



Meeting Minutes

11/25/24

Call to Order

Brad Noack called to order the meeting of the Williamson County Livestock Association at 7:00 pm on November 25, 2024, at Moravian Hall in Walburg, TX.

Roll call

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

Guests: Heather Faske, Kayla Sum, Shelley Franklin, Amanda Drummond

Financial Report:

- R Bank Checking- \$21,349.39**
- R Bank Money Market - \$142,179.72**
- R Bank Scholarship Money Market - \$10,535.32**
- R Bank Savings - \$33,967.07**

Committee Reports:

A) Scholarship - Committee Chairman - Colby Doherty

- Scholarship Funding:
 - 12 Scholarships awarded for 2024 graduates:
 - Doug Vrabel Memorial Scholarship - 1 recipient of \$2,500
 - 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 – Jason Platt
 - Lamb – Derrick Brown
 - Breeding Lamb/Goat – Austin Manners
 - Goat – Austin Voyles
 - Poultry – Keith Staggs
 - Steers – Austin Nauman
 - Heifers – Gunner Coburn
 - Swine – Seth Swenson
 - Breeding Swine – Kaley Pieper

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 2023 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 7th through Sunday December 15th, 2024
 - Placing panels on Friday December 6th for barn setup Saturday December 7th.
 - Friday December 13, 2024 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 Confirmed
- Need PA System - **TBD**
- Announcer - Scooter Dubec - Confirmed
- 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 2023 show. **TBD**

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 underway. Drawing 12/13/24. Dispersing prizes at sale 12/14/24.

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) Validation deadline of Oct 5, had several show up to be tagged/validated, most just turned in DNA envelopes. A couple were sent via mail.
 - Discussion of issues regarding multiple tag numbers being allowed to validate. Only thing we can control is WCLA tags.
- 2) Broiler pickup will be Friday, November 1, 2024 at the Training Room.
- 3) Discuss scholarships still needing to be awarded. Missing 6 awardees info and will contact. Two sent have yet to be processed and will be reassessed.
- 4) First lamb and goat state validation had a lot of animals come through to be state validated. Retagged one goat that pulled WCLA tag out and collected DNA on site while it was being state validated. Didn't have to retag any due to insufficient ear space for tattoo.
- 7) Update on different judges for the breeding shows. All judges confirmed; awaiting signed contracts.
- 8) Discuss Alternate Housing Request forms.
 - Blake Henderson made a motion to accept the 2 alternate housing request forms on the table. BJ Simpson seconded. Motion was unanimously approved.
- 9) Discussed lodging for judges and photographer.
- 10) Discussed WCLA Validation Compliance inspection of projects. Will send all info to directors for all species to conduct project checks.

- 11) Discussion on sponsor and sponsorships for 2024 WCLA Show. Need to be more active earlier in the year.
- 12) WCLA spring fundraiser being planned for April 12, 2025. Looking for performing artist for entertainment at Cotton Club. Will most likely include some VIP tickets, steaks and sides, drink coupons, few door prizes along with auction during performer's intermission.
- 13) Discuss selling current 20' Conex containers and purchasing new 40' Conex containers to store pens and gates and box trailer for annual organizational and show office items. Need further discussions with storage location.
 - Colby Doherty made a motion to earmark \$23,400 to purchase 4 – 40' HighCube 1 use Conex boxed with double doors at both ends, contingent on finding storage location. Price includes shipping and tax-free. John Faske seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
 - Will either sell or auction off old 20' Conex boxes as a result.
- 14) There are 57 applications for junior directors. Waiting on replies from AST's on concerns or issues.
- 15) Briefly discussed % per species of auction sale concerning champion buyers funding. Will discuss further in depth at next meeting.
- 16) Distribution of raffle tickets for Fall Fundraiser. Drawing will occur December 13, 2024 and prizes will be awarded the day of sale to the winners. Tickets will be \$25/ticket or 5 tickets for \$100.

New Business

- 1) Update on judges. All judges confirmed; awaiting couple signed contracts
- 2) Review dates and housing for judges and photographers.
- 3) Discuss scholarships still needing to be awarded. Missing 6 awardees info or request to fulfill the award of scholarship.
- 4) Discussion on sponsor and sponsorships for 2024 WCLA Show. Need to be more active earlier in the year.
- 5) Discuss Alternate Housing Request forms.
- 6) Discuss WCLA Validation Compliance inspection of projects that have occurred and findings and/or review documents. WCLA may need to validate / tag animals and have all WCLA tags in by a specific date.
- 7) Discuss Conex boxes. Selling of old ones and purchase and housing of new ones. Need to be housed near Expo Pavilion area. May need to review contract and discuss possible renegotiation for 2025 show and then continuing at next contract renewal.
- 8) Discussion on 2024 Show:
 - Discuss person(s) to send letter to revoke their attendance on the show grounds.
 - Discuss timelines for Friday and Saturday prior to show for move in of pens and set up and power drops in the show barn.
 - Discuss ongoing construction and parking / trailer parking changes for this year's show. Will create a new map of the area to post.
 - Discuss power issues and generators for cattle barn. All available drops will be down, will need additional power because large blowers will blow the circuits. Exhibitors are strongly encouraged to bring their own generators for power backup

- Lamb and Goat show prep can be done in the cattle barn – NO shavings and NO bedding down of animals will be allowed.
- 9) Review junior directors and replies from AST's on concerns or issues.
 - 10) Briefly discuss % of payout per market species of auction sale concerning champion buyers funding. Will discuss further in-depth and finalize before show starts on December 7.
 - a. Daniel Knippa motioned to pay \$1,000 for breeding champions and \$500 for breeding reserve champions species. Breeding rabbit champions will receive \$500 and breeding rabbit reserve champions will receive \$250. Seconded by Wayne Sanders. Motion passed unanimously. Species sponsor(s) will be listed as buyer(s).
 - 11) Discuss current Fall Fundraiser ticket sales.
 - a. WCLA spring fundraiser being planned for April 12, 2025. McBride and the Ride is booked. Need to reserve hall. Will most likely include some VIP tickets, steaks and sides, drink coupons, few door prizes along with auction during performer's intermission.
 - 12) Discussed potential commercial breeding heifer show for 2025. Need to draft and discuss all details more before February. Could include grading based on record books, interviews, and judging.

Motion to adjourn made by Brad Adams. Seconded by Daniel Knippa. Meeting adjourned at 9:37pm.

Minutes submitted by: Montgomery Raesz