

**ST. CLAIR COUNTY 4-H LEADERS' COUNCIL**  
**Monday, September 19, 2011**  
**Goodells County Park**

Present: Jessie Aguinaga, Steve Aguinaga, Dale Avery, Jackie Avery, Denise Czostkowski, Jenny Fox, Peggy Gregg, Raemi Kunath, Al Leone, Cindy Leone, Connie Murray, Kim Newberry, Jenn Putney, Chris Ruemenapp, Jeff Schelske, Donna Sill, Crystal Sovey, Betty Stephens, Linda Thueme, Rob Usakowski, JoLee VanTroostenberghe, Lori Warchuck, Tim Warchuck, Mike Whitenight and Tom Whitenight

Excused: Rebecca Kunath

- I. Call to Order – Raemi Kunath called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
- II. Approval of Agenda – Kim Newberry moved the agenda be accepted, Crystal Sovey seconded, motion carried.
- III. Secretary's Report/Correspondence – Chris Ruemenapp moved the July 2011 minutes be approved, Cindy Leone seconded, motion carried. There were correspondence from Natalie Modrich thanking the Council for the check she received for being elected Duchess for 2011 and a thank you card from Kyle Halpin for donating the award for Shooting Sports at the Fair and a thank you card from the SCC Agricultural Society for the trophy donation for the Fair.
- IV. Treasurer's Report – The beginning balance of the St. Clair County 4-H Council Checking account as of July 18, 2011 was \$9,237.48. Income was \$650.53 from interest, voided checks, and money from the Horse Leaders Donation from Day Camp. Expenses were \$519.88 for Candy Scramble, Float Expenses, and Peggy Gregg for gas to Exploration Days, Rebecca Tomasek for Exhibitor of the Year. The ending balance as of September 19, 2011 was \$9,368.13. The beginning balance of the Savings Account as of May 16, 2011 was \$22,668.68. Interest in July and August was 7.70 with ending balance as of September 19, 2011 was \$22,676.38. Crystal Sovey moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted, Rob Usakowski seconded, motion carried.
- V. Guest/Public Address – The Royal Court representatives came to thank the council for all their support. They announced some of the events they will be participating in during their upcoming year. The latest event was the annual "Roof Sit" and walk. Linda Theume moved we donate \$100 to the Roof Sit, Jeff Schelske seconded, motion carried.

Natalie Modrich stated she is working on a new project area for Science & Technology, Human Health and Medical Technology.

Chris Parsons attended this meeting because he is interested in being on Council.

- VI. Staff Report – Lori stated that the Year End Report has been submitted and half of the revenue will go to the State and the other half will go to the Council. Tractor Supply has been having a fundraiser for 4-H. A percentage of the proceeds during

sale from September 22 – October 2 will go to the National Fund and then portions of that will be given to local levels of 4-H. October 2-8 is National 4-H Week. JC Penney is also having a fundraiser. They are asking people to “round up” their bill to the next dollar amount and that money will be donated to 4-H. The National 4-H is having a window display contest. Prizes will be awarded to the best window displays during National 4-H week. The Royal Court will be working on project areas in Science & Technology. They will have a Science Blast at the Marysville Library. Lori stated she is having discussions with the people that conduct the Science Fair at the St. Clair County Community College to get a better idea of what we can do in this area to make 4-H a better place to learn about science and technology. Training for the Science Blast will take place on October 5<sup>th</sup> and the Science Blast will take place at the Marysville Library on October 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. Lori will notify us with more information. The first through 4<sup>th</sup> grade will be the first target audience for the Science Blast.

The County budget has been quiet for now. They don't expect any lay offs for the remainder of this year. The MSU Extension Fall Conference will be held soon. Restructuring is ongoing.

Re-enrollment is going on. Lori stated they have around 1200 members this year, 63 clubs and 250 volunteers. There was a study in 2010 that stated that 64% of 4-H kids graduate from high school, graduate college and get better jobs than non-4-H kids.

VII. Fair Board Report – Livestock checks were mailed last Friday and premium checks will be mailed the end of September. The next Fair will be the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. There is a Logo contest with a deadline of December 1<sup>st</sup> to come up with a logo for the next Fair. After the Fair they will take out the portion for the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and keep the remaining logo. The winner of the Logo contest will receive a plaque and a check. The logo needs to be in black & white.

VIII. Committee Reports

- A. Auction: Raemi will have sign up sheets at the November & January meetings.
- B. Awards: There were three people voted to receive the Friend of 4-H award at the Banquet in November.
- C. Fair Fun Night: Jackie stated everyone had a great time.
- D. Spring Achievement: We need to come up with a date. A Winter Achievement was proposed. Dates suggested were February 4<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup>. Lori and Kim will check out the Methodist Church for a possible venue. Kim asked for names of anyone that might be interested in being Superintendent of Science & Technology. Jenny Fox said she will ask her husband if he will be willing to do that and she will get back to Lori and Kim.

- E. 4-H Royal Court: The Court walked yesterday. There were eight kids and family members. They will be doing the Yale Parade in December. The Float is holding up. Al Leone said he would like to make any repairs soon if they are needed.
- F. Leaders' Banquet: Chris was asked if she would do the Reverse Drawing again, she accepted. Jenn Putney will do the Tribute to the Leaders. Pictures should be sent to Lori and she will ask Lori Brockdorf to help with the slide presentation this year. Raemi will call to confirm the date of November 4<sup>th</sup> at Fore Lakes.
- G. Participation Fee: no report.
- H. Budget – There will be a meeting at the Fair Office on October 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.
- I. Nominating Committee: Jessie stated she needs bio's on everyone that is up for election. The Committee needs to meet before the Banquet. Jessie will contact everyone regarding a date and time. Lori stated that Linda Pakulski will not be filling out the end of her term; therefore we have two open slots. The May minutes stated that "All nominations will be taken by the September meeting and nominees must attend a meeting prior to the September meeting." Jackie Avery moved that we now accept all nominations through this meeting, Al Leone seconded, motion carried. The Committee will need to revise the application to state that all applications need to be received before September 1<sup>st</sup> and candidates need to attend one meeting no later than the July meeting to be eligible for consideration for the November ballot. The Nominating Committee needs to meet prior to the September meeting to develop a list of those interested to take to the September meeting to be approved prior to the Leaders' Banquet in November.

The Council Members up for re-election this year are: Jessie and Steve Aguinaga, Jenny Fox, Peggy Gregg, Connie Murray, Chris Ruemenapp, Betty Stephens, Linda Theume and Rob Usakowski. We also have three people that have turned in applications and attended at least one meeting that may still want to be on Council. All of these people need to get their bios to Jessie along with their photo so the ballot can be made and copied prior to the Leaders' Banquet.

IX. Old Business.

- A. Project Linus – will be held on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> this year at the Community Building from 10 am – 3 pm. Denise moved that we give \$150 from the line item for workshops to be given to Project Linus for needed items, Tim Warchuck seconded, motion carried. Last year material was purchased for making the blankets.
- B. Science Workshops – Lori stated she will need funds to start new Science Project Areas. Kim moved we give Lori \$1000 to start the Project area,

Connie seconded, motion carried with one opposed. Lori will give a detailed account of money spent.

X. New Business

- A. Fee Grant – Lori stated we will be getting \$4,000 based on enrollment. There are New Enrollment Workshops for Administrative Leaders to be held October 19 from 7-9 at Goodells, October 20<sup>th</sup> at Goodells at 6:30, October 25<sup>th</sup> from 1-3 at MSUE, October 27<sup>th</sup> from 9-11 am at MSUE. There will be training for computerized record keeping so Leaders and enter their own data. Kids should enroll in anything they may be interested in. If they don't sign up for certain project areas, they can still call Lori to add them.

XI. Announcements/Adjournment –

- A. Denise Czostkowski moved the meeting be adjourned at 8:12 pm, Jackie Avery seconded, motion carried.

**The next meeting will be on the Monday, November 21, 2011 at the MSU Extension Office Auditorium at 6:30 pm. This is our annual pot luck meeting.**

Respectfully submitted,

Raemilee Kunath  
Council President

Donna Sill  
Secretary