

Sweetwater County 4-H Council Meeting Minutes

Date: October 13, 2025

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: Western Wyoming Community College

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at **6:30 p.m.**

Attendance

Present: Dan Stanton, Samantha Wardell, Shay Bernard, Dawn Bodin, Monica Thompson, Katie Duncombe, Alicia Bernard, Burgundy O'Brien, Tracy Meats, Chris Meats, Nicole Ledford, Kristy Wardell

Late Arrival: JaNae Young, Mary Hamilton

Pledges

Led by Kristy Wardell

Approval of Minutes

The following amendment to the September minutes was made by **Patty**; **seconded by Dan**.
Motion carried. All in favor.

Amendment: a motion was made to pay Samantha Wardell \$1000 for services rendered to make the gifts and awards.

Treasurer's Report

August Financial Statement

- **Beginning Balance:** \$29,468.85
- **Deposits:** \$3,504 (Shavings)
- **Checks Issued:**
 - Taycie Fox Scholarship – \$500
 - SWCO 4-H Horse Committee – \$200 (Buckles)
 - Sweetwater Events Complex – \$3,595.50 (Shavings)

- Wyoming State Fair – \$3,764
- Wyoming State Fair – \$155
- **Ending Balance:** \$24,769.57

September Financial Statement

- **Beginning Balance:** \$24,769.57
- **Venmo Cashout (shavings/baskets/etc.):** \$3,930.00
- **Checks Issued:** Sam Wardel – \$1,000 (services)
- **Deposit:** \$338.87
- **Interest:** \$10.36
- **Ending Balance:** \$28,048.80

Shavings Sales Summary: \$3,379

Old Business

Buckle Distribution – A few families still need to pick up awards.

Achievement Night Planning

- **Date:** November 14, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.
- **Location:** Small Hall, Sweetwater County Events Complex
- **Details:** Jael will create and share a Sign-Up Genius for members.
- Discussion included nominations, awards, and types of recognition (gifts, pens, certificates).
- Lucy volunteered as MC. Jr. Leaders will assist with setup and games.
Awards Review Committee: Dan Stanton and Nicole Ledford will review uploaded portfolios via Google Drive.
- **Award Amounts:** 1st place \$100 and 2nd place \$50 per division.
 - **Motion:** Dan moved to pay 1st place \$100 and 2nd place \$50 unless there is a tie for 1st, in which case both receive \$100. **Seconded by Patty. Motion carried.**
- Sam will bring all tableware.
- Jr. Leaders will run Bingo and Jeopardy; JaNae Young will bring Jeopardy.
- **Motion:** Patty moved to spend up to \$200 for Bingo prizes and desserts for Achievement Night. **Seconded by Alicia. Motion carried.**
- Alicia sent thank-you letters to RDO and Lone Tree Ranch.

2026 Goals & Planning

Topics included adult trainings, static projects, volunteer recruitment, workshops/clinics (paint night, small animals), a 4-H Expo during National 4-H Week 2026 or Feb/March 2027, school involvement, and Parliamentary training.

Budget

Tabled until December. Budget activity scheduled for November.

Council By-Laws

- **Motion:** Nicole moved to amend by-laws to include adults in Article IV Officers; Section 2 (b), specifying that Parliamentary and Historian positions are reserved for Jr. Leaders only (to be reviewed a second time).
- **Motion:** Patty moved to review by-laws at home and bring proposals to the next meeting. **Seconded by Nicole. Motion carried.**

Tag Order Updates

Pending. Natasha will speak with Liz, Noni, and Sarah. Discussion on purchasing a wand-type tag reader (~\$1,200) with cost sharing between Council and Sales Committee.

New Business

Council Officer Re-Elections

- **Motion:** Alicia moved to take nominations for Vice President and Secretary at the November meeting. **Seconded by Burgundy. Motion carried.**
- **Amendment:** Alicia moved to include Historian and Parliamentary positions in the November nominations. **Seconded by Burgundy. Motion carried.**

½-Price Enrollment Promotion Results

187 members enrolled; 122 in Shooting Sports.

Future of Council Shavings Sales

Nicole contacted Murdoch's and a vendor in La Barge.

- **Motion:** Dan moved to discontinue shavings sales at the 2026 Fair. **Seconded by Nicole. Motion carried.**

Static Project Workshops & Superintendent Expectations

Natasha will prepare written expectations for her areas. Discussion on Council attendance at Fair Board meetings; next meeting is October 21 & 28 at 6 p.m.

Poultry Changes for 2026

Plans include a one-day show and Q&A session.

Request for “Aged Out/Over the Hill” Division proposed as a fundraiser after Pee Wee Showmanship.

Upcoming Little Shoppers Event – December 6

Jr. Leader or Senior member will take photos with Santa. Nicole will donate \$100 to pay for Santa. Volunteers needed for gift wrapping; clubs to bring donations of boxes, wrapping paper, and tape.

Jr. Leader Update

BBQ scheduled for Sunday, October 18 at FMC Park.

Fair Feedback Follow-Up

Livestock Fitting Discussion (Fair Book)

The Events Complex will not enforce the fitting rule. Discussion on Council options, including removing buckles or creating a Fitting and Grooming class. Ideas included a Supreme Livestock award based on overall points (record books, herdsmanship, meetings, etc.).

Horse Show Scheduling and Results Process

No updates.

Public Outreach Materials for 2026 Fair

Plan to create banners and yard signs highlighting top members.

- **Motion:** Patty moved to make yard signs to be displayed in communities for the top two in each species and static division. **Seconded by Nicole. All in favor.** Dan suggested posting on Facebook to look for a graphic designer with experience in yard signs/banners. Project ongoing.
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Announcements

- **Next Council Meeting:** November 10, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

- **Horse Superintendent Meeting Recap (Sept 18):** No updates.
 - **Upcoming Fair Board Meetings:** October 21, October 28, and December 9 at 7 p.m. (Nicole will attend October 28; Burgundy will attend October 21.)
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Adjournment

Motion: Kristy moved to adjourn at 9:10 p.m.; **seconded by Nicole. Motion carried.**