



Meeting Minutes

2/24/25

Call to Order

Brad Noack called to order the meeting of the Williamson County Livestock Association at 7:01 pm on February 24, 2025, at Moravian Hall in Walburg, TX.

Roll call

The following persons were present: Brad Noack, Wayne Sanders, Montgomery Raesz, Colby Doherty, Patrick Phillips, John Faske, Dustin Davidson, Daniel Knippa, BJ Simpson, Matt Suchomel, Donnie Smith, Blake Henderson, Richard Sells, Paul Boff

Guests: Heather Faske, Shelley Franklin, Amanda Drummond, Lance Hunter, Hollie Suchomel, Victoria Saldaña

Financial Report:

- R Bank Checking- \$876,799.49**
- R Bank Money Market - \$142,445.82**
- R Bank Scholarship Money Market - \$20,493.78**
- R Bank Savings - \$38,970.48**

Committee Reports:

A) Scholarship - Committee Chairman -

- Scholarship Funding:
 - 12 Scholarships awarded for 2024 graduates:
 - Doug Vrabel Memorial Scholarship - 1 recipient of \$2,500
 - 2023-2024 WCLA Scholarship(s) - 2 recipients of \$2,000 and 9 recipients of \$1,555.

B) Livestock -

- Superintendents:
 - Livestock - Wayne Sanders
 - Poultry - Montgomery Raesz
 - Rabbit - John Faske
 - Goat - Richard Sells
 - Lamb - Matt Suchomel
 - Swine - Colby Doherty
 - Cattle - Dustin Davidson
 - Media - Paul Boff
 - Award - Blake Henderson
 - Facility - Brad Adams

- Fundraising - Donnie Smith
- Scholarship - Colby Doherty
- Jr. Steering - Matt Suchomel
- Judges:
 - Rabbit –
 - Lamb –
 - Breeding Lamb/Goat –
 - Goat –
 - Poultry –
 - Steers –
 - Heifers –
 - Swine –
 - Breeding Swine –

C) Validation -

- DNA Testing – Animal ID -
 - All champions & reserve champions
 - Pull hair at conclusion of champion drive
 - Pull random test from showmanship classes
 - Retags (all) shall have DNA hair pulled
 - Any protest that is brought to the committee will be tested. Samples will be pulled after protest fee paid.
 - DNA Samples matched prior to checks being issued. All samples matched for 2024 show.
- Validation operations:
 - 2024 Steer Validation DNA samples will be pulled at state validation time that the county extension office sets. Need Rules Acknowledgment Forms filled out at same time. Alternate Housing Requests, if applicable, must be submitted minimum of two weeks prior to state validation for approval. Heifers will need to be state validated.
 - 2024 WCLA Validation will require all lambs and goats to purchase a WCLA tag if they didn't get a State Validation Tag for the State Fair of Texas. It is unknown when state validation tags will arrive to validate prior to the deadline
 - 2024 WCLA Show Market rabbit tattoo date to be major show entry night or last day of regular entry for WCLA. November 6, 2024.

D) Facility -

- Show Schedule details
 - Saturday, December 6th through Sunday December 14th, 2025
 - Placing panels on Friday December 5th for barn setup Saturday December 6th.
 - Friday December 12, 2025 barn teardown, prep for sale / auction on Saturday.

- Expo and review layout - Factor in extra panels.
 - Will we allow any vendors
 - Vendor Fee - Fundraiser donation
 - Supply Trailer – Sullivan's
- Need PA System - TBD
- Announcer - Scooter Dubec
- Scales - Rusty Morgan

E) Awards -

- Need to review awards and order new buckles to at fundraiser for buckle sponsors.
- New Herdsman Award for FFA Chapter or 4H Club from 2024 show. **Vista Ridge**

F) Youth Fair -

- **No Report**

G) Social Media - Committee Chairman - Paul Boff

- Sharing of other groups fundraising efforts on WCLA social media page(s). If they support 4H/FFA youth at the WCLA sale, we will support them and share their information.

H) Auctions -

- **No Report**

I) Junior Steering Committee - Committee Chairman - Matt Suchomel

- Discuss Junior Directors and possible Top Hand Award(s).

J) Legal

- **No Report**

K) ShoWorks

- New 2024 ShoWorks program with online auction capabilities.

L) Fundraising / Sponsor / Auction - Committee Chairmen - Daniel Knippa/Donnie Smith

- 2025 Spring Fundraiser/Sponsor Appreciation Event being planned.
- Fall 2024 raffle complete. Drawing 12/13/24. Dispersed prizes at sale 12/14/24. Made between \$5k-\$6k profit (still reconciling).

M) Audit

- **No Report**

N) 4-H Report

- **No Report**

O) Show - No Report

- Trailers with Ramps can unload from the North area.
- Covered Breezeway will unload from East to West for trailers without ramps.
- Livestock species and tack will not be able to move in until time and date set on schedule.
- Poultry to unload in Covered Breezeway from East to West.

- Photography backdrop setup and operation: Chairman: Donnie Smith
- Sponsor Signs:
 - Current
 - New
 - Show Ring
 - Setup, tear down and storage
- Opening Ceremonies: Junior Steering Committee:
 - Flags, Anthem, Pledges, Mottos, Prayer
- No Peewee class for 2024 breeding showmanship shows. Exhibitors must be between the ages of 9 (or 8 and in the third grade) and 19 years of age as of September 1, 2024 and have a quality counts number.
- We will have a future feeder's showmanship for market shows: Lambs, Goat, & Swine only.
- Photographer for 2024 - **MD Creations**.
- Animals need to be sheared / clipped prior to arriving, touch up is ok.
 - Steer heads needs to be clipped, specifically polled breeds.
 - British Breeds need to designate breed showing under.
- No Wire Halters of any kind on any species.
- Drug Testing: Look into hiring outside entity to administer, monitor and test. Set up teleconference or tour to research. Need to review guidelines and set rules.

Old Business

- 1) Discussed Scholarships and due dates posted. Due by April 14, 2025.
- 2) Discuss issues with buckles and a new company who reached out to us in 2021/2022. Are discussing possibilities and pricing with them. Received repaired 2024 buckles and ready to disperse. Will also buy large, nice cups as gifts for the buckle sponsors.
- 3) Recap of fall fundraiser: Total made was \$8,075 after expenses, not counting fee from PayPal on a few charges at show.
- 4) Update on Spring Fundraiser / Concert. Fundraiser committee presented board a handout/timeline of events. Need to look at what to purchase, who will donate items. Maybe do tickets online.
- 5) Discussed including exhibitors out-of-county for the breeding doe/ewe/gilt shows.
- 6) Discussed commercial heifer committee to have drafted rules to present at next meeting.
- 7) Revisit need for purchase of new laptop and iPad brought up at last meeting. New laptop needed for QuickBooks application and ability to run ShoWorks on two computers.
 - Matt Suchomel motioned to spend no more than \$2,000 on a new laptop for the WCLA. Seconded by Colby Doherty. Motion passed.
- 8) Discuss upcoming show judges needed for submittal. Will discuss more at February meeting.
- 9) Discussion on banking and any possible changes.
 - Colby Doherty motioned to open a checking account at Eagle Bank with \$500 to start. Seconded by Wayne Sanders. Motion passed.

- 10) Discussed state compliance checks conducted post WCLA show in regard to animals, WCLA placings and any repercussions from WCLA.
 - A specific family was banned from state shows for 2 years because of being found in non-compliance with state rules and/or cheating. The same family did not have their livestock project where listed on alternate housing forms during two WCLA validation checks. BJ Simpson motioned to withhold premium funds from the WCLA Sale for the placing steer and put into the scholarship fund from this specific family. Seconded by Wayne Sanders. Motion passed unanimously.
 - Patrick Phillips motioned to ban the same specific family for 2 years from the WCLA show for all species but allow them to petition the WCLA for reinstatement of membership in January 2027. Motion failed with no second.
 - Brad Adams motioned to ban the same specific family indefinitely from the WCLA show for all species but allow them to petition the WCLA for reinstatement of membership in January 2027. Seconded by Daniel Knippa. Motion passed unanimously.
 - A different, specific family was banned from state shows for 1 year because of being found in non-compliance with state rules and/or cheating. Blake Henderson motioned to ban this specific family indefinitely from the WCLA show for all species but allow them to petition the WCLA for reinstatement of membership in January 2026. Seconded by Matt Suchomel. Motion passed unanimously.
- 11) Shelley Franklin requested time/space for a few additional events during show week, not to interfere with the show.
- 12) Discussed due date of last round of invoices and amount still owed. Plan to cut checks mid-February at latest. Will review who still has outstanding funds at end of the month.
- 13) February meeting: open rulebook and nominate new members.

New Business

- 1) Discussed Scholarships and due dates posted. Due by April 14, 2025.
- 2) DNA Results - All samples tested matched.
- 3) Show week will be week of December 7-13, 2025.
- 4) Update on Spring Fundraiser / Concert. Doing online ticket sales. Will push on website and post to Facebook.
- 5) Update on laptop purchase. Will try to find what is needed around the \$2,000 limit. Will likely need a third laptop at some point for the President position and additional ShoWorks aid.
- 6) Discussion on previous vote to open an account with Eagle bank. Will wait until change of leadership / signing authority at March meeting.
- 7) Update on letters mailed out concerning state compliance checks and punishment/rebuttal.
- 8) Update on funds withheld pending payment and check issuance.
- 9) Montgomery Raesz motioned to open the rulebook. Seconded by Paul Boff. Motion passed. Rulebook is now open.
 - a. Discussed general dates and verbiage to be updated.
 - b. Directors will review Alternate Housing requests on a case-by-case basis.
 - c. Discussed WCLA tags for validation.

- d. \$25 for retags.
 - e. Need a standard operating procedure for inspections, etc.
 - f. Will review and discuss larger topics in March/April meetings.
- 10) Blake Henderson motioned to pay Heather Faske \$2,500 for her 2024 volunteer assistance as executive secretary. Seconded by Dustin Davidson. All were in favor except for 1. Motion passed. Heather Faske politely declined the thoughtful offer.
- 11) Board should create committees for the various functions of the WCLA to be more productive with follow through.
- 12) Nomination of new board members:
- a. Dustin Davidson completed 1st term and wishes to stay for 2nd term.
 - b. Brad Adams completed 1st term and wishes to stay for 2nd term.
 - c. Matt Suchomel has completed 2 full terms, vacating a position in the SE quadrant.
 - d. Colby Doherty has completed 2 full terms, vacating a position at large.
 - e. Donnie Smith has completed his appointment to a vacated seat in the NW quadrant.
 - f. Colby Doherty nominated Donnie Smith to fill his at large position (vacating a NW quadrant position).
 - g. Colby Doherty nominated Lance Hunter to fill the NW quadrant vacancy.
 - h. Matt Suchomel nominated Amanda Drummond to fill the SE quadrant vacancy.
- 13) Patrick Phillips motioned to pay Kayla Sum \$25,000 for her 2024 assistance and work for the WCLA. Seconded by Blake Henderson. All were in favor except for 1. Motion passed.

Motion to adjourn made by Montgomery Raesz. Seconded by Dustin Davidson. Meeting adjourned at 9:46pm.

Minutes submitted by: Montgomery Raesz