

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

The meeting was called to order by President Christy Keith at 5:34 p.m.

Members Present: President Christy Keith, V. President Tom Craft, Immediate Past President James Schaub II, David Dick, Dave Grauer, Gene Esbenschade, Bill McFarland, Dale Bemiller, Kathi Cutlip-Mills, Shirley Swihart and Lisa Roberts.

Guests Present: Carol Toms and Remington Blevins

Tom Craft reported that he has a bid for 4 new smoke detectors, \$560.00. They are a better type than we have.

Shirley Swihart shared that we have 2 checks that were returned: Dana Adkins - \$43.00 and Ryan Newsome - \$71.00.

Dave Dick shared that he had Kelly about insurance for the events at the fair. She said it would be the same as last year. We should increase the concert to \$50,000.00 which will run about \$2,000.00.

Dave Grauer asked if we ever got anything from the Monster Truck.

Dave also said this was the worst mess we have had from INC. There were pictures taken so we can share with their staff.

They ordered stone for the track. We needed a minimum of 4 loads at \$600.00 per load.

The new landscaping is coming along. The concrete was poured last week. The concrete blocks were moved in. Colton Dull is planning to put them down on Wednesday and Thursday.

Planning to have a work night on Wednesday to get things ready for the fair. Monday, July 28th, they will work on the one wash area.

The gates have been power coated.

There are 2 water leaks, but he thought we could wait to deal with them next year.

He contacted Bellville to see if we could use their bleachers again this year. They said "No" because they claim we damaged them. We didn't damage them. Dave thought their person damaged them when he unloaded them. He called Berry Linton, grounds director, at Ashland County and they are going to let us use them. He doesn't know if we will have to rent them or if we can borrow them at no charge. We will need 11 sets of bleachers.

James Schaub II stated that all of the lines were jetted by Keith. It was a good thing because there were a couple that were blocked.

August 1, 2025, the Fire Marshall will be here at 9:00 a.m. for an inspection.

The county has a 2007 Dodge Truck, ¾ ton with all aluminum deck. It comes with an 8' plow. They did not get what they wanted so it is going up for bid on gov.com. They are dropping the

minimum bid. He thinks we should bid on it. We can put salt spreader on it. It is a V-10. The floor boards are a little rusty but not bad. It goes back up for bid tomorrow.

Gene Esbenshade shared that the tents are lined up for the fair. We are getting 1 less because the beer garden is going under the Grand Stand.

Ice Boxes are coming in next Wednesday or Thursday. Carol has talked to a couple of retired men and thought they might be willing to do the ice. They will need something to deliver it in. Gene will ask Ag-Pro to provide one.

Dale Bemiller said there were 15 dogs signed up so far for the Weiner Dog Race. He has 2 sponsors for this event.

We will be staging the Mounties horses from Tuesday through Saturday in the race horse barns. The Mounties will need a place to camp. Only the Mounties will be camping no family members.

He had a call yesterday and there is someone who is interested in possibly renting an entire barn.

Kathi Cutlip-Mills reported that Fairhaven Hall is full. We are having some 4 new food concessions this year and in the future look, room permitting, to add additional food types. She has notified all concessions that they need to purchase additional week-passes prior to 4 p.m. the Friday before the fair opens.

Jim asked if we had heard anything from Cody. Christy talked to Phil and he is in the process of getting equipment and will give things to us. He's changing some things out, so we can leave Cody out of the mix. Kenny shared with Christy that he has ten 80' TVs @ \$250.00 each to put up. He plans to get donations for these so we will not be paying for them.

Dave G. brought up painting the Youth Hall and that he was talking to Pay Sirah. Pat offered to paint the Youth Hall as he has all of the equipment and everything that is needed. Dave said that he can get the paint as he already has 2 general sponsorships. \$1,000.00 and a \$5,000.00.

We have a \$2,500.00 donation form American Eagles for sponsorship of the golf carts. \$5,000.00 from Phillips for the Rodeo.

We have to maintain the Show Arena at 72 degrees for the safety of the equipment.

The freezer in the Youth Hall needs to be checked.

The hood grease filter in the Youth Hall needs cleaned badly! Mamie will clean them again.

Jim and Gene have been discussing the condition of the floors in the Youth Hall kitchen. Jim shared that the county just had a company clean and seal floors in some of their kitchen. The black that is on the tiles won't come out. Gene reported that the Auxiliary voted to have it done. They will be contacted to come out after fair.

The flat top in the Youth Hall also needs a good cleaning.

Tom reported that the garbage disposal in the Youth Hall has been replaced and works fine.

Inc.: Christy said that as a whole, it went well for us excluding all of the rain and standing water. There were problems with toilets and sinks.

Remington Blevins talked to Marty.

Dave G. talked to Larry & Nick.

We need to come up with a complete list detailing each replacement and repair, equipment that we have to rent and also the hours it takes to fix everything to its condition prior to their arrival. There was a lot of damage across the road in the “overflow parking.”

Remington talked with Marty and they were happy with everything that we have done for them. We need to get a list of all pros and cons together and meet with Marty and their operations people with an offer of what is needed.

We need to make sure we tell them that they need to plan in advance for the cleanup and restoring the grounds. Mamie stopped cleaning on Monday @ 8 a.m. All of her time cleaning the grounds should be billed to INC.

Shelby Smith was here for hours pulling people out of the mud.

Remington stated that we need to plan for the future and we need to do something with the lot across the street.

After the board meeting, we need to do a pros and cons for everything that happened. The track needs to be done ASAP.

There were 7500 people here at the fairgrounds this year. They had 50 amps where there wasn't 50 amps.

Someone drove in the upper track area.

Fire hydrant is damaged.

Matt Janisch met with United Fencing today. The equine committee got a donation for aluminum gates for the upper arena by the horse barn.

Bill McFarland made a motion to adjourn at 6:39 p.m. and Dale Bemiller seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathi Cutlip-Mills, Secretary