

**Darke County Junior Fair Sheep Committee**  
**February 9, 2025 3:30 PM**  
**Minutes**

**Committee Members Present:** Emily Williams, Jennifer Sachs, Josh Sargent, Sarah Drew, Kierra Reichert, Chuck Willcox, Vickie Willcox, and Gary Gehret

**Jr. Fair Board Representatives Present:** Matthew Denlinger

**Guests:** Carrie Denlinger

Meeting called to order by Chuck Willcox at 3:30 p.m.

**Officer Reports:**

- Secretary Report: Motion to approve by Matthew Denlinger, seconded by Emily Williams.  
Motion carried
  
- Treasurer Report: Checking account balance - \$975.89  
Savings account balance - \$3,458.05  
Scholarship fund - \$5,443.71  
Motion to accept treasurer's report by Josh Sargent, seconded by Emily Williams.  
Motion carried

**Committee Reports:**

- **Rules** - All rule changes that were proposed to the Jr. Fair board for the sheep department were approved.
- **Sale Committee** - The Celebration of Achievements will be on Thursday for the 2025 fair and will be open for buyers to place their contributions to exhibitors one week after the sale. There will be no buyer appreciation breakfast in 2025.
- **Scholarship** - There has been \$1,300 paid out so far to 2024 scholarship recipients. This amount consists of one \$800 scholarship and one \$500 scholarship that has been paid out. There are still two \$800 scholarships that will be paid out soon.
- **Skillathon** - No changes will be made to the skillathon in 2025. Feed sample kits are being put together to be handed out to each 4-H club and FFA chapter. The 2025 sheep skillathon will be offered on June 21st from 9 am - 11 am in the Youth Building and July 15th from 6 pm - 8 pm in the swine barn.
- **Tagging** - Lambs will do their tagging with the goats at the south end of the fairgrounds. Tagging dates for 2025 are May 3rd from 9 am - 11 am and May 6th from 6 pm - 8 pm.

- **Awards Committee** - Letters are being sent out to collect donations for exhibitor awards for the 2025 fair.

## **Old Business:**

### **A. 2025 Judge Selection:**

- Jimmy Davis declined to judge the 2025 Jr. Fair Sheep show due to scheduling conflicts.
- Motion for Evan Snyder to judge the 2025 Jr. Fair Sheep show by Josh Sargent, seconded by Matthew Denlinger. Motion carried.
- Motion for first David Scales, then Seth Wasilewski, and finally Tim Hubbard to be the order of backup judges for the 2025 Jr. Fair Sheep show by Josh Sargent, seconded by Matthew Denlinger. Motion carried.

### **B. 2025 Breeding Sheep Outstanding Exhibitor Points Scale:**

- Discussion was had on how to calculate points for the Outstanding Breeding Sheep Exhibitor. Josh Sargent mentioned including the exhibitor's skillathon, showmanship, and "best sheep of the day" placings to get a final calculation of points. Josh also mentioned a possible points scale could be breeding exhibitors receiving 5 points for a grand breed, 3 points for a reserve breed, 10 points for a supreme champion, and 5 points for a reserve supreme champion. It was decided to table this discussion until Sarah Drew works on getting an "Outstanding Exhibitor" grading scale from another barn to help create the sheep barn grading scale.

### **C. Sound System in Sheep Barn**

- It was decided that Kierra Reichert & Chuck Willcox will work together to draft a letter to be sent out to collect pledges/donations for the sound system project in the sheep barn. Emily is going to work on getting the list of sheep exhibitor families' emails to send out the letter to save on postage. Andrew Wright told Chuck that the project would cost an estimated \$9,000. It was decided that June 1st would be the deadline for collecting pledges to see if enough pledges were made to move forward with the project before the start of the 2025 fair.

### **D. Scales for 2025 Fair**

- Chuck has yet to receive an update on the scales as he is waiting on a call back.

## **New Business:**

### **A. Awards List:**

- An awards list of all the Jr. Fair awards that are handed out at the Darke County Fair was passed around. It was determined that we need a “Overall Sheep Showman of Showman” award. Emily Williams agreed to sponsor this award with her husband, Mike.

**Additional Comments:**

- Registered breeding papers will be checked at the 2025 fair and must be provided with the showman’s name on them. Papers will be verified directly following weigh-in.

The next Sheep Committee meeting will be held on June 8th at 3:30 p.m. at the Darke County Extension Office.

Motion to adjourn by Matthew Denlinger and seconded by Josh Sargent.

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Kierra Reichert  
Secretary, Darke County Junior Fair Sheep Committee