoos of all registered beef breeding stock against their registration papers. Checking will be completed Monday morning 9am-11am in the beef barn arena. 9- Show ring bedding was a problem, very dusty. 10-Dept. 4, Division 3. Change verbiage to Champion market beef. Market beef may be a steer or heifer. Add a Champion Shorthorn plus class. If any of the top 5 market animals are entered in any of the Champion classes, they will automatically win that class. The class will not be shown in the ring. The winner will be announced and given their award. Market heifers must provide a negative pregnancy test performed by a veterinarian. The test must be dated within 30 days of the fair and identify the animal tested via RFID tag number. Kris asked if market heifers will be shown in their own class? They will show with the steers in their weight category. Kelly asked why other market animals are not required to provide a pregnancy test? Beef department

wondered that also. Carol Q. was unaware it was an issue. Lindsay stated they do not have a rule at Chippewa, but there have been some cases where the processor has told them some of the lambs were pregnant. Other departments should consider implementing pregnancy testing. 11- Move open show prospect class to Division 1 in the book as it is the first class to show. 12-Move to the Open show: Heifer purchased at Bay de Noc Beef Producers 2023 Fall classic sale to Department 3, Division 2 to be shown following the Prospect classes. 13-Clarify class 165: Two-year-old heifer (calved Jan-Aug 2022)-the animal must be a heifer and cannot have had a calf. New rule: The same animal cannot be registered in class 165 and in class 170.

Highland-Has a committee to research the possibility of sharing the sheep barn. A lot of fairs have animals share buildings.

Sheep-no report

Goats-change class 442 to Intermediate Doe Kid, born 1/1 to 3/31 of current year and class 443 to Senior doe kid born 9/1 to 12/31 of prior year. Carol moved, Lindsay supported a motion to change rule 1 from no intact male goats are permitted on the grounds to no intact male goats are permitted on the grounds with the exception of a buckling less than 6 months of age that is still with it's mother and there are no added classes. Motion passed unanimously.

Swine-no report

Skillathon-Kris said Sandy is looking for donations of \$100 to purchase the shirts, she has turned in her fundraising information.

Poultry/Rabbits-there has been one case in lower Michigan of Avian influenza. Received donation from Meyer Hatchery of 4000 cups for watering. Andrea moved, Carol C. supported a motion to change entry fee of \$1.00 and a pen fee of \$1.00 to just an entry fee of \$2.00 with no pen fees. Motion carried unanimously. Investigating adding market rabbits, needs to work with Dave on record books, determine if they have enough space to add.

- a) **Horse**-Wants to hire an Assistant Superintendent, referred her to management. Jesse moved, Veronica supported a motion to reduce the minimum age to show in the Junior & Open horse shows (Department 12 & 13) to 8. Motion passes unanimously. Subject to UPSF Authority approval. Numbers are going down, a lot of shows are 3 years old. Most shows are reducing age to increase numbers. She is comfortable with 8 years old showing. Considering changing horse show days. Shows are not lasting very long so some can be combined. Reduces number of helpers and judges needed. John stated would like to see the horses stay all week. Would like to move miniature horse show to Saturday with the other open show. Also will be trying to get the jumping show during the fair. The hope is to entice them to show on Tuesday and Thursday. John suggested free stall fees this year to encourage them. There was a horse club on the draft horse side of the barn that people were unaware of. Ed suggested bringing all of the changes to the next meeting. She will be working on determining changes needed to the arena footing.
- b) **Draft Horse**-Crystal had emailed asking to change the show to start at 3:00 pm.
- c) **Queen Contest**-none
- d) **Overall Showmanship**-none
- e) **Jr. Market Livestock**-John would like to recommend to them to pay for buyers entry fees only for the ones actually used. Trying to move to buyers pre-registering to determine who gets passes.
- f) **Youth Representative**-Jr market met a couple of weeks ago, no recommendations yet.
- g) **Recordkeeping**-none

12) **Public Comment:** none

13) **Next Meeting Date:** January 6, 2024 10:00 am EST @ multipurpose building conference room. Next Authority meeting January 26, 2024. If anyone is interested in attending the MAFE conference get in touch with Vickie.

14) **Adjournment** at 2:00 pm.

2023 Show age by department

Department	Min. age	pee-wee age
1-Open Dairy	9	none
2-Jr. Dairy	9	3-8
3-Open Beef	9	none
4-Jr. Beef	9	under 9
5-Open Sheep	8	none
6-Jr. Sheep	8	5-7
7-Open Goats	8	none
7-Jr. Goats	8	5-7
8-Swine	8	none
10-Open Poultry	9	none
10-Jr. Poultry	8	5-7
11-Open Rabbits	9	none
11-Jr. Rabbits	8	5-7
12-Open Horse	9	6-8
13-Jr. Horse	9	6-8
14-Open Draft Horse	9	none
17-26 Open Community Arts	9	none
27-Jr. Community Arts	8	5-7
28-Queen	10	none
29-Team Fitting	9	none

9-13 must be accompanied by an adult in ring

General rule #8: Exhibitors must be 9 years of age by January 1 of the year of the fair to be eligible to compete in the classes of the open show. (Exceptions are noted in Department Rules)