

**Richland County Agricultural Society**  
**Executive Board Meeting**  
**February 25, 2025**

President Christy Keith called the meeting to order at 5:33 P.M.

Members present: Christy Keith, David Dick, Dale Bemiller, Jim Schaub, Gene Esbenshade, Dave Grauer, Bill McFarland and Kathi Cutlip-Mills.

Staff present: Shirley Swihart and Becca Gregg

Guests present: Zac Tuttle and Remington Blevins

Becca reported that March is getting busy.

- March 15<sup>th</sup>, she will need help with parking crowd control barricades
- March 28 & 29 is a pig auction and will need around 50 pens carried over to the barn.
- Area Agency on Aging and another group are booking events in April
- May, the first weekend is the Civil War
- Christy read a letter of resignation from Becca. Her last day as Operations Coordinator will be March 16, 2025.

Dave Dick stated that we will need to post the position as soon as possible.

Gene Esbenshade:

- Reported that we need to enter into a 5-year contract with the Civil War for the use of a cabin from Lakeside Cabins.
- He reported that the contracts for the artists' for Tuesday night's concert have been signed and returned.
- We have received the stage contract and are reviewing it and other stage possibilities.
- The Johnny Appleseed Square Dance Club representative will present at the Board Meeting tonight.

David Grauer:

- Thanked Remington Blevins for all the hours he put in salting and plowing the fairgrounds.
- The City of Mansfield called and they indicated that we had a water leak somewhere. Becca checked all of the restrooms and didn't find any. Tom

was at the fairgrounds on Monday night and he might have put in parts in the urinals. There was a big water leak by the goat barn. Dale Bemiller and Dave turned off the water. Unfortunately there is a leak coming up under the cement in the sheep barn. It will have to be fixed.

- Flenner's bill for all of the hydrants, vendor hook-ups, everything on Crabapple Lane, piping, etc. comes \$26,500.00. They are donating this in exchange for signage and wants their name on the donor list in the Show Arena.
- There were 2 Blue back-flow hydrants - \$2400.00 each that were donated. We need to watch the hydrants and replacements.
- We received another invoice from Kenny Neise for \$1,558.50. Apparently when there were holes in the lot, he fixed them. It was determined that we need to have a sit-down with Kenny and get a list of who owns what at the fairgrounds.

Dale Bemiller:

- Coca Cola is looking good for the sponsor for the wiener dog race.
- No other horses have come in yet.
- We need to do the work on the fence. Travis Robinson said that he will do it and Steve Lantz will help. Dale was asked to coordinate this project.

Bill McFarland:

- Bill said he had the contract for the Tractor Pull. They dropped a class, which saved us \$200.00. They want this event to grow and especially grow the county pull and build their classes. He wants to ask the Board of Directors for suggestions.

Kathi Cutlip-Mills:

- Reported that CPR/AED training can be done a couple different ways. She will present the options to the Board to see who wants the training and what their preference is.
- She shared that booth registrations are coming in for the April 26, 2025, craft show.
- The Heart of the City Downtown Car Show will be moving to the Fairgrounds this year and probably in 2026. Saturday, August 23, 2025, is

the date for this year's show. They will be signing a contract. This event brings in between 500 and 700 show vehicles. They have requested that we have the cafeterias open and I will work on getting some food vendors who offer things that we do not sell in the cafeterias (ice cream, donuts, flavored coffee & Tea). I have committed to organize a craft show which will be held in the Youth Hall and a Swap Meet to be held in the Arts & Crafts building for different things the "car" people and attendees can enjoy. There is a Sports Card Show going on in Fairhaven Hall that day. There is no cost for spectators to come to the show. There will be car show volunteers staffing the gates for the show vehicles and there will be 4, 3-seater golf carts for transporting spectators and people coming out to the Sports Card Show and Craft Show. There will be a stage and live music. The Agricultural Society will receive all money from the booth fees for the craft show and swap meet. The Auxiliary will receive all money from the food vendor's rental spaces and cafeteria sales.

Shirley Swihart:

- Reported that the treasurer's report indicates that we have \$588,000.00, but in reality we only have \$207,000.00 as there are bills to pay. The Auxiliary is down to \$114,000.00.

Christy Keith:

- Reported that the ice machine in Fairhaven Hall isn't working correctly. Standard came out and fixed it. They will clean all 3 ice machines.
- Christy wants to set up all of the side raffle items for the Sportsman's Den Raffle on Thursday night so they can be done and we can see what we have. There may only be 100 tickets left, if that. She is going to ask all Board members to get her any unsold tickets as there are people who want them. So far, we have 15 reserved tables.

Meeting adjourned at 6:31 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathi Cutlip-Mills, Secretary