

Minutes of the Pawnee County 4-H Foundation Meeting

The Pawnee County 4-H Foundation Meeting was called to order on 1/19/2026, at 07:00PM by President Mike Wilcox.

Attendance

☒ Jill Sasse	☒ Justice Currie 7:21pm	☒ Rod Christen	☒ Evan Christen
☒ Mike Wilcox	☐ Morgan Friedly	☐ Mark Bloss	☒ Luke Hunzeker
☒ Mary Gottula	☒ Tucker Sporhase	☒ Rodney Nightingale	☒ Dylan Layne

Others Present

☒ Mary Moser-Extension Educator	☒ Jason Vetrovsky-Extension Office Manager
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AGENDA

Motion by Rod Christen, second by Evan Christen to approve the Secretary's Report.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Dylan Layne, second by Tucker Sporhase to approve Treasurer's Report with the SFIT Savings Account Balance update to \$11,615.31.

Motion carried unanimously.

Announcements: Thank You from the Fran Blecha family for the memorial plant that was sent to her service.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Ag Society Report: Jose Friedly presented an opportunity or a grant that would help pay for the new static building project. The grant is open to being able to apply for quarterly. Focus on youth support and ag education so including a kitchen we can offer more family consumer science activities. Crow's Nest is coming down when they come through and take down the trees on the new property that has been acquired. The new announcers stand/crow's nest, and the lights are coming. The rodeo in Pawnee County won the division. Talked about the grand marshal for the new fair. Esther Tegtmeier has been selected to be the Grand Marshal of the Fair parade. Unknown if she has accepted. The block bathrooms were discussed. They are getting an estimate to knock out the stalls and making them two family bathrooms. Mary had the concrete company that put in the wash rack Zach Taylor gave an estimate to the poultry barn \$8,500 was his estimate. Ag society wants to know what the 4-H Foundation would like to cover before they commit to paying. Britney is having a cookie contest at the fair. Mary proposed having a workshop in conjunction with it. Also, a stick horse race. There will be a garden tractor pull at the fair. Tyler Weirbien has purchased the old sled. Mark Bloss suggested a Tractor Driving contest like they do in Nemaha County. Mark Bloss, Andy Farwell and Jesse Hegemann will be heading this project. Details are not fully worked out.

New Business

Election of Officers President: Rodney Nightengale nominates Mike Wilcox. Rod Christen moved to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot. Motion carried unanimously. Vice-President: Mike

Wilcox nominates Rodney Christen. Rodney Nightengale moved to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot. Motion carried unanimously. Secretary: Evan Christen nominates Luke Hunzeker. Rodney Nightengale moved to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot. Motion carried unanimously. Treasurer: Rod Christen nominates Tucker Sporhase. Tucker Sporhase nominates Evan Christen. Rod Christen nominates Justice Currie. Cast ballots. Three-way tie broke by President Mike Wilcox. Justice Currie is our Treasurer. Discussion regarding the open FFA seat on the foundation vacated by Mark Bloss. Mary M suggested giving the available seat to a member of the Lewiston FFA chapter instead of having an FFA Advisor on the Foundation.

2026 Budget: Mike W inquired about the addition of the sound systems into the livestock barns. Funds from the original donation were not completely used. Suggested rolling the extra funds over to this project. Income from the One Act Festival Concession Stand has not been received. Jason V will connect with the April Johnson in the PCPS office to get that information. Rod C suggested continuing the support of STEM activities in the classrooms of both PCPS and LCS. Show shirts were discussed and it was decided that we would poll 4-H families to see if they would like to stay with the white shirt with the green 4-H clover or if they would like to change and get a colored shirt along with if a new shirt would be offered each year or adopt a new shirt for a few years. Mary G suggested we increase the T-shirt & Armband line item at \$1000 to prevent under budgeting. The shirt discussion will be brought up at a future meeting once we hear back from families. Rod Christen made a motion to approve the 2026 budget as presented with the addition to the \$1000 for line-item T-shirt & Armband line. Motion was seconded by Tucker Sporhase. Motion approved unanimously.

Poultry & Rabbit Barn Concrete: Discussion on approving the roughly \$8,500 bid by Zach Taylor to finish concrete work in the rabbit/poultry barn. Mary G suggested taking this on as a group and not paying someone outside the organization to do this.

Beef Weigh-in: Mary talked to Russ Tegtmeier and his available dates are February 14th or the 21st. Beef weigh in will be February 14th beginning at 8:30am. Not taking appointments just to know who we are waiting for. We will make February 21st our weather date.

Fruit & Butter Braid Sale: Our sale will start January 27th and run through February 16th. Inquiry was made to see if the Foundation wanted to put an ad in the paper. Consensus was that we would do an ad in the paper. Will address it again next year. This year's line up will exclude pineapple that was removed by Minntex and the addition of green grapes was made. This year's sales will also include coffee, candies, cheese, sausage and cheese spreads.

Fair Schedule discussion over the 2026 schedule. Mary presented an overview of the schedule discussed at the November meeting. Saturday, July 11, 2026, will be the 4-H Campus Clean-up Day. Start time TBD. Monday, July 13, 2026, from 5pm-7pm will be Static Project check-in and Clover Kid's Interviews. Tuesday, July 14, 2026, from 8am-1pm there will be Static Judging and Display Set-up. Wednesday, July 15, 2026, will be livestock check-in. Swine 8a-10a, Rabbit & Poultry 9a-12p. Sheep & Goat 12p-2p with Beef & Horse ending the day from 5p-7pm. Thursday, July 16, 2026, Shows will include 8am Rabbit Show with two judges, 12:30 pm Poultry Show, Parade at 6pm followed by the Swine Show at 7:30pm. Friday, July 17, 2026, Horse Show 8am, Sheep Show 1pm, Goat Show 3pm. Deadline for Premium Auction Animals due by 7pm. Saturday, July 18, 2026, Bucket Calf Show 8am, Beef Show 9am, Round Robin

Showmanship 1pm, Clover Kids Fashion & Pet Show 2pm, and Premium Auction at 3pm. Sunday, July 19, 2026 Livestock Campus Clean-up and Animal/Static Exhibits Released 7am-9am. Rod Christen moved to approve the fair schedule as presented by Mary. Second by Tucker Spohrase. Approved unanimously.

2026 Fair Book Review: Rodney N requested that the showmanship time limits for both poultry and rabbits match the State Fair requirements and include how the deduction of points would happen. Deb Wilcox asked if a new class could be created for Rabbits. She would like a Doe & Litter class. This would include the doe and her 8 week or younger offspring. Youth would be required to have their own cage and nesting box. Entries would be judged in the cage and not in the arena. Deb requested that this addition to not be included in the limit of 8 entries per youth but does limit it to one fancy or one commercial breed entry. This is added as an exhibition class for 2026.

Next meeting will be February 17, 2026, at 07:00PM.

Move to adjourn by Justice Currie, second by Tucker Spohrase To adjourn Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn at 08:39PM