

RICHLAND COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

May 28, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

James (Jim) Schaub II called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. and led the Agricultural Society Members and Board in the Pledge of Allegiance. There were 23 board members present and 3 absent. **Staff present:** Shirley Swihart and Rebecca Gregg.

Guests: Pam Young, Deb Boyce, Karen Rieman and Bill Rieman

Minutes: Minutes from the April 23, 2024, meeting were submitted for review. There was one correction under Fair book. The motion made by Dave Grauer and seconded by Dale Hulit should read "Give each Buyers Club \$100.00. The minutes were corrected. * **Motion made by Remington Blevins to accept the minutes as corrected and Bill McFarland seconded the motion. Motion carried.***

Treasurers Report: *Luke Grauer made the motion to accept the treasurer's report as submitted. **Matt Janisch seconded the motion. Motion carried.***

Events Coordinator's Report: Becca reported that she has made copies of the upcoming months activities as of this date and they are on the table. She also said that she will need help with parking for the AKC show and asked that barricades be put up. The AKC will start setting up on Monday, June 17th and run through Sunday, June 23rd. Luke Grauer is the chair of that committee.

Committee Reports:

T-shirts: Get with Remington if you need any. He will bring samples to the June meeting.

Livestock: Dave Dick reported that people with feeder calves will need to use the drug notification form. There can be no vaccinations at the show. If the vet treats any animal during the fair, they will not be allowed to show. Bill McFarland reported that they are looking to put ridge vents in the Sheep Barn. They will cost \$5,733.00. The Livestock committee has committed \$2,500.00, the goat barn donated \$250.00, and the sheep committee raised the remainder through fundraising and barn sponsorships. ***Dave Grauer made a motion to move forward with this project. Sam McKown seconded the motion. Motion carried.*** Dave Grauer reported that he met with Mindy Rowland regarding the poultry barn and they are suggested what can be done with it.

Nature Park: Gene Esbenshade reported that everything is pretty much booked for the fair.

Campground: Dave Grauer reported that he was able to fix 1 hydrant there are 2 others that need fixed as well as the one that got ran over. He will also need some help from someone to spot as he is digging the electric line. There are other things that need done in the campground. One pedestal was ran over and needs repaired. Row A needs leveled up so the first row of blocks can be set. They will go outside the fence and put in new water and electric lines. Then put the blocks down. Dave Grauer got a quote and this project will run \$15,000.00. He recommended that we set 1 row of blocks and then do the remainder after the fair. There is a lot of dirt that needs moved and they will need help doing that. The blocks are from Mortz. Phase 1 will bun \$3,500.00. It was requested that they not start any of this until after the dog show. Swap Night for campsites is June 20, 2024, at 6 p.m. Lottery Day for campsites is Thursday, July 11, 2024.

Racetrack: Dale Bemiller reported that he has a gentleman scheduled to bring in 15 horses on June 1st or 2nd, 2024. He will be paying 3 months in advance and will pay for 3 months at a time. The barn still needs some

work done on it and has scheduled work nights for Wed, Thurs., Fri. and Sat. He needs help getting the gravel down in the barns. He reported that Steve Lantz donated a building for a wash rack.

JFB: nothing to report. **Bylaws:** nothing to report

Sponsorship: Bill McFarland reported that he and Christy Keith will be going out to different businesses seeking sponsorships. Jim Schaub stated that he was talking to Karl Milliron and he wants to do more, so Jim will talk with him. Kathi Mills reported that she was able to secure a \$5,000.00 sponsorship for Kids Day from Richland Public Health.

Admissions: nothing to report

Fair book: Pam Young still needs things from Gene.

Golf Carts: are \$175.00 for the week.

Elections: Nothing to report

Grandstands: Tom Craft reported that the Kiwanis are on board to staff the ticket booth to sell "RESERVE SEATING" each night of the fair. There will be 2 people in the booth each night.

Parking: nothing to report

Antiques: Zac Tuttle reported that the Buckeye signs need to be moved.

Concessions: Kathi Mills reported that any outstanding fees for the 2023 fair year have been paid. There are several that have returned their contracts and she has called the outdoor vendors who we have not heard from to confirm that they are coming back and just remind them that we do need their contracts in. The committee will start contacting the Fairhaven vendors next to confirm that they are going to be there this year and remind them that they need to return their contract. We are hoping to increase the number of vendors in Fairhaven.

Equine: Marla Reynolds reported that the Fuzzy show was a success. They had about an \$800.00 profit. There are some changes to make. They approved \$5,000.00 to work on the grounds and replace a wall in the barn. They have sponsors for 4 of the 5 "Fun Nights". Sasco is going to get them metal signs. The "Jackpots" shows will be on the 2nd Thursday night of the month.

Raffle: nothing to report.

Safety: Kathi Mills reported that Becca and she will be meeting with Rebecca Owens the Richland County EMA Director to review our safety plan and share what some of the other counties are doing. Jim said that Rick Evans former EMA Director had already written one and shown it to them. Kathi will let Rebecca know.

Infield: Luke Grauer reported that the tractor pull, rodeo and demo derby need sponsors. He is looking to do new lights all around the track and infield. We will need tractors, stuff for the tractor pulls, grader, roller. He is to contact AgPro in Ashland and Wellington Township. They will be running two tracks and will need 3 rollers and front loaders.

Entertainment: Remington Blevins is to do "Touch-a-Truck" for Tuesday night.

Winter Storage: Bill McFarland reported that the committee will be meeting to discuss some possible changes.

Show Arena: Dave Dick reported that they moved the transformer on Saturday and everything is going as planned. They set 3 poles. They are anticipating that everything will be completed by mid-June and ready for inspections. Dave may have someone who is going to donate covering for the outside of the new Arena. Individuals for getting extra donations. He also reported that the landscaping may be donated as well. If all goes as planned, the entire building will be concreted before fair. They are looking to have a "Best of Show" and will use both Show Arenas. They can use the Sheep barn and the hog barn for the cattle. They will need to figure out a wash stand.

Kitchen Auxiliary: Gene Esbshade reported that the new coolers have been installed in the Youth Hall and also a stainless steel counter. June 8th & 9th will be the Mineral Show and the kitchen in Fairhaven Hall will be open for this event. Food trailers will be utilized for the Dog Show in June and the Hamfest in July. We will

have the grandstand open for serving food on Saturday, July 13th and we will have 2 shifts. We may need help for this event as it is a big one. Then the Incarceration is July 18th thru July 21st. Everyone's help will be needed. Amanda Lantz is preparing the food and will schedule volunteers for the 2nd shift. Carol Toms will be scheduling volunteers for the first shift for this event. If you are available, please let them know which shift you are available to work and what you prefer to do. Then we have the fair. We will be serving breakfast and lunch during the fair. Carol is currently scheduling volunteers for the Monster Truck, Inc, and the fair.

Landscaping: Things are being donated. The Startek sign needs to be removed as they are not supporting anything.

Grounds: Dave Grauer reported that they are replacing doors as they have time. He has the doors. Curt will take them to his shop and paint them. Outside will be green and the inside grey. Replaced door in the Antique tractor barn. Stone is ordered. The transformer has been moved. The Mini-splits are ready to go. Ceiling tiles have been replaced in the Arts & Crafts building. Some still need to be done. About 50 FFA kids from Plymouth cleaned out the barns and picked up trash. Dale Bemiller has the electrical posts set for the new area by the new arena. This was part of the new upgrade on electric. Dave Grauer bought 6,000 feet of wire. We can't wait on the electric company and new poles were ordered. Dave G. would like to paint the Youth Hall prior to fair if at all possible. Maybe dry fog the walls, posts, and ceiling. Dave G. and Kenney Niese finished the storm sewer ditch. All drain spouts are hooked up on several of the buildings. The cost is between \$11,000.00 and \$12,000.00. Dave would like to buy 10 or 12 40"-42" tall gates to be used for crowd control gates. They are 7' to 8 1/2' long. He was told to get a quote for the next board meeting. He wants to get a total of 20-24 from the Senior Fair Board and the Livestock Committee.

Old Business:

Kathi Mills thanked everyone who put out signs or hung up fliers at their businesses for the 2024 Craft, Antique and Shabby Chic Show. This year we had 73 various vendors and raised over \$3,800.00. Unfortunately the show was "scammed" and there were 5 vendors that paid others to participate in the show. Becca and she are looking at different ways this can be avoided. It has been reported to Sheriff's Departments in Richland, Crawford, Morrow and Ashland counties by the vendors who were taken advantage of. She announced that the 2025 show will take place on Saturday, April 26th. This is the weekend before Mother's Day Weekend so please come out to the show and get your gifts or bring your spouse and let them pick their gift(s).

Karen Reiman, honorary member reported that she will need an MC for the opening ceremonies. They will take place at 2:00 P.M. on August 4, 2024, by the flag pole. She is hoping to have several color guards. She has contacted some Boy Scouts and the Sheriff's Department. She has asked that you contact her with any other ideas and/or contacts. She is planning to recognize the Area Agency on Aging for all they do for the seniors in Richland County. She needs more Veterans to assist with the raising of our flag. She has asked board members that are Veterans to be present that day and others that we know. Doc Stumbo will provide a singer for the National Anthem. She is going to talk with Judy in the hopes that several of her youth can be present for the opening.

Pam Young is looking for racks or something to use for the displays in the Arts & Crafts building during the fair. She has found something that she thinks will work and Remington said that he can weld them together and help fix them to work. She asked for \$500.00 to purchase what she needs. They will be used primarily for

photography. *Christy Keith mad the motion to give Pam up to \$500.00 for these display boards. Luke Grauer seconded the motion. Motion carried.*

Krista Dull reported that Katie Bloom had asked about having a 50's Hoe-down in the Red Barn on the Monday night of Fair. Nothing was decided.

Christy Keith reported that Jim Schaub, Becca Gregg and she had attempted to meet with Bob Marshall (MMA/BCM). He has canceled each time with the last time canceling 25 minutes before their scheduled meeting time. He currently owes the Richland County Agricultural Society between \$5,000.00 and \$6,000.00. There has been no contract signed since August 2023. He canceled events for July and August. It is understood that he has moved his fight events to Geneva, Ohio, in the Sports Center there. Dave Dick read a letter that he proposed sending to Bob. (A copy of the letter is attached). *Sam McKown made a motion to send the letter. Bill McFarland seconded the motion. A roll-call vote was taken. All members present voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

New Business:

Christy Keith reported that rental prices will be reviewed and probably going up. The new prices will include days for set-up and possibly a security deposit.

Other:

Christy Keith also reported that we are having to honor some contracts and lack of contracts but verbal agreements that were made prior to Becca being on staff. Dave Dick stressed that every point of contact has to be Becca, not Kim. If anyone has a contract we need them. Dave Grauer and Tom Craft reported that the Civil War group were more demanding than other years.

More diesel fuel is needed so Jim will see that some is delivered.

Cory Myers made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 P.M. Sam McKown seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathryn G. Cutlip-Mills
Secretary