

Richland County Agricultural Society

Executive Board Meeting Minutes

January 27th 2026

Members Present: (P) Christy Keith, (VP) Tom Craft, Sadie Hoyt, Dave Grauer, Gene Espenshade, Remington Blevins, & Kathi Cutlip-Mills

Staff Present: Shiley Swihart

Guests: -

Meeting was called to order at 5:31pm by Christy Keith.

Dave Grauer reported that the skid loader from Ag-Pro was here and used during the storm to demo, the previous Monday he was here to check buildings and set temps to ensure we did not have any freezing. The Thermostat in the Arts and Crafts building was set high as well as Youth Hall after rentals. Tom and Dave have discussed the use of wifi thermostats to help monitor better. Dave also mentioned that Cornerstone donated some salt to the fairgrounds.

Jim Schaub arrived at 5:39pm

Dave mentioned that Rumpke had been by and dumped trash, Tom craft mentioned purchasing a snowblower for up around the buildings for future snows.

Tom Craft also mentioned there may be furnace issue in the Jr Fair Office

Remington Blevins noted he will not be around the following week for maintenance help.

Gene Esbenshade mentioned the flat top is being repaired and they will look at the steamer next in Fairhaven, the flat top was under \$1100 for repair.

Jim Schaub mentioned that the Youth Hall Bathrooms will be getting a new heating unit and he is pursuing quotes.

Dave Dick reported he has the Jr. Fair Coordinator job description to be voted on this evening during Sr. Fair meeting. Dave spoke about the last livestock meeting and spoke of the late entries that were within the time frame to appeal to come to fair. Dave Grauer mentioned that the Jr. Fair Coordinator aiding the Sr. Fair as well as Livestock Committee.

Shirley reported that the jr fair accounts are all now at Mechanics Bank, Shirley, Christy, and Tom all have access.

Dave Dick raised the question on how to pay for the judges during fair. Shirley said some money that had come from state was used to pay, livestock committee has helped pay also in the past. Shirley said in the past the state has sent money to be split up between ribbons, judges, and premiums. Dave asked the question if 4-H funds could be used towards this?

Zac Tuttle arrived at 6:09pm

It was noted to ask Andrea in the Sr. Fair meeting where the 4-H fee money goes, and what it is used for.

The pullet order has been taken care of for this year so that kids do not miss the deadline.

Kathi Mills reported that they are still getting new vendor requests. Some are requesting two spaces. There is a small issue with the online request form that Kathi will be taking up with JPB. Dave Dick forwarded her the contact info for them. Kathi stated they are still waiting on safety forms to be verified. She stated she has a interest in a donor for the Flea Market in the fall and asked that we set aside funds for advertising. Dave Dick raised the question why we are restricting food vendors if we have the electric this year, with all the upgrades that we have done? Kathi replied with keeping a variety, but the question was raised if they want to come and pay their fees it should not matter. Kathi also responded with trying to keep them spread out. Final question was asked if the committee was looking to bring in more food vendors.

Christy Keith spoke about some old and new business we will be discussing during Sr. Fair with grounds acts, the stipend for Pam, Lee, Shirley, and Lisa.

Tom would like to add the heating unit that needs to be replaced to be added to new business for the meeting.

Dave Grauer said they have been talking about getting some small containers for putting tables and chairs in for rentals that do not require all of them to keep up out of the way. He also stated he has not heard from the painter for Youth Hall.

At 6:29pm Christy adjourned the meeting.

Submitted by Sadie Hoyt