

RICHLAND COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

MARCH 26, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

James (Jim) Schaub, President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and led the Agricultural Society members, board and guests in the Pledge to Allegiance. There were 21 board members present and 6 absent.

Guests: Curt Fife, Chris Campbell, Karen Rieman, Bill Rieman, Evan Stuart, Jennifer Steele-Rehberg, Sadie Hoyt, and Commissioner Darrell Banks.

Minutes: Remington Blevins made the motion to accept the minutes from the February 27, 2024, meeting be accepted as submitted. Dale Bemiller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report:

Shirley explained that the requirements for the annual report were changed. She can no longer include the Kitchen Auxiliary's funds in the report as they are a separate entity.

Christy Keith made the motion to accept the annual treasurer's report as submitted. Kim Moore seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Matt Janisch made the motion to accept the treasurer's report as submitted. Krista Dull seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Event Coordinator Report:

Kim stated that she has provided a printout of the next 6 months schedule of events.

She also provided copies of flyers for the Eclipse Fest. She asked the Board members and guests to please take some and post them at their places of work or other places they go.

Kim gave a rundown of the numbers of pre-sale tickets we have received. And that at least 7 motels are sold out for Sunday night. She asked if the Board Members were available to please come out and help over the weekend.

Commissioner Banks:

Commissioner Banks asked for input from the Board members on Solar Farms. He asked for a show of hands of those board members who were not in favor of them. Most of the Agricultural Board are against them.

Committee Reports:

- **T-shirt:** Nothing to report
- **Budget:** Nothing to report
- **Livestock:** Self-tagging forms will be available tomorrow

- **Entertainment:** All contracts are signed and back for the 2024 Fair. The wood carver would like 18' soft wood for his carvings (white pine, cotton wood). Nate is going to look for some. The poplar tends to crack when it dries out so we need to try to stay away from this.
- **Winter Storage:** Richland County is coming tomorrow (March 27, 2024) to remove all of their units. Ontario City removed their things last week. Move out day for all stored units will be Saturday, April 13th. The committee would like as many as could to come in and help with this project. There are other things going on that day, so we will have to stage all units by the grandstand.
- **Show Arena:** Walls are almost all up. Plumbing should start going in this next week. Flenner & crew are volunteering some time to relocate the fire hydrant on the west side of the building. The drain will be increased when the new downspouts are put up. Dave G. said that they found the 280' gas line that they have been looking for.
- **Auxiliary:** Carol is lining up help for the Civil War. We will need a lot of help because both kitchens are open for that event. They have asked that food be served on Friday during the lunch time which we will do with a limited menu. It was decided since there are no campers, we will not open the cafeteria for breakfast during the Eclipse Fest. There is at least 1 food vendor that will provide breakfast items. We have purchased 2 new pass through coolers for the Youth Hall Cafeteria. They are smaller so we will have to make some modifications to the counter. We also purchased a new popcorn machine. Christy reported that for the Incarceration this year, we will hire Amanda to prepare the food and do the prep. We also voted that after we pay her and pay all of the food bills, the profit will be split between the Senior Fair Board and the Auxiliary.
- **Grounds:** We still need to set a couple 15' electric poles. Phil Messer helped secure them for us. Need to put in electric for food vendors. We are working with Adena for a storm system. The trees that have been cut down need to be removed and anyone who wants it can take it. The A & C building is done on the inside except for the trim and putting in the new doors. Tom needs some help with setting toilets and suggested working on Tuesday to put in the splits. Tom and Dave G. put the new sign up and got electric out to it. They have people to do the landscaping around the pole. In Fairhaven Hall the back-flow preventer on the fire suppression system was faulty, but has been replaced. We do need to do something with the trees down Crab Apple Lane. It was suggested that we remove them which would give us more room for vendors during the fair and at other times. **Dave Dick made the motion to remove the crab apple trees and tear out the boxes but leave the light posts. Sam McKown seconded the motion. Motion carried.** Both mowers are ready to go and the grounds should be mowed prior to the Eclipse if the ground is dry enough.
- **Landscaping:** Nothing to report.

Old Business:

Grant: Dave Dick reported that we received notification that they did receive our grant application.

Eclipse: Kim reported she is trying to cut the number of port-a-pots ordered since we do not have any campers in. Kim also has all of the decorations for the Eclipse as she asked the groups who participated in the Chamber After Hours to give their eclipse decorations to her for our event if they were not going to use them.

Digital Sign: A brief discussion was held on the sign. The Auxiliary is donating 1/3 of the cost; 1/3 of the cost is to come out of the rental funds and it was asked that 1/3 of the cost come out of the general fund. **Dave Dick made the motion that we allocate up to \$10,000.00 for the cost of the digital sign. Remington Blevins seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Winter Storage: Bill brought up that there were items brought into storage that the committee had no record of exactly what was brought in, nor what building those items were stored in. There is not a problem with board members storing items after all of the other items are placed in the barns, but we need to have a record of who has what there. Contracts need to be signed for documentation. He also suggested that we set aside another time/date for board members to bring their units in.

Other Old Business: The question was asked if Bob had paid anymore of the back money he owes us for the use of our buildings. He is on a payment schedule and is paying as he goes for current building usage. He has requested that he be able to give the outstanding amount as a donation and he suggested towards the end of fair fireworks. Christy stated that she is going to set up a meeting with Bob to discuss his outstanding balance.

New Business:

New Staff: Christy reported that we have hired Rebecca Gregg as the new staff person.

Incarceration: The contract is all set to go. It was a 5 year contract. As mentioned before, board members will be needed in the kitchen for this event. With profits being split.

New Members: There were four individuals who applied for the two openings on the Senior Fair Board. They were: Jennifer Steele-Rehberg, Curt Fife, Sadie Hoyt and Chris Campbell. Each candidate gave their reasons for wanting to serve. **Dave Dick made the motion to go into executive session. Tom Craft seconded the motion. Motion carried.** Jim reminded the board members that whoever is elected will have to run again in August. One vacancy is for 2 years and one for 1 year. It was agreed that the person who gets the most votes would fill the 2 year vacancy or Group C and the next highest votes would fill the 1 year vacancy of Group B. **Remington Blevins moved that we go out of executive session and Matt Janisch seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Dave Dick made the motion that whichever candidate received the most votes would fill the vacancy on Group C and whomever received the next highest number of votes would fill the vacancy on Group B. Nick Fairchild seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A paper ballot was taken. Curt Fife will fill the vacancy on Group C and Chris Campbell will fill the Group B vacancy. New Board members were sworn in by Tom Craft.

Rumpke: We are experiencing problems with Rumpke emptying dumpsters when they are needed. Jim has talked with Mr. Gentry. He will be able to empty the dumpsters. Jim will continue to talk to him about his prices and our needs.

Resignations: Travis Robinson submitted his letter of resignation. There are some commitments and requests in his letter. Christy will talk with him about his requests. **Nick Fairchild made a motion to accept his resignation. Christy Keith seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Kim Moore also submitted her letter of resignation from the Senior Fair Board. Her resignation is to take effect as of April 15, 2024. **Dave Dick made the motion to accept her resignation. Dale Hulit seconded the motion. Motion carried.** There were some questions regarding the fair phone that Kim has as it is currently on her personal phone bill. We do have that phone. **Dale Hulit moved that the Executive Board should handle the phone and its future billing. Matt Janisch seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Other new business:

Scott Smith received a call from a gentleman asking to run his motorcycle on the track. He is willing to sign a waiver. It was felt that this was not a good idea as it would open it up for others to do the same thing.

Kathi announced that she had tickets for the donated solar eclipse blanket.

Dave Dick encouraged the 2 board candidates to reply for the two board positions that were announced at this meeting. Jim did stress that they would need to submit new applications. Dave also reminded board members that the application for the senior fair board is on the fair's website for anyone to download and submit.

Dave Dick also recommend that Dave Grauer and he be the cooks for the Gun Raffle and Reverse Raffle.

Dave Dick made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Remington Blevins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Kathi Cutlip-Mills, Secretary

