

**RICHLAND COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**June 24, 2025 Meeting Minutes**

President Christy Keith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance to our flag was repeated by all present.

Roll Call was taken.

Guests present: Commissioner Darryl Banks, Deb Boyce, Kaley Bowman, Sarah Smith, Tyler Smith, Carson Secriskey, Abigail Secriskey, Hayden Slepias, Philip Metzger, and Logan Hoffman.

Staff Present: Shirley Swihart and Lisa Roberts

**Secretary's report:** Gene Esbenshade made the motion to accept the minutes as presented. Dale Bemiller seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's report:** Bill McFarland made the motion to accept the treasurer's report for later audit. Tom Craft seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Event's Coordinator's Report:** Lisa Roberts reported that the Dog Show went off fairly well except for the door on the new show arena had trouble closing. She received several compliments on our grounds and buildings. Monster Truck people are moving in on Thursday. There is only 2 weeks until INK. Christy Keith stated that in the future, we will not schedule other events when we have BIG Events on the fairgrounds, such as the Dog Show, because parking just doesn't work out. Christy also brought up about "Multi-year" contracts. She is recommending that we give Civil War a 25% discount and other "Multi-year" contracts and Non-Profits receive a 10% discount. **Carol Toms made the motion that Civil War receive a multi-year contract with a 25% discount and all other multi-year contracts and non-profits receive a 10% discount. Bill McFarland seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

**Committee reports:**

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

**Livestock:** Dave Grauer reported that he is getting everything lined up for the fair. They will start working on barns after INK. They are looking for Barn Sponsors.

**July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30 p.m. will be the set-up time for the Arts & Crafts Building! Many hands are needed!!**

**Nature Park:** nothing new to report

**Campgrounds:** Krista Dull reminded members that Tuesday, July 1, 2025, is the date for the camp swap meeting. Tuesday, July 8, 2025, is the date for the camp lottery. Christy Keith shared that Board Member Dustin Moysi told her an idea that his wife had to raise some

money. She suggested we have a lottery for a free campsite for the following year of the fair. Sell tickets at \$10.00 each. Dustin is willing to coordinate this fundraiser. **Kathi Cutlip-Mills made the motion to hold the campsite lottery for the following year with tickets selling at \$10.00 each. Marla Reynolds seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

**Racetrack:** Dale Bemiller reported that everything is OK. He has to order a couple loads of stone for the fair and he has some people interested in bringing in their horses. The Weiner Dog Race entries are coming in.

**Fair Book:** Pam Young reported that the fair books are in. She had some for fair board members and guests to take.

**Golf Carts:** Scott Smith stated that he needs to know NOW if anyone wants a golf cart.

**JFB:** nothing to report      **By-Laws:** nothing to report

**Sponsorships:** We need more for the fair and for the Christian Concert.

**Admissions:** Carol Toms reported that she had talked to Jay Hess and he is in the process of contacting fellow masons to work the gates.

**Elections:** Christy Keith shared that board member petitions will be ready to pick up after tomorrow. They do require signatures of 10 Richland County Agricultural Society paid-up members. Signatures cannot be obtained during a board meeting.

**Grandstands:** nothing to report

**Parking:** We will need volunteers to help with parking this Saturday for the Monster Truck event. Shifts start at 10:00 a.m. and 3 p.m. If you can help, please see Nick Fairchild.

**Antiques:** nothing to report

**Concessions:** Kathi Cutlip-Mills reported that contracts for Fairhaven Hall in particular are slow coming in. When called, the contacts stated that they never received them. There are some new vendors interested and the booth spaces will be sold/filled on a first-come, first-serve basis. We will be having some new food vendors this year, an Asian food and a Mexican food trailer. She stated that there has been a big interest in food vendors to come in, but we already have several that sell the same item(s) and we want to offer new and varied cuisine. There are some outside vendors who have also expressed interest, but we must have a vendor information form submitted so we can determine if we have room for their trailer/tent/display.

**Equine:** Marla Reynolds asked if it was possible to take out 2 stalls. They should not be used as they are too close to the electric box. It was agreed that the stalls needed to come out. She reported that they are making a little bit on their Thursday night events. However, not what they had expected as the person who was supposed to get sponsors for these events has not. They will need to increase the cost of the classes so the awards will be covered.

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

**Grandstands/Grounds:** Dave Grauer reported that they are getting ready for the weekend (Monster Trucks). Things are getting painted and cleaned. Nothing has been done yet with the ticket booth. Painting will get done as there is help to do it. Mamie will blow out under the Grandstand. We need a new door in the top of the Grandstand. Dave has sprayed. There is still some weed-whacking to do.

- Before the fair: the water line behind the rabbit barn needs fixed if possible as it is leaking. After the fair the plans are to dig it up and put in a new line.
- Depending on weather, Colton Dull and Dave will start on landscaping in front of Fairhaven Hall.
- Things need to be put up on the walls for the displays in the Arts & Crafts building.
- The one cooler needs to be fixed.
- They are going to have several work nights and weekends to get the work done prior to the beginning of fair.
- The fenced area by the Youth Hall where the dumpster has been needs cleaned out as soon as possible.
- The new garbage disposal will be installed in the Youth Hall prior to INK.
- Doors on Grandstand restrooms need to be replaced. Dave Grauer can do them if he has some help.
- The doors for Fairhaven Hall should be in by the first part of July. They will call Dave when they get in so we can remove what we need to. The work will probably have to be done at different times.
- Dave talked to JD at the county. Since we did not get the \$50,000.00 from the state this year, we can't do as much black topping as we had hoped to do. JD would like to come out and maybe do some sealing for the cracks along the Grandstand.
- Dust control needs done around the campgrounds. Remington Blevins normally takes care of this.
- Dave thought maybe we could do some chip & seal. It would cost about \$3200.00 per mile.
- He hopes to get a new roof and side on the old arena before fair.
- Christy Keith has tried to contact Cody about the electrical work that should have already been done. She has not heard from him. The Executive Board feels that he needs to be given a deadline because we have been waiting for him to finish these projects. They want it done prior to INK and feel that a July 10<sup>th</sup> deadline is appropriate to see some activity in the finishing of the project. Phil Metzger said that he would get someone to mount the transformers if Cody doesn't as Cody is holding him up also. There are 4 poles left to be put in. Each pole will take 2 days to put in. The poles are here.

**Entertainment:** Concert tickets are available for purchase on Fairs.com

Lori Biddle is helping to get information out to different businesses about the concert and sponsorships. She is also helping behind the scenes with logistics and she has members from Crossroads Church who normally help with their concerts to help us. Krista Dull asked about ads on "The River." They should be airing the first of July.

**Winter Storage:** Bill McFarland checked to make sure that there was nothing large scheduled when we do drop-off. Registration and payment for storage will start the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of September. Exact dates and times to follow.

**Show Arena:** The bleachers should be paid for and they have been installed.

**LS Judges Selection:** Jim Schaub II reported that all judges have been secured.

**Kitchen Auxiliary:** Gene Esbenshade reported that Carol Toms has been reaching out for volunteers for Monster Truck and the Fair. This year, we are only serving breakfast at the Youth Hall during the fair. Hours are 7 a.m. – 11 a.m. Amanda is doing all of the cooking for INK. Christy Keith stated that if the Fair Board expects to get a portion of the profit from INK, they need to step up and work.

**Landscaping:** nothing additional to report.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Pam Young reported that Drew has started painting the mural on the side of the Grandstand. He is only painting in his spare time and on weekends.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Lisa Roberts requested that the board consider eliminating all clauses in building/grounds rentals effective as of January 1, 2026. **Matt Janisch made a motion to eliminate all clauses in rental contracts effective January 1, 2026. Chris Campbell seconded the motion. Motion carried.**
- Christy Keith reported that apparently we are not popular with some people because we are having the Bengal Tiger show here. She has talked with Richland Source and they are going to do an article on this act. They are going to interview the company that has this show.
- Christy Keith reported that the American Red Cross wants to have their annual blood drive at the fair again this year. They will not be able to use the Board Room this year as we will have that room as our dedicated area for Jordan Feliz, Riley Clemmons and their entourage on Tuesday. There was a discussion of other possible locations, but nothing else really came to mind. Christy will talk to their representative.
- Phil Metzger will hang the TV in Fairhaven Hall.

Gene Esbenshade made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:04 p.m. Marla Reynolds seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Kathi Cutlip-Mills  
Secretary.