State 4-H Horse PDC  
February 21, 2015

PDC Members Present: Julianne Quandt, Danielle Jibben, Abby Sankovitz, Peggy Hildebrandt, Gretchen Sankovitz, Lindsay Peterson, Meg Sax, Renee Kostick, Randy Dokken, Jackie Thayer, Mark Storm, Dan Dolan, Josh Johnson, Shelly Peterson.

PDC Members Absent: Malinda Dexter, Kristen Gabrielson, Paige Gabrielson, Morgan Kastner, Alli Peterson, Lauren Olson, RaeAnn Bartz.

Visitors: Lynette Whittier, Aimee Schulz, Terri Hurley, Laurie Nelson, Kristina Erickson, Annie Thayer, Kathy Johnson, Jason Campbell.

The State 4-H Horse PDC meeting was called to order by Youth Chair Abby Sankovitz at 11:09 a.m. on Saturday, February 21, 2015 at the Minco Community Center. PDC Meeting Attendance Sheet was passed around.

Secretary’s Minutes
The secretary’s minutes from the November 15, 2014 State 4-H Horse PDC meeting are published on the Horse Project website. There were no corrections or additions. Dan Dolan moved to approve the minutes. Randy Dokken seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Financial Report
Renee Kostick handed out the financial reports to PDC members. Renee gave an overview of the financial report. Year-To-Date 2014/2015 income was $109,973 and Year-To-Date 2014/2015 expenses were $142,370.57 for a total loss of $32,397.57. There is currently a balance of $149,704.55 in the Foundation Account. Randy Dokken moved to approve the financial report, Gretchen Sankovitz seconded and the motion carried. Lynette Whittier asked for a clarification on the budget. The 2014-2015 budget was from last year. Renee clarified that the budget committee was being formed, and that the April PDC meeting would cover the budget. The 2014-2015 budget goes from July 1, 2014 to June 31, 2015. This is our first time in a fiscal year.

Meg Sax inquired if the report could be prepared earlier and sent to PDC members for review prior to the PDC meeting so they could come to the meeting prepared to discuss the report.

MN 4-H Foundation Horse Project Account
Starting Balance $150,462.50
Receipts $4,807.88
Investment Gain/Loss $17,395.45
Disbursements $37,377.39
Ending Fund Balance $135,288.44 (as of June 30, 2014)
NW Design Shirt Sales $5,538.50
Expo Tack Sale Fund Transfer $14,416.11
Ending balance $149,704.55

If PDC members have any questions on the financial report after reviewing it they can contact Renee Kostick with their questions.

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Election of Officers – NOTE: It was brought to the attention of staff after the PDC meeting that the bylaws were incorrectly quoted. It was stated that an officer could only serve two consecutive terms. There is no term limit for officers, therefore elections from the February meeting will be considered invalid and elections will happen at the April 26, 2015 State Horse PDC meeting.

The new PDC representatives who were elected at the Regional Meetings in January were invited to participate in the election of officers. Renee Kostick and Aimee Schulz were requested to collect and count ballots for the officer elections.

Nominations for Youth Chair were: Danielle Jibben nominated by Julianne Quandt, who declined, Josh Johnson nominated by Danielle Jibben, and Abby Sankovitz nominated by Peggy Hildebrandt. Motion was made, seconded and carried to cease nominations. The nominees each gave a brief speech. Abby Sankovitz was elected by paper ballot.

Nominations for Adult Chair were: Meg Sax nominated by Josh Johnson. Mark Storm nominated by Dan Dolan. It was stated that State 4-H Horse PDC bylaws state that officers may only serve 2 terms in that particular office. There being no other nominations Dan Dolan made a motion to cease nominations, Gretchen Sankovitz seconded and the motion carried. Dan Dolan made a motion for white ballot for Adult Chair and the motion carried.

Nominations for Youth Vice Chair were: Josh Johnson nominated by Abby Sankovitz, Jackie Thayer nominated by Aimee Schulz, who declined. There being no other nominations Randy Dokken made a motion to cease nominations, Dan Dolan seconded and the motion carried. Dan Dolan made a motion for a white ballot for Youth Vice Chair, Gretchen Sankovitz seconded and the motion carried.

Nomination for Adult Vice Chair was: Dan Dolan nominated by Randy Dokken. There being no other nominations Randy Dokken made a motion to cease nominations, Shelly Peterson seconded and the motion carried. Peggy Hildebrandt made a motion for a white ballot for Adult Vice Chair, seconded and the motion carried.

Nomination for Youth Secretary was: Danielle Jibben nominated by Josh Johnson. There being no other nominations Randy Dokken made a motion to cease nominations, Dan Dolan seconded and the motion carried. Josh Johnson made a motion for a white ballot for Youth Secretary, Meg Sax seconded and the motion carried.

Nomination for Adult Secretary was: Gretchen Sankovitz nominated by Meg Sax, who declined, Mark Storm nominated by Julianne Quandt, who declined, Randy Dokken nominated by Peggy Hildebrandt, who declined. Following discussion Gretchen Sankovitz withdrew her decline and was nominated. There being no other nominations Randy Dokken made a motion to cease nominations, Dan Dolan seconded and the motion carried. Dan Dolan made a motion for a white ballot for Adult Secretary, Peggy Hildebrandt seconded and the motion carried.

Meg Sax stated that we need to select an Executive Committee according to our PDC bylaws. After discussion of the method of selection (elected or appointed) it was recommended that the Chair recommend members for the Executive Committee. Chair-elect Meg Sax recommended to the PDC that the Executive Committee be as follows: Adult Chair, Youth Chair, Adult Vice President, Youth Vice President, Adult Secretary, Youth Secretary, Past Adult Chair and 1 youth Director. Juliane Quandt was selected as the Youth Director to serve on the Executive Committee. Peggy Hildebrandt made a motion to approve the Executive Committee, Josh Johnson seconded and the motion carried.
PDC Committee Liaison Reports

Educational Materials – Gretchen Sankovitz

Rulebook – Rulebook changes were voted on at the State 4-H Horse PDC meeting in November. There were a total of 41 proposed changes to the rulebook. The MN 4-H Horse Program Rulebook was updated and published to the 4-H Horse Project website on January 9, 2015.

Moving forward the Rulebook Committee will be looking to put all rules and guidelines into one rulebook document and making sure the documents contain the 4-H branding. The Drill Team section has been updated and is currently with the Drill Team Committee for a final review before updating the MN 4-H Horse Project Rulebook with the Drill Team information. The Miniature Horse Program section is currently being worked on and will be reviewed with the Miniature Horse Committee as soon as schedules allow. The Western Heritage section is the next section to be updated following the Miniature Horse Program completion.

Library - The handling fee for books and dvd's brought in $99 at Winter Roundup! We also sold 2 Horsemanship and Horse Science books for another $20! We still have a LOT of those left from the ones Ruth ordered. They just don't sell now because the incentive before was that they matched the Achievement Record book. So I'm pretty happy when a few of those go out the door. Anyway, without having to mail the books and dvd's out, that's $99 profit on the items that were checked out and a record amount for Winter Roundup. Ever little bit helps!

We’ve added copies of the AQHA series Showing to Win Horsemanship, Showmanship, Trail and Western Pleasure. These are suitable for judging teams to use, as well as the 4-H’er looking to improve in these areas. Also have added the Western Nationals 2010 dvd and 2012 Kentucky 4-H Drill Team State competition dvd.

Hoping to add some more Jon Wolf dvds to our collection, as we only have one copy of some of them, and some of them are starting to skip or not play, since they are the most requested dvds that we have.

Will be adding the AYHC Leader manual when it becomes available.

Horse Training – No report.
Contest References – No report.
Achievement Program – No report.
Program Records – No report.

Volunteer Training and Recognition

Winter Roundup – Danielle Jibben reported for the Winter Roundup Committee. One of the goals for 2015 was to get the speakers to volunteer their time for Winter Roundup. This goal was achieved. Travel expenses or mileage were paid but speaker fees were not incurred. Each speaker has offered to come back in the future. They all enjoyed the experience and working with the kids.

During the 2015 we modified the past Agenda which allowed for optional participation in all training sessions. All participants were required to go through Leadership Session. We split this into two groups. I believe that in the future this should expanded on mandatory training. Agenda attached.

In past years there has been a 2 hour break in the early afternoon on Saturdays. We eliminated the break and added a question and answer session where the presenters shared their path to their equine careers. This was very popular and was a good life lesson for the kids and parents.

There were 52 adults, 68 youth and 13 presenters that participated in Winter Roundup 2015.

Please find a summary of the feedback attached. We only received feedback from 18% of the participants. Next year we will look at using electronic evaluation, using Survey Monkey. Boot Camp has used this each year and usually gets 40% or better response rate.
Planning for 2016 has not begun. We need to finalize the Co-Chairs and youth structure. We will then review the input and volunteers that we received. Tom Connors enjoyed being part of the team and hope to be involved with the 2016 Winter Roundup.

**Regional Meetings** – No report.
**Webinars** – No report.
**Volunteer Recognition** – No report.

**Youth Education and Recognition**
**Grants** – No longer available.
**Clinics** – No report.
**Dan Patch Program** – No report.
**4-H Boot Camp** – No report.

**Communications – Renee Kostick**
**Website** – Renee Kostick stated website has been updated and changed a little bit. A few different items appear in the highlighted gray section. The cloverbud, certification, and helmet rule are there. There's also a new row of tabs that makes things more easy to identify and find. Contest, events, PDC, and opportunities are some of the new tabs for navigating the website. Renee requested that committee chairs review their section and let her know if there are changes to be made. There is an archive page that has items that can be pulled back to the website if necessary. Specifically Renee mentioned Hippology and asked Laurie Nelson to review that page. Laurie mentioned that it was not easy to determine that the title of area was actually the link to click to navigate for more information on that topic. Meg Sax inquired if there was a way to make that more obvious.

**State 4-H Horse Show – Randy Dokken**
**Horseless Horse/Horse Related** – Randy Dokken reported for Cathy Giefer that it went much better this past year when awards were handed out at 3:00. will be moving the Horseless Horse/Horse Related Awards to the Moo Booth area of the Cattle Barn during State 4-H Horse Show and use bleachers seating. The orientation for Horseless Related will be at 7:30 a.m. and Horseless Horse at 8:30 a.m. Cathy Giefer is still researching adding a national trip for these areas.

**State 4-H Horse Show** – Randy Dokken gave an overview of the State 4-H Horse Show Committee meeting that was held prior to the PDC meeting today. Randy indicated that he was stepping down as the State 4-H Horse Show Co-Chair following the 2015 show and would be stepping down as a PDC representative at the end of 2015 as well. In regards to the state show, the deadline for show program materials is July 15th, any changes for the Show Handbook need to be forwarded to Penny Hormann as soon as possible, registration issues with Coggins Test results are now the responsibility of the extension staff to double check all entries prior to they being sent to Penny, Drill Team has elected to keep their event at the State Show, but are willing to do exhibitions at the State Fair, Renee is looking at a different system for tabulations and is working with Todd Mehrkens on making the current system working more efficiently, working with Speech and Demo to change the time of their event to Friday at 2:00 p.m.

**Team/Individual Contests – Abby Sankovitz**
**Horse Bowl** - Regional Bowl Contests will be held in March 2015 and the State Bowl Contest on April 11th. There are 28 Senior teams and 34 Junior teams registered for Regionals. This is an increase of 7 teams from 2014. There was an increase in Project Bowl teams in all species overall this year of 25 teams.
Regional Horse Bowl Events dates for 2015 are as follows:

- March 7      Foley
- March 14     Farmington
- March 21     Redwood Falls
- Bemidji
- March 28     Snow Date
- April 11     State Contest at Sauk Rapids.

There will be a rule change for 2015 on time outs. The time limit for time outs will be 2 minutes.

The new rules and Project Bowl updated information are posted on the 4-H Project Bowl website.

There is a pilot project being done with the Dairy Junior Bowl contest that could expand to all the species project bowls. It was completed during 2014 and will be continued again for 2015 and then an evaluation will be done on the process once again. It involves adding another phase to the first two rounds of match play for the junior teams.

There has been discussion on dividing the horse bowl references into 2 groups in the future. With one set of references for juniors and another set of references for the seniors. This is based on evaluations from the regional and state bowl events and the costs of references. This will be discussed with bowl team coaches at the regional and state events in 2015. There is a new update for the Horse Industry Handbook that is now available for purchase for $20 through AYHC. This update will be included as part of the references for 2015.

**Hippology** – No new information to report.

**Horse Judging** – Christine Whittier is the Co-Chair for Horse Judging, having been approved at the November PDC meeting and nothing new to report.

**Speech and Demo** – Julianne Quandt is the Youth Co-Chair of this area. The PDC is still looking for adult co-chairs for this area.

**Drill Team** - Our committee formed a committee to determine how to find and train judges for our event.

We discussed regionals and potential state trip quotas for the future. We also discussed whether we want to have our state show as a separate event like WH or keep it at the state show as is. We will send surveys to the coaches from last year.

A long discussion about having the competition at the State fair over the state horse show determined we would like to do exhibition for teams that would like to show. Way too many cons over pros at this time. We felt there would be less participation and comradore among the competitors would be lost. Teams enjoy seeing other team routines etc. Safety was a great concern for having the Drill competition during the State Fair.

**Western Heritage** - Western Heritage has 3 youth leaders for 2015, they are Aaron Orth, Cayla Weber, and Jake Post. We have some safety clinics set, and some Regional events dates. New this year, horse/rider combinations will be “signed off” safe to compete in events at regional events. They will have until the end of June to be “re-checked” for safety. We will put all the details out on the web site. We are excited to have JS Rodeo arena in Elko to allow us to hold a safety clinic as well as the SE Regional event. We are hopeful to have more participants from the counties around that area. We are working on a May Judges certification, dates to come soon.

**National Trips** - We need to work on promoting more participation in the Speech and Demonstration event. There was a Speech, Demo and Presentations workshop at Winter Roundup to encourage participation in this area.

One note for the Eastern National 4-H Horse Roundup is that the entry fees will be going up to $75 per person for 2015.
There has been a request from the Horseless Horse/Horse Related Committee Chair to pursue adding a National Trip for these exhibits. Currently there are no such trips at the current National trip events. The state specialists in each state have been contacted to see if they have similar programs that would support adding such a trip to the national events. This is currently in progress with 7 states left to provide their information.

Program Development and Promotion

Miniature Horse Program - The Miniature Horse Program is currently planning their annual spring clinic and fun show. Aimee is working with a few counties who are planning on adding the program to their county fair. We also are discussing the possibility of adding a northern region this year, as well as restarting the southern region.

Dressage and Jumping - Dressage and Jumping has been relatively inactive, primarily due to few members in our region who demonstrate an interest, as well as lack of available facilities in which to conduct a show. Annise continues to promote youth participation in jumping through a local club. Annise will also be instructing jumping again this year at the 4-H horse camp in Motley. Currently Annise is working at the AQHA’s office in Amarillo, TX as the spring semester intern. She’ll be returning to MN the week before horse camp and hopes to pick things up again this summer with jumping and dressage.

Challenged Riders - Kristina said that there’s no change on our end from last year for the Challenged Rider Exhibition Classes/Ribbons so if you would like to proceed with the same plan that would be great!

New Activities – No report.

Judges Certification/Education – Mark Storm

Mark Storm reported that the Judges Certification is scheduled for March 27 – 29, 2015 at the Leatherdale Equine Center on the St. Paul Campus. Jon Wolf is scheduled speaker. They are looking for riders interested in helping with the demonstrations and judging classes. If individuals are interested please contact Mark or Mallory Storm.

Horse Training Program – Dan Dolan

There is no new information to report.

Marketing and Resource Development – Peggy Hildebrandt

Shirt Sales – No report.

Sponsor Acquisition – No report.

Regional Meetings

Northwest Region – No report.

Northeast Region – Lindsay Peterson reported on the discussions at the regional meetings which included interest in moving the Western Heritage state event dates because of a conflict with County Fair qualifying horse shows, and counties losing participation in educational activities. The educational topic was a demonstration of proper fitting of helmets and safety checks for equipment by Lindsay and Shelly Peterson.

Central Region – There was great turnout, had a roundtable discussion of issues around counties. The response was huge. The educational topic was the rulebook changes by Dan Dolan and Jacki Schulz. There was a lot of good discussion. It was encouraging to have discussion. Elected PDC representatives were Mark Storm, Julianne Quandt and Lauren Olson were the youth members. They were very encouraged by the number of attendees. Mark suggested having counties elect people to come to regional meetings. Renee said that regional meetings should be workable for the area, but roundtable and county networking are a big hit.
Southwest Region – Danielle Jibben reported there was a great roundtable discussion. One was on what cloverbuds should be allowed to do. One suggestion was riding classes for the cloverbuds as they view that they are losing kids at that age, and they don't come into 4-H after that. There was great participation with between 20-25 people. Elected adult PDC representative was RaeAnn Bartz and elected youth PDC representatives were Josh Johnson and Danielle Jibben.

Southeast Region – Abby Sankovitz reported that there was small participation that seem to be linked to the location. Next meeting will be back in Waseca and the educational topic will be by a Waseca Vet. Another issue brought up was safety in the coverall arena during the State 4-H Horse Show. They want someone down there to control directions and give people warnings.

Renee Kostick responded to comments from the Regional Meetings by stating that the current enrollment for the Horse Project is 3,927 which includes Horseless Horse and Horse Related and that 95% of those enrolled have identified a horse. Horse currently has the highest enrollment of the animal projects. Mark Storm encouraged PDC members to attend other county horse PDC meetings to encourage participation at the regional meetings stressing the networking and education provided by the regional meetings. It was suggested that counties designate individuals to attend the Regional Horse Project meetings.

Following this there were introductions of the PDC members since we had newly elected PDC members at this meeting and had not done so at the beginning of the meeting.

Other Committees – No reports.

Old Business

Committee work – Renee Kostick reported that the goals of regional meetings to get more input and not just have the Regional meetings. A sub-committee was formed in June that is currently working on a rough draft of committee descriptions and what the job expectations or functions would be. The plan is for this to be finalized by the April PDC meeting and then move forward with involving more individuals on the committees.

Committee Chairs – We are looking for chairs for the following areas: Tabulations at State 4-H Horse Show, Speech and Demo adult chairs, we have a youth chair who is Julianne Quandt, and Dan Patch co-chair. Aimee Schulz indicated interest in assisting with the Dan Patch Program. Renee Kostick reported that the tabulations area could use 4 individuals to help. Shelly Peterson indicated an interest in this. Tabulations uses many volunteers during the show.

State Fair – Renee Kostick reported that State Fair management is looking to find a way to have 4-H Horse events in the State Fair Coliseum program that are different than what is already there. It was suggested that perhaps drill team might fit during the state fair but the Drill Team Committee discussed this and decided to keep their event at the State 4-H Horse Show and provide exhibitions during the State Fair. There are three slots at the State Fair Coliseum, Tuesday afternoon, Wednesday afternoon and Thursday evening. It was suggested that maybe miniature horses or a judging contest would also be possibilities to fill those time slots. Renee will be meeting with Mark Goodrich to discuss these during the next week or so and find out what the expectations are.

Horse Points and Trip Change Update – Renee Kostick updated the PDC on the status of the State Show Trip Policy. Renee stated that it is in final review and should be finalized the second week of March. It has been through peer review, outstate review and now is back for state review. There will be a webinar for staff and then with the County and State PDCs once it is final. It is not a cookie cutter system and has options to determine the state show trip winners. For 2015 counties will have the option of using the state show trip selection system they used in 2014 or the new system. For 2016 the new trip selection
system will be mandated. Renee indicated the counties with larger enrollments and counties with small enrollments will see more changes. Discussion was held on choices. Bonus trips will not be affected and they are announced in June. Jason Campbell expressed concern about the process that the University uses starting at the state level rather than starting with the PDCs. We were reminded that 4-H is the outreach program for the University and therefore the University has final say. It was stated that this policy was piloted 3 years ago and counties were given the option of piloting the proposal to evaluated how it worked for their county.

**Trip Quotas** – Mark Storm inquired whether with the increased enrollment if we needed to revisit our quota for state trips. Discussion was held on increasing trip numbers. It was stated that the Bonus Trips are determined by State 4-H. It was recommended that we take a hard look at all the factors that would be involved if we increase quotas for the State Show before making a decision.

**New Business**

**April Regional Meetings** – Because of a conflict between the April Regional Meetings and State Project Bowl Event and Leader Training there was discussion on moving the date. The April Regional meetings will be April 18th.

**Budget Committee** – PDC needs to select a budget committee and set up meeting dates prior to April PDC meeting. The Budget Committee will consist of Meg Sax, Mark Storm, Aimee Schulz, Jason Campbell and Josh Johnson. Discussion was held on meeting dates and it was the consensus that Renee Kostick will send out a Doodle Poll for meeting dates and times for around March 15th. It was the consensus that first meeting will be a face-to-face meeting.

**Horse Lease Discussion** – Renee Kostick stated that she needed rationale for horse leasing options. Currently the lease form states Horse is the exception to the leasing policy and that it was under study. The other animal science projects are under the policy that states 4-H leased animals may not be shown by anyone other than the 4-H′er after May 15th. The last time the PDC discussed this was at the April 23rd PDC meeting in 2013.

Discussion included it would restrict too many 4-H′ers from having a 4-H horse experience, safety issues and mentoring opportunities. It was recommended that we pull information from previous PDC meetings and regional meeting discussions to provide the rationale that Renee is requesting. It was stated that there will always be people that find ways to go around the rules. Aimee Schulz made a motion that our verbiage include giving more opportunities to youth, mentoring, etc., Lindsay Peterson seconded and the motion carried.

**New Cloverbud Policy** – Renee Kostick stated that the Cloverbud Policy has been updated based on feedback from the horse project. Cloverbuds may now show in 1 showmanship class, 1 western pleasure class and 1 barrel class at county fair 4-H shows. These are still leadline classes. It still needs to be reiterated at the Judges Seminar that these classes are leadline classes.

**Other**

Danielle Jibben brought up Disaster Planning as a topic for discussion. Danielle distributed a handout entitled Equine Disaster Planning Guide to PDC members. Discussion included need for response in case of weather issues, emergency disaster kit, evacuation plans, etc. Aimee Schulz reported that Sherburne County had a tornado come within a close distance of the fairgrounds during County Fair and what they experienced during this incident. Micro-chipping of animals was also briefly discussed. Danielle was recommending that individual farms and county have an equine disaster plan and this was a safety issue. She is requesting if there is an interest in this and perhaps getting a committee together to work on. Dan Dolan stated that the Minnesota Horse Council has a Equine Disaster Committee and recommended talking with them. Meg Sax asked Renee Kostick if this would fall under the new Science in Agriculture initiative in 4-H. Renee will send out more information on the Science in Agriculture initiative. The question was also asked if there was a disaster plan for the State 4-H Horse Show. Abby Sankovitz expressed an interesting in working on this with Danielle.
Meg Sax shared the need for volunteers to work the Tack and Clothing Sale at Horse Expo in April. This sale provides a substantial amount of money for the 4-H Horse Project and we need to provide help so we can continue to have these funds. Meg had Horse Expo posters that were available for individuals to take and display.

Made a motion to adjourn, Julianne Quandt seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Meg Sax
Secretary

Aimee Schulz
Youth Secretary