**Region IV Meeting**

**May 5, 2023, 8:30 a.m.**

**Cattlemen’s Event Center
Oklahoma City, OK**

The meeting was called to order at 8:39 a.m.

Oklahoma President Cheyenne Sparks welcomed everyone to OKC for the meeting and WIRED event the next day. She thanked the OCW officer team for their hard work put into the events.

Region IV Director Ddee Haynes provided an overview of the meeting and talked about inclusivity being so important within the organization.

An invocation was provided by OCW Chaplain Duchess Moore.

Sparks led the Pledge of Allegiance and ANCW Creed.

ANCW President-Elect Ruth Coffey (Okla.) gave a synopsis of ANCW’s current programs and initiatives. She spoke of her upcoming presidency where she will focus on #building4thefuture. Coffey thanked Haynes and Sparks for their planning.

Door prizes were awarded as well as a free ANCW membership to Laci Gabbert. All non-members in attendance were entered into a drawing for the membership.

**State President Reports**
President Betty Garner talked about Arkansas CattleWomen, which had more than 100 members in 2022. Garner said a challenge for ACW is having active members. She asked for any suggestions on how to get more members active regularly.

President Casey Matzke of Texas CattleWomen was unable to attend last minute; however, Linda Thorman gave her report. TCW had a very successful spring meeting in Fort Worth. They also hosted a Women In Ranching event, planned by Matzke in April in Stephenville. Thorman reported Matzke has done a great job with the WIR events. Thorman also shared some fun facts about the Texas beef industry.

President Sparks stated that Oklahoma has 300 members currently. She recapped OCW’s spring events including Read a Book Week, the Oklahoma Beef Advocate Contest and Ag Day at the Capitol. Cheyenne discussed the beef promotion initiative for Oklahoma beef certificates. She also mentioned that Ways and Means was there with merchandise specific to the weekend’s events including hats and work gloves.

More door prizes were distributed in the form of the state fun baskets. Each state was tasked with putting together a gift basket from their state. Arkansas CattleWomen provided two baskets and mentioned they are excited to host the next Region IV Meeting in 2024 in Eureka Springs, AR.

**Committee Reports**
Budget – Haynes reported that Debbie Wedel was unable to make the meeting so there was no report.

Membership – Connie Tabor (Oklahoma) talked about committee discussion to change things up this year. She also encouraged members to get more involved with committees.

Public Relations – Region IV representative Emilee Haubner (Texas) joined the meeting via Zoom to provide her report. She talked about the desire to improve the ANCW website, stating the committee is seeking photographs from all regions. She talked about some key campaigns they are currently running on social media and encouraged everyone to follow along with the #makeadifference posts, President Pam Griffin’s hashtag.

Ways and Means – Debbie Powers (Oklahoma) showcased the ANCW gloves that are available. She also talked about and displayed the current ANCW wild rag for sale.

**Elections**Haynes returned to the mic to discuss open positions including a Region IV representative for both the budget and membership committees as well as the Region IV Director position as Haynes is not continuing after this year. It was noted that all these positions would start at NCBA/ANCW Convention, January or February 2024.

Haynes asked for nominations for Membership Committee. Debbie Gill (Texas) nominated Pam Bothe (Texas). Jill Ginn seconded the nomination. Haynes called for the membership to vote, motion carried.

Haynes then asked for any nominations for the Budget Committee. Meg Stangl (Oklahoma) was nominated. Receiving a nomination to the committee, Lauren Whitlock asked for more information on the committee’s function. Tammi Didlot (Oklahoma), past ANCW CFO, gave an overview of the committee. Whitlock did not accept her nomination. Didlot moved to accept Stangl by acclamation, Bonnie Mullendore (Oklahoma) seconded, motion carried.

The next Region Director will begin at ANCW Convention 2024; however, Ddee’s current term doesn’t end until 2025. It was discussed whether to elect someone now or wait. Haynes asked Coffey which was preferred. She suggested going ahead with an election now. Haynes nominated Cheyenne Sparks (Oklahoma). Gill nominated Casey Matzke (Texas). Both candidates will complete their presidencies this year. Nominators spoke on behalf of their nominees. Didlot called a point of order as nominations had not closed. Didlot made a motion to accept the nominations and move to vote, Garner seconded. A vote was conducted by ballot. Arkansas CattleWomen counted the votes. Sparks was elected as the next Region IV Director.

Next, Haynes led introductions of all participants.

Cody Lewis, CKP Insurance, a Region Meeting sponsor, gave a presentation over its pasture rangeland forage program.

Greg Griffeth with Stockmans Oklahoma Livestock Marketing gave a short presentation discussing current issues with the cattle markets and the industry as a whole. Stockmans is the sponsor of the River Cruise, Region IV evening entertainment.

Sparks had thank you gifts for Haynes and Coffey. She also discussed the afternoon tours and evening entertainment.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.