

RICHLAND COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

May 27, 2025 Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President Christy Keith.

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

Roll Call was taken.

Staff present: Shirley Swihart and Lisa Roberts

Guests present: Pam Young, Deb Boyce and Kenny Neise

Secretary's report: Remington Blevins made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Zac Tuttle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Sam McKown made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as submitted. Zac Tuttle seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

T-Shirts: If we wanted shirts printed for the Fair since this is our 175th, we could use the logo that is on the front of our Fair Book.

Budget: nothing to report

Livestock: David Dick stated that we will have to do a new banner in the Show Arena. Pioneer may be able to do it.

Nature Park: nothing to report

Campgrounds: the hydrant on C-4 needs replaced. There are 4 open camp sites for the fair. **Remington Blevins made a motion that if camp sites for the next year's fair are not paid for by 4 p.m. on Friday of the current fair, individuals will lose their spot, NO EXCEPTIONS. Zac Tuttle seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Racetrack: Dale Bemiller contacted the county engineer and he will certify the track. The Weiner Dog Races will be posted within the week on our website. He is currently looking for a sponsor as Coke backed out.

Fair Book: Pam Young reported that it is done

Golf Carts: Scot Smith told everyone that if you need one, you need to get a hold of him ASAP. The cost is \$275.00.

JFB: nothing to report as they are in a separate meeting tonight.

By-laws: nothing to report

Sponsors: nothing to report

Admissions: nothing to report

Elections: nothing to report

Grandstands: nothing to report

Parking: nothing to report

Antiques: nothing to report

Concessions: Kathi Cutlip-Mills reported that we will have some new food vendors this year. We will have Mexican and Asian cuisine. She is working on Fairhaven Hall vendors. Contracts for Fairhaven are coming in slow, but after phone calls, some shared that they did not receive one, that is being corrected. We do have several new businesses interested in having booths.

Equine: Marla Reynolds reported that they cancelled one show because they couldn't get enough people to help. They are having trouble getting people to show up.

Raffles: Nothing to report

Social Media: nothing to report

Safety: Nothing to report

Infield: nothing to report

Grandstand/Grounds: nothing to report

Entertainment: All of the Ground acts for the fair are secured.

Winter Storage: nothing to report

Show Arena: Dave Grauer reported that the bleachers are installed in the new Show Arena. These bleachers will seat approximately 526 people. They will be working on the roof of the old arena.

LS Judges Selection: Jim Schaub II reported that next year a panel will be picking all of the judges next year.

Kitchen Auxiliary: Gene Esbenshade reported we have several shows coming up. Please get back to Carol Toms if she calls you with a yes or no, do not leave her hanging.

Grounds: Dave Grauer reported that they had a work night a couple of weeks ago. There are some hydrants that are leaking. The East end door on the Arts & Crafts building needs some work, the west end door needs a rubber stripping on the bottom. If anyone has a contact with a tree trimmer company, we will need some help. Probably best if they could come in during the winter and thin out some trees, donation if at all possible. Wash rack between goat & sheep barn was working this weekend. They received lots of complements on the grounds, how nice they look. Mark Cooked thanked everyone who helped with the sheep show. They had 1250 entries. Something is going on in the Arts & Crafts building restrooms. There may be a shift in the tile between the men's and women's. This

needs to be fixed ASAP. Dumpsters are all lined up for INK. The dumpster back of the building is full. We need 3 BIG ones for fair. We do need to compare Flenner's prices with Kurtzman's prices. The cement blocks between Fairhaven Hall and the office need to be moved. There are several others that also need moved. The guys from the Nature Park group asked about using the building right after INK. They have always used the cafeteria to prepare food for their cook-out. It will be during the week. It was agreed that they could use it.

Landscaping: nothing to report but will address this later on.

Old Business:

- Drew Anderson reported on his research at the library, a colored rendition was passed around to view. He is planning to do 9x3x4 sections. He suggested using the back of the Grandstand or the Youth Hall. The Grandstand would have to be pressure washed from the ground to about 5 foot high. **Scott Smith made a motion to have the mural on the back of the Grandstand. Tom Craft seconded the motion. Motion carried.** Drew will submit the required permits to the appropriate people. The Grandstand wall will need to be patched and painted prior to starting the mural.
- Dale Hult is working on something that he will build for the storage of tables.
- Christy Keith reported that we are working with Fairs.com for concert ticket sales. It is active and people can use the QR Code on the website and/or flyer to order tickets. We will be scanning people at the gates. They will train us how to use the scanners. They would like to do our admissions in the future.
- Fairhaven Hall needs tempered glass on each side of the doors. All glass quoted \$18,450.00 and J&B quoted \$18,720.00. We have an account with J&B. In both instances, we would have to remove ceiling tiles in the area between the doors. We would just be replacing the outer doors. **Matt Janisch made a motion to have J&B do the doors and fix the glass in Fairhaven Hall. Tom Craft seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

- The landscaping in front of Fairhaven Hall needs torn out. Everything needs taken out and start over with concrete. Lay the retaining wall on the concrete. Moritz Concrete will do it for \$158.00 per yard and David Grauer thinks we can get it done by them for between \$6,500.00-\$7,000.00. Colton Dull will do it at no labor cost. It should be done at the end of June after the dog show. **Dale Hulit made a motion to spend up to \$8,000.00 on the Fairhaven Hall landscape project and the money is to come out of rentals. Sam McKown seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

New Business:

- Pam Young reported that we will order 200 fair books. The question is should we have it printed in color? If we get the entire book printed in color the cost would be \$4,518.00. If we only get the cover in color it would be \$1,762.00. **Chris Campbell made the motion to have the cover of the fair book in color and the rest in black and white. Gene Esbenshade seconded the motion. Motion carried.**
- Christy Keith passed around sign-up sheets for the Monster Truck event. It is Saturday, June 28, 2025. Hours will be 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. – 2 shows
- INK will be July 17th-20th. Christy told the Board that if they expect a cut of the profits, they need to work.
- Christy Keith asked if anyone knows who made the benches that are in the fairgrounds. There are people who want to have some made in memory of their family member(s). Carol Toms said that she thinks she may know someone and she will check with them.
- The question has come up from long standing renters about multi-year contracts and if they can get discounts for multi-year contracts. And discounts for non-profits. No action was taken on this item.

- Christy Keith reported that we have not heard from the man who signed a contract to rent the fairgrounds for a Deiseal show. He is to have it paid by July 1, 2025.
- Tom Craft reported that the food disposal in the Youth Hall needs replaced. To replace it will cost \$4,000.00 to fix it around \$800.00. No action was taken on this item.
- Kenny Neise shared that Phil Metzger has talked to Cody about the poles. He has everything to finish the high voltage. The fiber optic is done up to the horse barn. Sound systems are in several buildings. Fairhaven Hall, Arts & Crafts and the Youth Hall will have dedicated sound systems. The question was raised about the warranty stuff for the bleachers, Kenny has it in the Show Arena, and it needs to be taken to the office. The campers that are in the feeder calf barn need to be removed so they can finish wiring in there. Kenny and Phil will be gone June 10th-15th. There will be hand held wireless mikes for the horse arena. They will have a training to show Board Members how to use the sound systems. They have put a new electrical panel in the Red Barn. The Ticket Booth in the Grandstand and the main gate will be hard wired. There will not be any in the race horse barns. They would like to put speakers on the pole in the middle of the grass area. They would be out of other buildings, there would be NO EXTRA CHARGE to do this.

Scott Smith mad a motion at 8:41 p.m. to adjourn. Tom Craft seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathi Cutlip-Mills, Secretary