

Mercer County Fair Association

PO Box 640, Beulah, ND 58523
www.mercercountyfair.com

2023 Fair Board Directors
Rick Bauman, President
Rick Skraba, Vice President
Jeff Klein, Treasurer
Craig Askim, Secretary
Billy Anvik
Valerie Bauman
Kathy Earnest
Mark Hafner
Duane Hopfauf
Roy Rasch
Rita Skraba
Tiffany Weigum
Cody Wiedrich

FAIR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Country Kettle, Beulah

April 24, 2024

The meeting was called to order by President Rick Bauman at 6 p.m.

Members Present: Billy Anvik, Craig Askim, Rick Bauman, Valerie Bauman, Kathy Earnest, Duane Hopfauf, Roy Rasch, Rick Skraba, Rita Skraba, Tiffany Weigum and Cody Wiedrich

Members Absent: Mark Hafner, Jeff Klein

Guests Present: Taryn Askim, Cora Smith and Brenda Weigum

Rick Bauman asked directors to change the agenda and allow Taryn Askim to be first on the agenda order. Rick S. moved to make the change. Billy seconded. Motion carried.

- **New Business: (moved to the top of the agenda):** Taryn Askim asked permission to allow her and her family to use the fair board tables, chairs and curtains for her graduation open house on May 26. Tiffany made a motion to allow her to use them. Val seconded the motion. Rita stated, in the future if the board is going to allow the curtains to be used by the general public a written contract and deposit needs to be developed because they are hard to find and replace. After discussion the motion passed. Taryn then extended an invitation to all directors to her graduation open house on May 26, starting at 4 p.m. at her house.

Secretary's Minutes –The secretary's report from the April 4 meeting, taken by Rita, was emailed. Rita moved to accept the report with one correction. Jeff Gooss was present at the meeting. Billy seconded the motion with the correction. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Billy gave a short treasurer's report in Jeff's absence. The checkbook showed a balance of roughly \$20,258.00, with around \$12,000 in expenses. No motion was taken because the report was not official.

Correspondence –Craig stated Deanne Gierke informed him that a few people who received the livestock sponsorship letter the board sent were confused about whether it was 4-H or open class. Tiffany talked to Deanne and stated in the letter there is nothing that has the 4-H name on it, and it clearly says it is for the open class livestock shows. Craig stated he did not feel this was an issue and can be explained if people call him, Tiffany or Rick. No action was taken.

Old Business:

- **Entertainment Update** – A few entertainment events need to be finalized. Donkey races were discussed at the 4-3-24 meeting but no final decision was made.

- **Old Business – Entertainment Update (continued)** A contract has been received for \$4,500 to do a show on Wednesday, July 10, of the Fair. Rita moved to sign the contract and hire them to do the donkey races on Wednesday night of the Fair. Rita seconded the motion. Motion carried. The Board has a contract for the Mark McKay Band to play Saturday night of the fair for \$5,500. Rick S. moved to accept the contract. Duane seconded. Motion carried.
- **Entertainment Line/ Rough Schedule -**
Wednesday, July 10
 9 a.m. – 4-H Static judging
 9:30 a.m. – Horse Show
 6 p.m. – Donkey Races
 9 p.m. – Moon Cats?
Thursday, July 11
 9:30 a.m. – 4-H Rabbit and Poultry Show
 5 p.m. – 4-H/Open Class Pet Show
 The Johnny Holm Band
Friday, July 12
 9 a.m. – 4-H/FFA Large Livestock Show
 1:30 p.m. – Open Class Rabbit and Poultry Show?
 5 p.m. – 4-H/FFA Premium Sale
 6 p.m. – Open Class Rabbit and Poultry show continues if not done by 5 p.m. before 4-H/FFA Premium sale
 Ranch Rodeo
 Ashley Wineland Band
Saturday, July 13
 9 a.m. – Open Class Large Livestock show
 10 a.m. – Parade
 Noon to 5 p.m. – Lawn Mower Rodeo, Mutton Busting, Backseat Driver Contest, other?
 Lizzy Hofer Band and Mark McKay Band

Cody and Rick S. agreed to be chairman of the lawn mower rodeo event.

- **Gate Passes** – were discussed. The Board felt they should offer a single adult and single student gate pass for the fair. Duane moved to set the adult single pass at \$35 and the student single event pass at \$25 that is good for all the days of the Fair. Rick S. seconded. Motion carried.
- **Motel Rooms** – Tiffany stated that the rooms have been reserved for entertainment and judges etc. for \$149 per night, at the Americinn in Beulah.
- **Born to Banner Recap** – A few board members were present for a short period of time for this event. The Board stated they paid the rental fee and things were cleaned up well.
- **FFA Kid's Day** - Cora Smith was present and stated the Beulah FFA Chapter will be hosting a kid's day livestock show-and-tell program on May 1, in the hoop barn at the fairgrounds. All directors are welcome to attend.
- **Fairground Improvements** – Rick B. stated they are scheduled to start cleaning up the fairgrounds and tearing down the old beer garden Saturday, April 27, in the morning. We received some pipe and metal sticks to be used from the area.

New Business

- **Parking** – Tiffany mailed a letter to North Dakota Six, who owns the property north of the fairgrounds to see if we can use it for parking during the Fair. No response has been received to date.
- **Open Class Pet Show** – Craig asked the Board about having an open class pet show. The Board stated they would be open to having one if he would take charge. Craig stated he would be willing to give it a try. If they have a show, prize money would have to be set. Rita moved to set the prize money at 1st place, \$50; 2nd place, \$25; and 3rd place, \$15. There will be three classes: dogs, cats and other. What species can be entered in the other division will need to be determined. Val seconded. Motion carried.
- **Open Class Rabbit and Poultry Show** – Sign up for this show will take place online this year. Kathy Earnest is willing to take charge of it, but will need help because she is new. Cora Smith will announce.
- **Fair Set-Up Night** – The Board set July 8, as Fair set-up night. Roy asked if there could be an agenda of what needs to be done and whom is in charge of each area. The Board stated they would work on it. The meal will be served at 6 p.m. Billy will take care of it.
- **Food/Commercial Vendors** – Rick B. stated we have all the food vendor booths filled. The Board has no one for the kitchen inside the civic center to date. Commercial vendor letters will be going out this week.
- **Sunday of the Fair was discussed.** – The open class point show will we happening but the Board will not charge gate admission that day. They will try to have a jam session and church service that morning.
- **Donna Buchmann's Tribute** – A plaque will be ordered. She will be the Grand Marshall of the parade. A small ceremony will be held Friday night of the Fair. More details need to be worked out. She will get a ride in the arena before the ranch rodeo on Friday night.
- **Advertising** is being lined up. The website is being designed. Tiffany will be meeting with them next week to get final details put together. She is working with United Printing from Bismarck to print sponsorship 5' x 7' banners for sponsors to place in their business.
- **Business from the Floor** – Rick S. stated he is a member of the Walleye Classic committee working on the wheel chair lift and contest. He asked the board if the Walleye Classic could use the misting machine if the weather gets hot. Rick B. moved to allow them to use them. Rita seconded. Motion carried.
- With no other business, Rita moved to adjourn the meeting. Roy seconded. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.
- **Next meeting date:** May 8, at 6 p.m., at Zap J and J Restaurant.

Submitted by:

Craig Askim,
CEA/Fair Board Secretary