

Mercer County Fair Association

1400 Hwy 49 N #103

Beulah, ND 58523

MEETING MINUTES

Beulah Civic Center

April 17, 2018

2018 Fair Board Directors

Lenny Tesky, President

Corey Voegele, Vice President

Donna Buchmann, Treasurer

Craig Askim, Secretary

Rick Bauman

Laura Benz

Judy Brunmeier

Renee Carlson

Vern Muscha

Gloria Olheiser

Chris Renner

Shanan Weigum

Stacy Welk

The meeting was called to order by President Lenny Tesky at 7:02 p.m.

Members Present: Rick Bauman, Laura Benz, Judy Brunmeier, Donna Buchmann, Renee Carlson, Vern Muscha, Gloria Olheiser, Lenny Tesky, Stacy Welk

Guest Present: Dwight Berger

Members Absent: Chris Renner, Corey Voegele, Shanan Weigum

Secretary's Report: Craig read the minutes from the March 20 meeting. Two corrections were made. Tripwire is booked at another location for Friday night of the fair and Donna will send food vendor letters not commercial booth vendor letters. The minutes were approved with the corrections.

Treasurer's Report was given by Donna. With no transactions since the previous meeting, the balance as of April 17, 2018, was unchanged at \$136,667.38. Stacy moved to accept the report. Gloria seconded. Motion carried.

Correspondence: Donna received a letter from the Dickinson liquor distributor who serves the fair. Ice bags will be six pounds rather than five, and there will be an increase of \$.25 per bag for 20-pound bags of ice.

Old Business:

- **Food Vendors** – Donna said food vendor letters have been sent. Vendors have until May 1 to commit.
- **Parade** - Renee will work on parade details in the next few weeks.
- **Entertainment** - Laura said entertainment work was rough this month as she tried to find a headliner for Saturday. Working with two booking agents was helpful. We can get Restless Heart for \$14,850 plus hotel rooms. She is still working on an opening act and is in contact with a group called Forgotten Highway for around \$1,200 plus hotel rooms. Gloria moved to hire Restless Heart as the headliner Saturday night. Vern seconded. Motion carried.

There is still about \$8,600 in the entertainment budget. She talked to Freddie Pérez for entertainment during the fair Friday, Saturday, and Sunday for around \$2,000. Gloria moved to hire him for three days at the fair. Stacy seconded. Motion carried.

- **Fairground Improvements** - Vern talked to MDU and electrical contractors about upgrades to the beef barn and will get an official estimate in the next two weeks. Work will hopefully be done in May. He is also in contact with construction companies for repair to the wash rack and hydrants and should have more information by the next meeting.
- **Quilt Show** - Lenny said he has not received a reply regarding a quilt show.

New Business:

- **Fair Schedule** – The schedule of events was reviewed. Premium book changes need to be submitted before, or at, the May 15 meeting. The books will be sent to print shortly after.
- **Farm Bureau Request** - A county Farm Bureau member asked Laura about having a booth for a car simulator demonstrating drunk driving. The board said the booth would cost \$120.
- **Livestock Awards** - Laura presented an idea that she saw at a fair in Arizona for livestock awards using a laser metal design. She was asked to get prices and report at the May meeting.
- **Commercial Booths** – Following discussion of many options for commercial vendor booth rentals, the board decided that due to set up and tear down conditions, to do the same as in past years.
- **Bingo** - Gloria said Heritage Park is interested in sponsoring bingo at the fair. The board suggested Sunday from 2-4 p.m. in the Public Works Building. Gloria will pursue this.
- **T-shirts** - Stacy said any board member wanting a new fair board t-shirt needs to let her know by the May meeting.
- **Fair Logo** - Gloria suggested having a fair logo. The board discussed having the public submit drawn pictures for display in the commercial booths and then have the public vote on their favorite. Action was tabled until the May meeting.
- **Pride of Dakota Booths** - Donna talked to Pride of Dakota regarding vendor booths. It is possible but the type of vendors desired needs to be determined and then Pride of Dakota would send letters. The board gave Donna approval to look into this further.
- **Transportation** - Rick was asked about providing transportation to the fairgrounds for people with walking issues. The board likes the idea but is not sure if it would be possible or who would operate it.

Next meeting: May 15, 2018, at 7 p.m. at the Beulah Civic Center.

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Submitted by:

Craig Askim,
CEA/Fair Board Secretary