

**Richland County Agricultural Society  
Executive Board Meeting Minutes  
November 25, 2025**

**Members Present:** Christy Keith, President; Tom Craft, V. President; James E. Schaub II, Immediate Past President; David Dick; Dave Grauer; Gene Esbenshade; Bill McFarland, Dale Bemiller and Kathi Cutlip-Mills.

**Staff Present:** Shirley Swihart

**Guests Present:** Remington Blevins and Zac Tuttle

Tom Craft called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. President Christy Keith joined the meeting at 5:53 p.m.

Jim Schaub II shared that he has a table for our small meeting room.

David Dick reported that he received a proposed contract from INK. It is for 10 years. High points are: they will pay us \$50,000.00 per event and they will pay all utilities. We will pay for cleaning, including clean-up afterwards and the dumpsters. (Dumpsters will probably run \$5,000.00 and cleaning will vary.) They will purchase 3 portable bleachers and \$20,000.00 for additional electrical at the end of the grandstand and a waterline. They would be willing to split the cost of drainage in the infield. They are willing to rock Brown's parking lot across from the fairgrounds. There are other things they may be interested in doing, such as permanent fencing, permanent gun detector. Food would remain the same. We have not received any word on a second event. If they want more cameras, they will pay for them. They also want a guarantee that we will not raise any additional buildings.

- Our lease with the commissioners for the fairgrounds will expire in 2032.
- David talked to Brown and he has agreed to allow them to put gravel in the parking lot
- David shared that there is 40 acres of land for sale behind the trailer park, the corner of Lantz and Walker Lake. It will be ready to sell in May. The owner is currently looking to get \$250,000.00 for the property. A discussion followed and David will check into some things on this property.
- He shared that December is the month when the livestock area gets ramped up. He has talked to Judy Villard Overocker and she is hoping to have things to the board in January, judges.
- At this time, David does not know if Mike Lantz will continue on the Livestock Board. He may do one more year. David asked him to do the spreadsheet for the livestock sale and he has agreed to do so.

Shirley Swihart shared that she typed up a new treasure's report and it is available for the Board meeting tonight.

Kathi Cutlip-Mills reported that we are getting several interest forms submitted for the fair. They are not food interest forms but merchants. If they all want spots, we will have to look at something different to house them. The Youth Hall would not work if all of the interested merchants attend. The Concession Committee will work on other alternatives and get confirmed numbers of merchants as soon as possible. The contracts will be sent no later than February 1, 2026. Hopefully prior to that date.

- She also reported that the office has received several inquiries about a flea market. She has individuals who are willing to work on a committee for this. Not having one every month, but maybe 2 times per year. They are looking to have an "upscale" flea market on the same day as the spring craft show on April 25, 2026.

Bill McFarland reported that COTPC has disbanded. We will have to look at OFMA or Hardin. NTPA is more expensive. We are still locked in for 2 sleds for 2026.

- All of the buildings used for Winter Storage are full except the Antique Tractor Barn. We might be able to get 2 or 3 more cars in there depending on their size.

Christy Keith announced that Shirley Swihart has agreed to stay on as Treasurer and will work 2 days per week, more when needed. She is currently being paid \$3,000.00 per month and has agreed she would be willing to continue at that salary. **Dave Gauer made the motion to keep Shirley's salary the same. Jim Schaub II seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

- Christy brought up the electric contract fees and a discussion followed. **Bill McFarland made the motion to go with AEP for 24 months at \$0.108 per kilowatt. Jim Schaub II seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Cutlip-Mills  
Secretary