

Lewis County Fair Board Minutes

April 22, 2026

The meeting was called to order by President Quin Wemhoff in the Conference room at 6:30 p.m. Present were Kaci Ralstin, Dee Dee Osburn, Sarah Zenner, Jerrad Hellickson, Chad Knowlton (phone) fair board members, and Michelle Koepf, administrator. Klæe O'Brien, Extension Educator was also present.

The minutes from the March meeting were approved with a motion from Sarah and seconded by Dee Dee. Concerning the in-depth audit as a result of Klæe and Michelle meeting with the three Commissioners on Monday, April 20 reported that it is required if expenditures are over \$200,000. The thought is to give the livestock account its own EIN because the Fair Board account is well under the limit. Michelle has a call into the State Controllers office for clarification. Also, Michelle asked the Commissioners about the three percent raise, cost of living. No definite answer was given. Finances were approved with a motion from Kaci and a second from DeeDee.

The annual budget due May 12th was reviewed and three changes were proposed which Michelle will take care. Kaci moved to make those corrections and DeeDee seconded it. Motion passed.

Royalty report was submitted by Zoey and read aloud by Michelle.

Old business:

Michelle that Tom Scott at this particular time unavailable for quotes on repairs to the display case and leaking Eller Building roof.

Michelle did contact Craig Cardwell about the sidewalk on 5th Street he was no favorable of creating that high of sidewalk. Also, getting temporary power for the vendors would require an electrician. Avista would then hook it up upon request. Klæe thought perhaps a grant might be available and will follow up on that.

The buyer dinners proposal was further discussed. Meal prices would be known prior to making up the tickets. It could be advertised so buyers could come early and eat. Kaci moved to proceed with meal tickets for buyers from the 2025 fair receiving them by clipping the tickets to the bidder number in proportion to number of animals bought as previously discussed with amount on the tickets to be determined in August by talking to the vendors that offer meals. DeeDee seconded and motion passed.

Jerrad Hellickson has been approve for Fair Board.

Shavings will be reduced to six pallets (35 bales to a pallet) for the 2026 fair.

Toe kicks will around the swine pens would help reduce shaving waste. Quin spoke to Pat McWilliams and he will be able to make those. The estimate is \$1250. This will be an action item for the May meeting.

New business:

The Leaders Council would like to order a backdrop for photo ops during the fair. \$600 is an estimate given. They are wondering if Fair Board would buy or help pay for. The board thought for this year to look at the vinyl drop we do have and try to work with it. Michelle will contact Rhonda Schmidt for the update number on the banner.

Extension Office:

Beef weigh-in is May 6th from 5 – 7 p.m. DeeDee, Chad, Quin and Sarah will be present. Paper work will no longer be mailed back to the kids but Klæ is in the process of a decision as to the handling of the paper work once weigh-in is complete.

Four market rabbit projects are enrolled. There will have to be a weigh-in date created and the animals should be bear tattoos.

Livestock judges Chris and Ryder are most likely returning for the 2026 fair.

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Next meeting is May 26 at 6:30 p.m.

Submitted by Michelle Koepf