

RICHLAND COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

April 23, 2024 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 19 board members present and 6 absent. Staff present: Shirley Swihart and Rebecca Gregg.

Guests: Judy Villard-Overocker, Jim Overocker, Pam Young, Jessica Tucker, Deb Boyce, Mindy Rowlands, Lisa Crain, Sadie Hoyt, Kelsey Snyder, Abigail Smith, Max Miller, Pam Hult, Jacob Hoffman and Kenny Niese.

Training: Judy Villard-Overocker provided the Board and society members with the required annual training for "Understanding our Role in Protecting Minors as a Volunteer with the Ohio State University. The slide presentation listed how to recognize problems with minors and the fact that it is the members responsibility to report any signs of abuse of any nature. The requirements for Volunteers include: program registration (forms were signed at this meeting), Standards of Behavior signatures (these were also provided at this meeting), and criminal history background checks (Judy can provide information on where to go and how to get reimbursed).

Minutes: Minutes from the March 26, 2024, meeting were submitted for review. Remington Blevins made the motion to accept the minutes as submitted. Sam McKown seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Shirley Swihart asked if there were any questions. Bill McFarland made the motion to accept the treasurer's report as submitted. Gene Esbenshade seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Events Coordinator's Report: Becca Gregg, reported that she has made copies of the next 4 months calendar as of today's date. She also made a separate calendar showing everything in more detail for the month of May.

Dave Grauer brought up that Becca had counted the tables and we have 300 good tables. There are 33 broken wooden tables. Dave will fix the broken tables but could use some help. He also reported that the bathrooms in the Arts & Crafts building need to have the new toilets installed and Tom Craft would appreciate some help with this project.

Committee Reports:

T-shirt: nothing to report **Budget:** nothing to report

Livestock: Dave Dick report that the tags are ready to print off.

Nature Park: Gene Esbenshade reported that he only needs to book bands for Thursday and Friday night. He was able to book some of the bands that played at the Eclipse for the other nights.

Campgrounds: will report in the grounds report

Racetrack: Dale Bemiller reported that the buildings are getting new siding put up. He has 3 loads of stone coming in but will need some more. He is going to schedule some work sessions, maybe 2 weekends and will need help. He has the possibility of one new tenant and he races in our division. The gentleman indicated that he may be able to help get other tenants into the barns. There are a few other things that need to be done. The poles around that area need painted, up 7 feet prior to fair.

Fair book: Pam Young reported that things are coming in. She recommended we have a Senior Citizen Day on Monday. Dave Dick made the motion to make the Monday of the Fair Senior Citizen Day and all Seniors would get in for \$5.00 per person. Carol Toms seconded the motion. Motion carried. Pam asked if we were still going to have Armed Forces Day on Thursday. Dale Hulit made the motion to have Thursday as Armed Forces Day and serve bean soup and cornbread. Remington Blevins seconded the motion. Motion carried. Dave Grauer made a motion to give the Buyers Club \$100.00. Dale Hulit seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Golf Carts: nothing to report

JFB: Judy Villard-Overocker reported that they are starting to meet now.

By-Laws: Dave Dick reported that we need to be consistent with the language that we use with all open class sections. We need to use the same as is used on the open class cattle show.

Sponsorships: Christy is going to contact Bill at the Eagles in Shelby. She also reported that we currently have 3 "Sponsors of the Day". Information for sponsorships will also go on our website. Sponsor packets are available and she encouraged each board member to help get at least 1 sponsor, no matter the amount. Gene Esbshade reported that he met with Nick and the Agricultural equipment will be located by the new barn during the fair and the kids rides (kid's zone) will be along the north side of the administration building.

Admissions: nothing to report

Elections: We have one member to vote on tonight. The other open spot will remain open until we vote in August.

Grandstands: nothing to report **Parking:** Nothing to report **Antiques:** nothing to report

Concessions: Kathi Cutlip-Mills reported that she and Gene met and reviewed the list of outdoor concessions. There were only a few who had not paid yet. Kathi called and left messages or talked with all those we have not heard from. There is one who has 3 trailers that has not paid for the 2023 Fair as of yet. We are working on getting this squared away.

Equine: The Fuzzy show is this Saturday, April 27, 2024. They will need water for this show. Dave Grauer brought up about the flag pole as this needs to get put up.

Raffles: Christy asked if we should hold the reverse raffle again this year. Everyone said yes, but have it earlier in the fall. She suggested October 19, 2024 as that is the only available Saturday. Bill McFarland made the motion to hold the reverse raffle on Saturday, October 19, 2024. Matt Janisch seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Social Media: nothing to report

Safety: Kathi Cutlip-Mills reported that Rebecca Owens, Richland County EMA director is planning to meet with her and the committee to see if there is anything she can help us with.

Infield: Dale Bemiller asked about them. Nick is in charge of them. It was agreed that they should be put up after fair.

Winter Storage: Bill McFarland thanked everyone who helped the day of storage removal. There were a few issues that happened and that need worked out. He is planning on having the committee meet in the very near future to work on some guidelines for payment, drop-off, take-out and for board members and those entities that bring in things after we have our last day of drop-off. Drop off of storage units will be on Saturday, October 26, 2024 and Saturday, November 9, 2024. We will start taking storage payments in September. Carol and Kathi will make up a schedule of days and times they will be in the office. Storage move-out date is Saturday, April 12, 2025.

Show Arena: Dave Dick reported that the building is going up very quickly. They were putting in ceiling tile today and they are scheduled to blow in the insulation. All the siding is on. They want to put the spouting up this week. The gas line is hooked up. Phil Metzger was awarded the electrical bid for the Show Arena. They expect to pour the bathroom floors this week. There is a drainage issue. A picture of the proposed drainage route was shared.

LS Judges: Judy Villard-Overocker reported that most of the contracts for the judges have been returned. The Goat judge is confirmed.

Kitchen Auxiliary: Gene Esbshade reported that we purchased 2 new coolers for the Youth Hall and they are in. We will need lots of help to put them in as they are heavy. The freon was recovered from the old coolers. We will be putting stainless steel down for the shelf as the old coolers were in the counter. They have to be put in prior to the Civil War weekend. We do have to have a Person In Charge (PIC) in the kitchen if any outside group uses the kitchen, no exception. And the Auxiliary has the right of first refusal before any outside food trailers are to be asked in. We have some groups who have been getting their own and we have no idea if their contract indicates there is a charge for these trailers. This will be worked out for all future events planned here.

Grounds: Dave Grauer reported that the red water tanker, the truck and the Kubota all have new batteries so they should be good to go. They did find more poles that need replaced. 9 Pioneer students were here to work and they picked up sticks and emptied all the trash into the dumpsters. The poultry barn is empty and is swept and blown out; the people coming in want it spotless. There is a cattle show here this weekend and the straw needs to be moved. The barns are all cleaned up. There is a cattle show coming in over Memorial Day Weekend. The Arts & Craft (A&C building need the old toilets moved out and the new ones hooked up. Monday and Tuesday nights will be work nights for this task. The ceiling tiles need to be changed out in the A&C. JB Acoustical has them. Remington will pick them up. The ceiling tile in the kitchen storage area in Fairhaven hall will be done on Wednesday night. Matt working on door in the race track barn. Benches need to be brought out for Civil War Weekend. Remington took a load of scrap in. Mamie came in and helped to clean out the back room in the John Hartz building, all of the old steel chairs were scrapped. Scott bush wacked around a lot of the grounds. All of the crab apple trees on Crab Apple lane will be taken down after the Civil War weekend. Dave G. will see what area needs to be black topped. Matt will bring his roller out to

go over the grassy areas. There are 3 hydrants that need dug up and fixed. The trench going to the new sign needs to be filled in. Sam talked with Burkholder and they will do manure. Bill talked with Adam Moritz and they will help us with the retaining wall in the campgrounds. They will be giving us the same price, \$2100.00. It is approximately 200 feet. And we will need a truck full of stone, \$550.00. This project should be roughly \$3,000.00. Dave Dick made the motion to allow \$3500.00 for this project. Sam McKown seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Old Business:

-Eclipse: It was reported that we did not break even for this event. Gene reported that the bands were very good and he booked 3 of them for the fair in the Nature Park.

Digital Sign: The digital sign is up and it says "Welcome". When Tom Craft gets back in town he will talk with the company to get the exact directions on what needs to be done so Becca can start putting in announcements of activities going on at the fairgrounds.

New Business:

- **Mindy Rowland:** Mindy presented a conversion proposal for the barn next to the poultry barn. She asked for help getting more ventilation in the poultry barn as it is too hot and the generator for the rides is right outside the building and if they open that end door, they can't hear over the generator. In addition, it leaks oil and makes a mess outside the poultry barn. She also asked for the poultry pens to be stored somewhere else. It was decided that they can be stored at the end of the grandstand. Gene will contact the ride company and see what can be done about the oil leaking at least. She talked to an Adena staff person and they said that ridge vents are the best options. She wants some advice and if all possible, some financial support. It was suggested that she get barn sponsors like the other barns are working on.
- **Pam Young:** Pam brought up that we have someone who will organize and reintroduce the "Ageless Beauty Contest". It would be held on Monday of the fair. She wanted to know if we could park the buses from the various senior facilities on the grounds as they had done in the past. She explained that in the past, we only charged \$1.00 per senior to get in. It was decided that only the contestants be charged \$1.00. All others attending on the bus or in support of the contestants be charged the normal price for the day. Kathi Cutlip-Mills made the motion that only the contestants be charged \$1.00, all others are charged the normal price and the judges and MC for the event get in free. Scott Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Pam asked if she could get some wire to have display panels made for at least the photography entries in the Arts & Craft building. They would be 4'x8' panels. Remington said that he can make them if she gets the wire that is needed.

Pam introduced Pam Hulit who is the Superintendent of the Flowers. She would like to increase the premiums paid to the exhibitors who win. Dave Grauer made the Motion to increase the premiums by \$283.00. Gene Esbenshade seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Kathi Cutlip-Mills: She has been asked by the Richland Public Health Commissioner if we would be able to provide at no cost a building to conduct FREE Rabies vaccinations. They would use the Youth Hall on June 1, 2024. Dale Hulit made the motion to allow them to use the building for this worthwhile project. Dale Bemiller seconded the motion. Motion carried. The Health Department would also like to bring their staff out to the fairgrounds for training on how to drive and maneuver their new Mobile Clinic Bus. It was agreed they could come out during the week between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. on Tuesdays and/or Wednesdays when there is less going on at the fairgrounds. They should call Becca first to make sure nothing major is happening that day.

Kathi asked if she could purchase some more yard signs for the "Craft, Antique and Shabby Chic show to be held on May 18, 2024. Out of the 20 she got last year only 6 were turned back in. She reported that she has over \$2,000.00 in registration fees so far. Christy Keith made the motion that she could spend up to \$240.00 for new signs and date stickers to go on the signs from last year. Dale Hulit seconded the motion. Motion carried.

New Member: Sadie Hoyt was the only candidate to submit her board application for one of the current board openings. David Dick made the motion to bring Sadie onto the board to fill the vacant position. Remington Blevins seconded the motion. Motion Passed. Dale Hulit swore Sadie in.

Ken Niese from the drainage company explained about the drainage needs for the new Show Arena and other buildings. The Agricultural price would be \$5,157.50. David Dick made the motion that work could begin on the drainage needs after the Civil War weekend. Gene Esbenshade seconded the motion. Motion carried.

July 24th will be a work day to empty out the rabbit barn of the display cases and move them into the Arts & Crafts building.

Carol asked if each board member could find one person to help in the kitchen during the incarceration and the fair it would be appreciated.

Bill McFarland made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Matt Janisch seconded the motion. Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,
Kathi Cutlip-Mills, Secretary