

## Marion County Junior Livestock Auction

Meeting Minutes

March 30, 2020

An additional meeting due to the Oregon coronavirus was held by Via Zoom at 5:30p.m. Melanie McCabe presented to "MCJLA" board members to discuss all state gatherings that are cancelled.

Present:

- Directors: Jace Anderson, Eric Pineda, Becky Pineda, Michael Clonch and Reynold Gardner
- Officers: John Kuenzi, Dan Vannoy and Carol Barham
- Other: Melanie McCabe, Kimberly Clonch, Jennifer Bettiga and Margi Tipton

Excused or Unexcused Directors/Officers: Letxy Molin and Josh Augustus

New Business:

1. John feels with the current events and environment that we need to start addressing options for our May weigh-in and even to address the possibility of postponing our banquet. With the board's response to John Kuenzi e-mail. The board agreed to Via Zoom on March 30, 2020 at 5:30.
2. Michael Clonch expressed with the current events and environment that we need to start addressing options for our May weigh-in and even to address the possibility of postponing our banquet. We have rules and deadlines that we have in place for normal operation, that need to be discussed and changed if applicable as soon as possible. I whole heartily believe the that public gathering restrictions and safety measures are not going to change. I have discussed this with Melanie and she would be behind making a decision sooner than later, and would be happy to setup a zoom session for almost any time.
3. Melanie McCabe presented recent information regarding the Marion fair board and Marion county fair/auction:

In light of new information that is constantly coming out there are many things to consider as we move forward with planning. At this point I have no idea what the status of the Marion County Fair. I am sure this will become clearer in the coming weeks as things either escalate or improve.

What I do know at this point is that our office is closed to the general public for now. Margi and I are still working and trying to get information out to all of you as we get it and to provide as many programming options as possible while trying to not overwhelm already overwhelmed kids and parents. I know the first thing everyone is asking about is weigh-in. I know we had a lot of really valuable conversations after beef weigh-in about how we want to proceed with these in the future. I know there is a lot of

learning that happens during weigh-in and a lot of really valuable connections are being made with the youth. Below are a few options to consider as we approach the April 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

- a) Not holding a physical weigh-in/tagging. At this point the rules have a maximum 1<sup>st</sup> weigh-in weight. This accomplishes a couple of things; it provides for a forced rate of gain for animals to make weight and for youth with heavy animals to adjust their plan or get a different animal to hopefully be successful at the final weigh-in. There are some options for getting weights. Weight tapes cost about \$5 and when used correctly, can be relatively accurate. There are also formulas that can provide quality numbers to work with. Here is a WSU link to determine weights for sheep and goats: <https://extension.wsu.edu/ferry/heart-girth-and-weight/>
  - b) Tagging animals- There are also a couple of ways to accomplish this. Families can pick up tags and taggers and tag their own animal. AND include a detailed description of the animal, scrapies tag number if required (and possibly a picture) with their ShoWorks Auction registration information (just like they do if we hold an in-person weigh-in) with a specific deadline date. OR Not tag at all until County Fair- this is really going old school and back 20+ years.
  - c) I have been thinking about some other ways to provide either Q&A sessions with professionals and we are working on some things regionally to offer some additional education. Again, there is a balance to providing this information and making sure that ALL youth have access and no one feels like they are missing out because they live in an area with limited connectivity. I welcome any and all suggestions you might have for providing information to youth and anything we can be doing to support them through the uncertainty.
4. All agreed to cancel the “MCJLA” Buyer’s Appreciation Day dinner due to the Oregon state closure.
  5. All agreed to cancel the “MCJLA” weigh-in (May 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>) due to Oregon state closure.
  6. Melanie McCabe will attend a zoom meeting April 9, 2020 hosted by Laurie Michaels (OSU) to get information regarding a virtually livestock auction; different software’s, cost/fees, FFA/4-H kids/animal videos and the judging. Melanie will share her thoughts and information at our next “MCJLA” board meeting April 13, 2020.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Next Meeting: A ZOOM meeting so that we can all practice our “Social Distancing” on April 13, 2020, 6:00pm.

Board President: John Kuenzi

Board Secretary: Carol Barham