

## February 17, 2025 Rabbit Committee Minutes

The Darke County Rabbit Committee met February 17, 2025 at the Extension Office with the following members present : Dan Arling, Morgan Aultman, Amanda Behee, Holly Daughtery, Velvet Grow, LuAnn Mann, April Mendenhall, Heidi May, Christina Parker, Katelynn Micheal, Doug Jones, Heather Jones, and Irene Rismiller.

Secretary and treasurer's reports were given. We have \$10,969.05 in checking and \$6,780.66 in savings.

In the Senior Fairboard report, Heidi reported that they were looking into opening the sides of the barn.

In the Junior Fairboard report, Katelynn reported that the Showman of Showman will be Thursday. We then discussed the release of rabbits. It will be on Thursday starting one hour after the Celebration of Achievement until midnight and Friday morning from 8am until noon.

We then moved into the Spring Rabbit Show. Set up will be on Saturday starting at 9:00 am. We will have a writer's raffle again. Each club is to bring in two items valuing \$5 to \$10.

We then talked about Best of Show awards. After some discussion, Katelynn moved and LuAnn seconde to award cash prizes for the youth instead of getting something. M/P Best of show winners in Open and Youth will receive \$50 and Reserve in Show will receive \$25.

We discussed opening up the barn again. Committee will pay for it if it's not too much. Heidi will look into getting a quote and get back with us.

The Senior Fairboard is looking into a sponsorship for each barn. Those who sponsor can have their name on the barn or on a banner depending what they give. We hardly have room in the barn to hang up banners.

Morgan would like to send out a letter to all members exhibiting rabbits giving out information they need to know. It would include skillathon dates, tattooing date, Quality Assurance dates, possession dates, and fair dates. Everyone thought it was a great idea.

Heidi said we need two dates for Skillathon. We chose Saturday, June 7th from 9-11am in the Youth building and Tuesday July 15th from 6-8pm in the Swine Barn.

We then discussed the 2025 Skillathon Awards. Since we got a nice amount of money from people volunteering to work at the Steak and Chop tent we decided to increase the prizes.

For Skillathon:      1st place: banner and \$50  
                             2nd place: banner and \$40  
                             3rd place: banner and \$30  
                             4th place: banner and \$25  
                             5th place: banner and \$20

For a total of \$495 plus cost of banners. Katelyn moved and April seconded to approve these awards . M/P

We discussed providing larger trophies for the PeeWee showmanship. We are going to look into the cost of redoing donated trophies.

We debated for a while about Outstanding Exhibitor's Awards. One suggestion was

Breeding	Market
1st : 3 hole carrier -banner - \$100	1st : 3 hole carrier - banner - \$100
2nd: 2 hole carrier - banner - \$75	2nd: 2 hole carrier - banner - \$75
3rd: 1 hole carrier - banner - \$60	3rd: 1 hole carrier - banner - \$60
4th:                                 - \$50	4th:                                 - banner - \$50
5th: <u>\$40</u>	5th:                                 - banner - <u>\$40</u>
	325 x3 =975
	\$325x3 =

975

Total \$1,950 and cost of carriers.

It was decided to table this matter until our meeting after the Spring Show to see how things went and get prices of carriers.

Our next meeting is Monday, March 24th. Place of meeting to be determined.

Respectfully submitted by :

Irene Rismiller