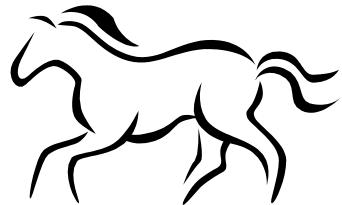




# *St. Joseph County, MI*

## 4-H HORSE COUNCIL



### Meeting Minutes

Date: December 2, 2025

President: Jo Torrey

Vice President: Julie Bruce

Treasurer: Joy Bond

Deputy Treasurer: Cindy Mingus

Secretary: Mindy Stuart

Social Media: Sara Franklin

Attendance: Teresa Howk, Pam Cook, Katlyn McCollough, Cindy Mingus, Racheal Hartman, Lexi Hartman, Aubree Hartman, Kennedi Houk, Rebecca Houk, Joy Bond, Jolene Jennings, Cadence Franklin, Sara Franklin, Shirel Hart, Julie Bruce, Sidney Torrey Long, Jo Torrey, Kayla Mitchell, Bay'Lee Yeomans

Zoom: Tereasa Hufstedler, Mindy Stuart, Danielle Sackrider, Lori Bowdish

Introduction of visitor via Zoom: Janelle Stuart

Agenda: motion to approve by Racheal and seconded by Sidney. Motion passes.

Pledge of Allegiance and 4-H pledge

Janelle Stuart was with us reviewing the HC constitution. We should probably call them bylaws to be in compliance instead of constitution. Was noted that we should suggest clubs use a “local bank” instead of naming banks specifically. Should set a budget for bills to be paid so every payment doesn’t need to be voted on unless it goes over budget. Potential to make every volunteer gold level volunteer, and also how to name specialty leaders. Should specialties be reviewed every year and not just an ongoing thing forever or should they be handled by clubs only? Social media person is that an elected position, but not part of the board and no voting position. Make a bigger push

for youth to be making decisions over adults making all the decisions. How to keep 4-H leaders, the leaders code of conduct and attendance/consequence policies. Horse Council being made up of 10 adult advisors that are elected by the youth, and they would be in charge of show maintenance and things the kids cannot handle. However, the board would be made up of use with voting power and decisions voted on by them and not the adults. Janelle would then make the agenda and send it to the youth. Suggest 12 years old and up to be on the board. Removing voting by proxy, by Google Docs, and removing “the board will determine the voting process”. Zoom votes would count, but in order for it to count your camera must be on.

November meeting minutes: Motion to approve by Kaitlyn and seconded by Jolene. Motion passes.

Treasurers report: \$.56 in interest, \$980 in fair passes enjoy will forward a specialty amounts. December 1st balance \$6266.82. Motion to accept treasurers report by Racheal and seconded by Kennedi. Motion passes.

2026 Fair Judges: Sunday – Trail/Ranch - Jill Philips  
Monday – Taylor Cunningham Jordan  
Committee will hire all judges this year.

May 1st-2nd 2026 silent auction fundraiser. All clubs need to participate in getting donation items. Big ticket item? Avery building? R&R trailer? Diane and Katlyn have handled proxy bidding.

Specialty groups:

1. Driving an in hand, will set out date soon and also get arrangement ship and in hand jumping patterns
2. Gymkhana working on dates.
3. Jumping
4. Competitive trail new committee looking for suggestions.
5. Hipology G December 5 at 6 PM at Katie’s

Club updates:

1. Desperado's has an upcoming meeting and elections are done.
2. Town & Country meeting on December 15. Officer elections will be done then.
3. Tumbleweed games, community service, and officer elections held.

Kayla sent drag contract and it's approved. Tyler Clark is donating the plate. Quick connect hitch for \$300 proposed by Shirel and seconded by Racheal. Motion passes. Kayla will order quick connect from Amazon.

At large specialty: Gymkhana (Shirel) and Hipology (Katie).

Leveling up program handout was given. Will allow kids to show with their peers, and only pertain to pleasure classes and not specialties. Levels would be determined by judge outside of our county. Rules committee would discuss.

Kayla's corner: get workout dates in by March 1, get youth council nominations, turned in and get sponsors.

Change horse council meetings to second Tuesday of the month. Put out on Facebook?

Pam feels cloverbud should no longer be a specialty. Cloverbud committee: Katlyn, Racheal, Rebecca

State show may possibly change to qualify. Miniatures may move to main Arena and draft horses. State show information to come.

Teresa motions to pay for postage for Christmas cards and Sidney seconds.

Shirel costume theme to be discussed at club meetings.

Bay'Lee motions to adjourn meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:18 PM

Next meeting is Tuesday, January 6, 2026 at 6:30 PM