

RICHLAND COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
June 25 2024, Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Jim Schaub II called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

All those present pledged allegiance to our American Flag.

There were 19 Board of Directors were present and 7 were absent. Staff present: Shirley Swihart and Rebecca Gregg.

Guests present: Carson Secriskey, Abigail Secriskey, Jeff Secriskey, Karen Rieman, Bill Rieman, Kaley Bowman, Makenzi Tucker, Deb Boyce, Judy Villard Overocker and Pam Young.

Linn Advertising: Dave Dick had met with Christy Keith regarding advertising on billboards with Linn Advertising. The Boards will go up 4 weeks before the fair. They will be locally and regionally located. The cost will be comparable to last year. 12 billboards throughout the county using different sizes and also a digital one. The digital board will announce the events of the day. The static boards will have the dates of the fair. It will be \$7808.00 for everything. They will be up July 15th through August 11th. The plan is to have them throughout the county and maybe some in surrounding counties. Another proposal includes some for out-of-county for about the same money. Dave Dick said that all of the art work should be wrapped by the end of the week. He will email the final advertising for everyone to review. It was suggested to have 4 digital boards, 4 large panels and 4 small panels.

Minutes: Scott Smith made a motion that the minutes for the May Board of Directors Meeting and the June Special meeting be accepted as presented. Zac Tuttle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurers Report: Shirley reported that "Quick Books" has reached its limits on how many accounts payable we can have. It will cost us \$877.57 to adjust the program to meet our needs, then it will be an additional \$3500.00 per year after that for "Quick Books" and payroll. Shirley is meeting with the accountant tomorrow. **Dave Dick made the motion to go with what the accountant recommends and spend the \$4377.57 if needed. Carol Toms seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Gene Esbshade made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as submitted. Dave Grauer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Events Coordinator Report: Becca reported that the turkey pens need moved and so do the chicken pens. The John Hartz building will need unlocked on Thursday at 3:30 p.m. for rabbit tattooing (Becca will do this).

Parking volunteers will be needed for the Monster Trucks, 2 different shifts. Nick Fairchild will see to this. Parking is \$6.00 per vehicles. There is a graduation party and a baby shower going on that same Saturday.

She asked that the water and electric hook-ups be checked and make sure they are working prior to the INK showing up. 3 water hydrants need replaced. The different boxes need locks on them.

July 6th there will be a 4-H Dog Show at 9a.m.

Committee Reports:

T-Shirt: Kathi Mills reported on behalf of Remington Blevins. There are T-shirt order forms and Remington asked that anyone needing any shirts complete them and return them to her. Also, please mark on the top of the order form if you need a fair name badge (the board pays for the name tags).

Livestock: The meeting notes were available. They are in need of "crowd control" units. The livestock committee approved for them to spend up to \$2000.00 for some. They come 30 to a bundle and there is a storage cart that comes with them for about \$3200.00. They are 8.5 feet long. **Sam McKown made the motion for them to purchase the bundle and spend up to \$4,000.00. Half of the cost from the livestock committee and half from the board. Matt Janisch seconded the motion. Motion carried.** Dave Grauer will order them and pay for them upfront.

Nature Park: Nothing to report

Campground: There will be a work day on Tuesday. Camper's lottery night is July 11, 2024.

Racetrack: The gentleman who brought in horses has taken the rest of the barn. There are two more barns to clean out. Help is needed just about every day between now and the fair to get them ready.

Fair book: Pam Young reported that it is at the printers

Golf Carts: Scott asked that anyone still needing/wanting him to see him. The cost of the cart is \$175.00

JFB: Judy Villard Overocker reported that they are in the midst of department meetings. Judging is coming up. There are a lot of people here on the grounds for them.

Bylaws: Nothing to report **Sponsorship:** nothing to report

Admissions: nothing to report **Grandstand:** nothing to report

Parking: nothing to report **Antiques:** nothing to report

Concessions: Vendors contracts and insurance forms are coming in and we have several emails of interest in being here.

Equine: Nothing to report **Raffles:** nothing to report **Safety:** nothing to report

Social Media: nothing to report **Infield:** nothing to report

Grandstand: nothing to report

Entertainment: nothing to report **Winter Storage:** nothing to report

Show Arena: There should be one more invoice in July for \$1.2 million. The fire alarms passed inspection. The electrical in the restrooms and office passed inspection. Monday there will be a final inspection. The master key will work the livestock arena.

Kitchen Auxiliary: Gene Esbenshade announced that there will be a clean-up night in the Grandstand kitchens on Tuesday night. Carol Toms is working on volunteers for the Monster Trucks, INK and the Fair.

Grounds: Dave Grauer reported that the planters on Crab Apple Lane are gone. It looks really nice. The water, electric and grey water lines are in. There is a new hydrant. Most of the electric for the vendors is in. The poultry pens are out of the Grandstand. There are a number of things that can be done on the grounds, pick up stuff that is laying around, restroom doors and other things can be painted. They milled asphalt today. Monday & Tuesday the county is coming in to do all of the work. They are looking for someone to grind chunks of asphalt; it needs done for the parking lots, concrete & asphalt to be ground up.

Landscaping: nothing to report

Old Business:

Damaged boat: The gentleman with the damaged boat fender admitted that it was not our fault. He is asking for \$51.99 to buy a new one and he will put it on. **Nick Fairchild made a motion that we give him a \$52.00 credit on this next year rental. Dave Grauer seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

New Business:

Dave Dick made a motion that we spend up to \$8,000.00 with Linn Advertising. Tom Craft seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Digital Sign: Gene heard from a man who has a mobile digital sign about the size of a car who wants to come into the fair and advertise for different vendors. Gene told him to complete a vendor form.

Lighting: Last year we had complaints for some of the shows that we did not have enough lighting on the infield and track. We can get LED lights on all of the poles (80 of them at \$76.00 each) and 400 lights for on top of the grandstand. They will have stainless steel hardware. This quote is lower than comparable lights in the area. This company does not install them. Lights for the infield, track and grandstand will run approximately \$8,000.00. We also need more lighting in the East and North lots. **Nick Fairchild made a motion to spend up to \$20,000.00 for lights for the infield, track, grandstand, the east lot and the north lot. Half of the money to come from the board and the other half from rentals. Tom Craft seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

We also need to change the lights in the Nature Park Building prior to fair.

Radio Advertising:

Kathi Mills made a motion that we spend \$11,574.00 on radio advertising. Matt Janisch seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Insurance:

Dave Dick provided an Insurance plan "Ohio Plan" from Rhinehart, Walters, Danner Insurance and a "Weather Insurance" quote from Haas & Wilkerson Insurance. **Dave Dick made a motion that we approve and accept both of these policies. Dale Hulit seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Special Project;

Carson Secriskey shared with the Board that he is building a U-shaped judging stage. It is he designed it this way so the judges can see all of the animals at one time. It will be used for rabbits and poultry judging. The stage will have folding legs for easy storage. Carson said he needs to raise about \$900.00. He has \$250.00 so far. **Dale Bemiller made a motion to give Carson \$500.00 towards this project. Dale Hulit seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

AKC

Dave Dick shared with the board that the organizers of the AKC are requesting a reduction in their rental fee. There were promises made to them that the Board was not aware of (i.e. working air conditioning in the arts & crafts building). They had people leave because they were afraid that their dogs and/or they would become ill from the heat. They had to rent a portable commercial air conditioner. There were also issues with the sound system. They had to refund money to those individuals who left early. They do have to abide by the AKC regulations and they are now limited as to the number of participants they can have participate until they show there will be no repeats of what they experienced here. They are planning to come back next year and rent several more buildings including the new show arena. The Executive Board met with them tonight. Their bill is \$11,190.00. They are satisfied with our reducing their bill by \$5,000.00. This will cover the money they had to put out and the refunds they had to make. **Dale Hulit made the motion that we reduce their bill by \$5,000.00 Sam McKown seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Other:

Dave Dick requested a more detailed list of things that need to be done on the fairgrounds this next year. This is for budgeting purposes

Chris Campbell asked if we were awarded the grant money from the state that all of the other fairs (94 in all) were given the opportunity to receive. We have.

Krista Dull asked why there was nothing in the minutes regarding the request made by Sara Smith. Kathi stated that there was no action taken on this so there was nothing in the minutes. **Krista Dull made the motion that the fair queens could have an old fashioned "Hoedown" in the Red Barn to celebrate 50 years of fair queens. Carol Toms seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

The INK requested a walkthrough of the grounds on Thursday night after the 4th of July. They have want to put up their fence on July 1st. If they do that, they will have to maintain them and trim the grass. We have to be able to get in with the mowers.

Karen Reiman brought us up-to-date on the opening ceremonies for the 2024 fair. It will be held on Sunday, August 4, 2024, at 2 p.m. It will take between 20 and 30 minutes. Doc will provide the person to sing the National Anthem. Karen has a minister to give the invocation. She has only heard from one Mayor and they declined as they will be out of town. The 4 H will provide individuals to raise the American Flag and the 4H flag. Area Agency on Aging will be recognized for all that they do in the community. They will meet in the office board room at 1:30 p.m.

Carol Toms made a motion to adjourn. 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Kathryn Cutlip-Mills
Secretary