

**RICHLAND COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 22, 2025**

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

Pledge of Allegiance was repeated by all present.

Roll Call was taken

Guests present: Deb Boyce, Tyler Smith and Kenny Neise.

**Secretary's report:** Remington Blevins made the motion to accept the secretary's report 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. Matt Janisch seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Events Coordinator's Report:** Lisa Roberts reported that INC went fairly well in spite of the rain. After the fair, the next big event will be the Heart of the City Car Show will be here on August 23, 2025.

**Committee Reports:**

**T-shirts:** Remington reported that the shirts and sweatshirts that people ordered will be in next week Monday.

**Budget:** Nothing at this time                      **Livestock:** Nothing at this time

**Nature Park:** Gene Esbenshade reported that all of the acts are in place. He will need someone to go the East Gate and escort them in to the Nature Park.

**Campgrounds:** Remington Blevins reported there are 4 pedestals in the campgrounds that need replaced. Wires are broken at K11 and K12. The lotteries went well. The campgrounds are full. There are 5 on the call list.

**Racetrack:** Dale Bemiller shared that they will be drawing horses on Wednesday for our races on Sunday and Monday. The Weiner Dog Race will be immediately after the harness race on Monday night. So far there are 15 wiener dogs registered for the race. He has 2 sponsors so far for their races. The Mounties will be staged at the Racetrack, only the Mounties, not their families or friends. He needs signs that say ONLY the horse owners & the riders are permitted in, and that all others need to pay to get in. He is estimating that 2/3 of the track needs stone. Four loads have already been ordered. **Dale Hulit made the motion to spend up to \$4,000.00 for stone replacement. Matt Janisch seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

**Fair Book:** Pam Young reported so far there are 858 entries in open class and 802 in still projects. Scott Smith and Dale Hulit will put the painting up in the front lobby.

**Golf Carts:** Nothing at this time.

JFB: Nothing at this time

**By-Laws:** Nothing at this time.

**Sponsorships:** Christy Keith reported that so far, we have the following:

\$5,000.00 – Shelby Tube for the Rodeo

\$4,000.00 – Moto Cross

**Admissions:** Nick asked for some sort of IDs. Luke Grauer said riders will have wristbands, all others need to pay. Credit cards will be used on Tuesday night only. We need to look into getting some signage.

**Elections:** Christy read off the names of everyone who needs to run this year. If they don't already have a petition get one. She recommended getting more than the 10 required signatures to ensure that each signature is a current member of the Agricultural Society. Elections will take place on Friday afternoon of the fair.

**Grandstands:** Tom Craft stated that we will need everyone on board who is available.

Events: Tuesday Night – Concert

Wednesday Night – Rodeo, Shelby Tube is the sponsor, will feature a trick rider and mutton busting

Thursday Night – Truck Pull – Bill McFarland shared that he is still working on positions. Bellville guys offered to help. He is working on National Anthem singers for each event. Roller is hauled on a low-boy. He has pay loaders, 2 new skid loaders that only have 10 hours on them. Zac has one from Wellington & Hutch if we need them. Dale Hulit can bring tractor and disc.

Friday Night – Moto Cross – Luke Grauer said he has about \$4,000.00 in donations. He needs people to run the gates and flaggers.

Christy Keith will contact EMS & Fire for Friday and Saturday nights. Dale Bemiller asked if she would ask EMS to be there for the Harness Races.

**Parking:** Nick asked about having ropes & fence posts

**Antiques:** nothing at this time.

**Concessions:** Kathi Cutlip-Mills reported that Fairhaven Hall is full. If we have any additional vendors we will have to put them in the Youth Hall. We have 4 new food vendors (Black Willow, Port-a-Cook, Cheeky's, and an Asian food trailer). We will strive to bring additional types of food vendors in if space is available.

**Equine:** Marla Reynolds shared that they had received a donation for the arena on the hill. It will be closed in and will give the donor signage for recognition. Bill McFarland made the motion to replace the equine fence in the arena on the hill. Dave Grauer seconded the motion. Discussion followed. They will need new footing, probably about 200 feet, and bury pee gravel. The cost will be between \$3,000.00 and \$5,000.00. It needs to be done before the show in October. The motion was tabled until the August meeting.

During the fair, fence the area off with yellow rope. Dave G. will see to buying several rolls of the yellow rope but could use some storage boxes. Nick Fairchild has some storage boxes and will give Dave a dozen for storage. They need more sponsors for the shows.

**Raffles:** Dustin Moysi and his wife will sell the tickets or people can come to the office to buy them.

**Social Media:** Bill boards are up and advertising the fair. "The River" has started advertising the concert.

**Safety:** Fliers with the Richland Alert QR code on them and emergency numbers have been put up in all of the barns, given to each outside vendor and given to each camper. Kenny Neise shared that in the Sheriff's office there is a new "GO" button that will shut off all sounds on the grounds. They will be able to broadcast throughout the fair the weather, missing children and lock down instructions as well as any other types of emergencies. This program will be used for EMERGENCIES ONLY.

**Winter Storage:** Bill McFarland reported that Carol Toms and Kathi Cutlip-Mills will start taking contracts & payments and assigning storage locations in mid-September.

**Show Arena:** David Dick announced the old arena has a new roof and the breezeway between the new and old arenas should be finished this weekend. It is 14'6" tall.

He also shared the event insurance for the fair will be the same, but if we want to put \$50,000.00 insurance on the concert it will be \$2,000.00. **Sam McKown made the motion to pay up to \$2,000.00 for rain insurance for the concert. Nick Fairchild seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

**LS Judges Selection:** Nothing at this time.

**Kitchen Auxiliary:** Gene Esbshade thanked everyone who helped out with INC.

The cafeteria will be open for breakfast only during fair. Hours will be 7a.m. – 11 a.m. Carol is working on calling groups who have helped in previous years. There will be a smaller menu and not so much on the flat top. He has hired a group to do the Grandstand Kitchen.

**Grounds:** Dave Grauer shared that Shira Brothers offered to paint the Youth Hall. We may have to buy paint.

He needs help next week with spraying or if people can use a weed wacker. These will help to take down the weeds. The fence line is actually pretty good.

We have to have a work night to set up the Arts & Crafts building. The display boards and frames need to be assembled.

Tom & Jim will be assessing the damages to everything from INC tomorrow. So if you know of anything, let them know.

Dave G. will need help moving the wooden bleachers to the infield.

The driveway in the East parking lot really needs help as do some of the other areas. Use the asphalt leavings.

**Landscaping:** Colton Dull will be working this week and weekend will be working on the landscaping around Fairhaven Hall if anyone can help out.

- Lights need to be changed in the Para mutual area of the Grandstand as well as in other areas.
- Stuff needs to be taken off the wagon
- Someone needs to look at the North & South parking lot walk-thru gates are. The posts are raised up. All of the gates need to be checked and the rolling gates need greased.

- We have 16 or 17 blue barrels that need their bottoms cut off. Sam has a dozen barrels he can bring them in.
- Haven't heard anything from the door guys. We need to hold off until after fair.
- A group approached Dave about putting in another row of camp sites. The group would like permission to put them in. They think they can get enough money to accomplish this. And they would need to be according to all new health regulations. We would have to have a different type of license and the entire campgrounds would have to be brought up to current health regulations. This will have to be researched as any upgrades may very well put us in another category. The question would be if we create a new camping area can we still keep the old camp area as is.

#### **Old Business:**

- Kathi Cutlip-Mills asked for permissions to purchase date strips for the craft show yard signs. **Sam McKown made the motion to spend up to \$300.00 on the date strips for the craft show yard signs. Bill McFarland seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

#### **New Business:**

- Christy said that help is needed on Sunday to do the set-up for the tiger show.
- Fair Board members may need to help staff the ticket booths on Tuesday.
- Carol may have two retired gentlemen who would be willing to do ice runs. Dustin said he will have his side-by-side here and they can use it.
- Christy is recommending that we increase the Sheriff's pay. It has been \$32.00 for several years and they have requested it be raised to \$35.00 per hour. **Dale Hulit made a motion to increase the Sheriff's hourly pay during the fair to \$35.00 per hour. Sam McKown seconded the motion. Motion carried.**
- Mamie has requested new shirts for the cleaning crew and to please have a different color than orange. Because of the orange shirts that they currently have they are being called convicts which is not nice. **Kathi Cutlip-Mills made the motion to buy new shirts for the cleaning crew. Carol Toms seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

#### **Other**

- Matt had trouble with the grill in the Youth Hall. You cannot have a fan going in the kitchen. This causes all kinds of problems.
- Pam Young asked to have shuttles at the East Gate on Sunday & Monday as they are bringing their items into the Arts & Crafts building.
- Remington will get radios for the shuttles.
- Jim presented the idea of bidding on a 2007 Dodge that Richland County is selling via Deals.gov. It has a snow plow with it and we would be able to attach our salt spreader. **Matt Janisch made the motion to spend up to \$2,000.00 for the truck if we win the bid. Dave Grauer seconded the motion. Motion carried.**
- The beer garden will be under the grandstand where it was for Monster Truck.

- Kenny Neise shared that Phil needs to know what we need for power for the stage.
- Judy asked if they could have the wagon for the Honored Fair Royalty to go onto the track on Wednesday night.

**Bill McFarland made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m. Remington Blevins seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted  
Kathi Cutlip-Mills, Secretary