

Darke County Junior Fair Sheep Committee
July 18, 2026 11:30 AM
Minutes

Committee Members Present: Josh Sargent, Kierra Reichert, Kim Amspaugh, Emily Williams, Chuck Willcox, Vickie Willcox, and Sarah Drew

Jr. Fair Board Representatives Present: Isabella Bunting

Meeting called to order by Chuck Willcox at 11:30 a.m.

Officer Reports:

- Secretary Report: Motion to approve past meeting minutes from December 14th, 2025 by Vickie Willcox, seconded by Sarah Drew.
Motion carried
- Treasurer Report: Checking account balance - \$2,896.50
Savings account balance - \$3,603.62
Scholarship fund - \$4,122.55
Motion to accept treasurer's report by Josh Sargent, seconded by Emily Williams.
Motion carried

Committee Reports:

- **Rules** - Fair books have been printed. The "slap rule" which was enforced at the 2025 Ohio State Fair was not included in the rules, but it will be enforced at the 2026 Darke County sheep shows with it being an ODA (Ohio Department of Agriculture) rule. Reminder that it will be discussed at the barn meeting with a visual example of a sheep to demonstrate what is acceptable. This rule will be added into the 2027 fair book.
- **Sale Committee** - No updates
- **Scholarship** - All 2025 scholarships that were awarded have been paid out. There will be a lockbox ring side for scholarship funds to be placed in if desired by donors. The sheep scholarship reminder for donations will be announced at the sheep awards night at the 2026 fair.
- **Skillathon** - The 2026 skillathon went smoothly. There were questions added about the "scrapie" disease to the intermediate and senior divisions for the 2026 skillathon. Looking towards the 2027 skillathon, ideas of new test subjects for the skillathon include mouth structures and meat cuts. The committee will collect updated pictures of the following breeds at the 2026 fair for better breed representation within the skillathon test: Oxford, Southdown, & Corriedale.
- **Tagging** - No updates

- **Awards Committee** - All awards for the 2026 fair have been paid for and have been ordered.

Motion to accept all the committee reports was made by Isabella Bunting, seconded by Josh Sargent.

Motion carried.

Old Business:

A. 2026 Judge Verification

- Chuck verified that all judges have been confirmed for the 2026 Darke County Jr Fair sheep shows. It was discussed how our fair board only pays judges mileage for one way of their trip. Motion made by Josh Sargent to secure Evan Snyder, our Jr. Fair breeding and market show judge, that the sheep committee will cover the difference for the second part of his trip, seconded by Isabella Bunting. Motion carried.

B. Sheep Barn Sound System Updates

- It is believed that Greg Peck, the individual who currently has the sound system contract for the fair, will have his contract up after this 2026 fair. Denise McDade was not present at the meeting to give an update on whether she had found anyone who's interested in applying for the Darke County Fair sound system contract. It was discussed that the committee will ensure to have Senior Fair Board members at the sheep barn at the 2026 fair if we have issues with the sound system to share our concerns with them.

C. Sheep Barn Pen Updates

- Denise McDade was not present at the meeting to share any updates on where we're at with donations and applying for grants to get the new pens project funded. It was discussed that we will mention this project at the barn meeting to share the opportunity to donate to this project. No further updates currently.

D. Photography for 2026 Fair

- Megan Roell will be taking pictures of all the 2026 Jr. Fair sheep shows, including the fitting contest, for a total cost of \$2,950. The cost for this service was covered by a donation. With this package, all photos will be made available for free to all the sheep exhibitors. It was discussed increasing the barn fee to \$10 at the 2027 fair to be able to cover the cost of providing a photographer with all photos being made available. This will be further discussed at the post-fair meeting.

New Business:

A. Adding Second Signer to Bank Accounts

- Vickie discovered that a previous sheep committee member, Amy Hanes, is currently signed onto the committee bank accounts as the second signer.

Motion to remove Amy Hanes as the second signer on the sheep committee bank accounts and to make Kim Amspaugh the new second signer on the accounts was made by Sarah Drew, seconded by Josh Sargent.

Motion carried.

B. Sheep Barn Clean Up

- 2026 sheep barn clean-up schedule will be the same as the 2025 fair. Schedule is as follows:

~Saturday: Grade "A" Kids/Darke Co. Beef

~Sunday: Livestock & General

~Monday: Darke Co. Sheep and Lamb

~Tuesday: All Jr. Fair Clubs

C. Health Inspections/Check In

- Health inspections for the 2026 fair will be done by the fair vet, Preston Deeter. We'll be using the old weight slips for check-in this year due to having a large quantity of them remaining. There'll be an addition added to the weight slips to write down the entry ticket #. There'll be a poster displayed on the sheep barn board to explain how to fill out the weight slips along with a walk through at the sheep barn meeting and a Facebook post that will be made.

Other Comments:

~Sheep barn set up for the 2026 fair will be August 16th, 2026 @ 1:30 p.m.

~There'll be a sheep barn carry-in open to the entire barn on the Tuesday of fair @ 5 p.m.

There'll be a sign-up sheet posted on Facebook as well as on the sheep barn board at the fair.

The next Sheep Committee meeting will be held on September 13th, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. with the location TBD.

Motion to adjourn by Isabella Bunting, seconded by Josh Sargent.

Respectfully submitted by Kierra Reichert

Secretary, Darke County Junior Fair Sheep Committee