

Darke County Horse Committee Minutes
6:30 at the Fair Grounds
August 7, 2025

Members present:

Buckeye Buckaroos: Angie Bender

Greenville Rangers: Brandi Hamm, Jennifer Post

Horse & Rider: Kelly Smith and Izzy Rausch

Silver Hoofs: Mary Neill

Trails & Trails: Madison Werner

Jr Fair board:

Other: Shay Ann Auten

4-H Youth Development: Mercedes McFarland

Meeting was called to order by President, Angie Bender

Secretary Report: Minutes from July meeting was submitted via email by Shay Ann Auten. There were no additions or corrections. Kelly brought up that she noticed there was a discussion on whether to inform the judge on possibly no disqualifications but just to place them last. However, Angie clarified that we would not be doing that and allowing them to make their placings. Mary Neill moved to approve the report, and Brandi Hamm seconded. Motion passed. Kelly

Treasurer Report: Treasurer, Brandi Hamm, gave the treasurer report.

	Beginning Balance	Ending Balance
GNB checking	\$11,458.85	\$11,353.05
GNB savings	\$1512.30	\$1512.30

Mary Neill moved to approve the treasurer report and Madison Werner seconded. Motion passed.

JR Fair board:

1. Angie printed out the information for the mandatory meeting for them to look over and be able to present at the meeting. Question- if there was a going to be a movie night/fun night? Madison mentioned that she didn't think they had even talked about it yet or if there was going to be a movie night. They also weren't really sure as of yet what they would be doing for the fun show. Fun night was to start Wednesday at 5:00 (Team Tournament 11:00 Generation Gap 1:00)
2. Mandatory Exhibitor Meeting was Wednesday August 13th at 6:00

JR. Fair Coordinator:

1. Betsy dropped off the exhibitor ring sheets, would soon have the show bills and mentioned she would be printing back numbers this evening. She also dropped off everyone's passes and id's.
2. Angie asked if there were any Jr. Fair Applicants. Glori Rausch was new for this upcoming year, and Allison would be working on her 2 year term. There is one spot available. She mentioned everyone had to fill out an application to be on the Jr. Fair board.

Senior Fair board:

1. Was told the wash bay and arena lights would be installed before fair.
2. The Gate is up.
3. Everything has been cleared out of the stalls and shed and placed inside the shipping container.
4. Angie is going to let them know they can come and take the shed. There are some crock pots in there if they belong to anyone. The keys are the same for the new shed and they will have to figure a way to lock the roll up door and put up sheds.
5. If there are any maintenance issues, please contact Angie so she can get a hold of them instead of everyone contacting them.
6. Supposedly they checked all the doors and latches at the stalls and disinfected them as well.

4H Youth Development: Mercedes

1. Make sure the kids are not filling out the wrong forms for their horses.

Old Business

1. Mary got all the gravel donated for the new shipping container along with all the prep work.
2. Each club is responsible for the anthem. (Friday- BB, Saturday- HR, Sunday- TT, Monday- SH, Tuesday- GR, Wednesday- JR Fair board)
3. We went over all the judges' notes
4. Talked about the Pool Party Fun Raiser- Raised almost \$5000. We talked about the cooler and mentioned to keep pushing the tickets.

New Business

1. Bedding has been delivered for the stalls (Delivered Mon or Tues)
2. We discussed where to put our picture background area. Thought that this year we could put it at the make up ring against the fence and then move it at a later date if need be.
3. There is a change in the Ring Master for Tues. Now we're looking for someone on Saturday 3:00 to end. If we don't come up with anyone, the team on duty will need to supply someone for that position.
4. We decided what obstacles we needed for versatility. (Tarp, Cow for branding, roping, dragging an object) However if they missed roping the object they wouldn't be DQ.
5. Reining B Versatility if time allows.
6. Round Pens are coming from Tractor Supply on Thursday morning.
7. Ranch Versatility- (only 3 obstacles) We removed the roping and added a speed event. (2 Barrel Cow Horse)
8. Camping passes go through Marla, non-camping go through Betsy
9. Keep an eye on the show bill for your time and what may need to be set up or torn down. If possible, make sure the following group has the means such as a truck. Try to work together and not leave things out through the night.
10. Barn Duty- (SH-Friday) (HR -Saturday) (GR - Sunday) (TT- Monday) (BB- Tuesday) Barn duty goes until 1:30 AM
11. Mary recommended we post all the club leaders' phone numbers in case of an emergency.
12. Angie was going to get with Brandi on what would be needed as far as check and cash goes for Announcers, Ring Masters, etc.

13. Mary mentioned that she would be hosting an Equine Massage clinic at her facility for anyone interested. She is going to post information about the different bundles that are available along with contact info.

14. Kelly brought up horse camp. She thought it really went well and loved how it was restructured. Everyone loved how it was broken down with things that the older kids did vs things the younger kids worked on. Emily Hartman provided a lot of new ideas for next year and is interested in helping out as well for next year. It was mentioned that it would be nice to have more instructors if possible. She brought up paying Shay Ann and Mackenzie for all 3 days that they were there. They also really liked Austin and his instructions and would like him to be brought back for next year. Kids loved the longer lunch, the smaller groups, and the weather was great. The beginners made huge progress this year. The older kids of course aren't going to need or get as much out of camp but hopefully have fun and learn a thing or two. Mary mentioned that if you need volunteers several people did express an interest in helping. (Possibly assign duties)

15. Greenville Ranchers got first pick of stalls this year. Jennifer wanted to go down to the stalls and decide what they wanted to pick after viewing the options.

The Meeting Concluded:

Mary Neill moved to adjourn, and Madison Werner seconded.

Next meeting will be Thursday September 11th at 6:30pm at the Community Center at the Fairgrounds.

Submitted by Secretary
Shay Ann Auten