

# Mercer County Fair Association

PO Box 640  
Beulah, ND 58523

## MEETING MINUTES

Beulah Civic Center

February 9, 2021

6:30 p.m.

### 2021 Fair Board Directors

Rick Bauman, President  
Vern Muscha, Vice President  
Liz Simpfenderfer, Treasurer  
Craig Askim, Secretary  
Jessica Beck  
Jessica Bauman  
Donna Buchmann  
Adrian Mittelsteadt  
Gloria Olheiser  
Allison Skraba  
Rick Skraba  
Rita Skraba,  
Tiffany Weigum

The meeting was called to order by President Rick Bauman at 6:30 p.m.

**Members Present:** Rick Bauman, Jessica Bauman, Jessica Beck, Donna Buchmann, Vern Muscha, Gloria Olheiser, Liz Simpfenderfer, Rick Skraba, Rita Skraba and Tiffany Weigum

**Members Absent:** Adrian Mittelsteadt, Allison Skraba

**Guests Present:** Rita Wright

**Secretary's Minutes** – All members stated they read the minutes that were emailed to them. Gloria moved to accept the report. Jessica Beck seconded. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report** – Liz reported the balance on hand as of February 9, 2021 was \$104,784.22. Discussed the uncleared checks from 2020. Tiffany will check into check #5334 for \$350 for the point show. Vern will check into check #5349 issued to Beulah FFA. Jessica Beck will look into check #5353 for \$250 issued to Zap Community Club. Tiffany moved to accept the report. Jessica Beck seconded. Motion carried.

**Correspondence:** None.

### Old Business:

- **Fairground Improvement** – Discussed as listed below:
  - Telephone post for rodeo and livestock arena
  - Having a small ticket booth made (Larry Lueck, BHS Ag Advisor) \$5,000
  - Welding on the wash rack
  - Electric outlets
  - Rodeo arena
  - Beef barn/show barn
  - Outside tie down area
  
- **Open static** – Jessica Bauman reported the ShoWorks program is outdated. To update to the 2020 version it would cost \$1,200 plus a yearly fee of \$350. This price is with four computers signed in. She emailed the company for more details and will report back at the next meeting.

## Old Business (continued):

- **Computers and Printers** – The board has one computer which the treasurer uses. Tiffany and Jessica Bauman stated it would be helpful if livestock and open static each had one. Tiffany mentioned a printer on site during the fair would also be beneficial. Jessica Bauman will research pricing for one computer and two printers and present at the next meeting. Vern suggested that we pay Tiffany for the use of her personal computer as done in the past. Options will be discussed at the next meeting when pricing is presented.
- **Exotic animal sale** – Rita Wright gave an expense update.
  - Vet – (from McClusky) \$150 per hour plus mileage estimated between \$1,000 - \$1,200
  - Auctioneers – estimated between \$800 - \$1,000
  - Brand Inspection – Unknown cost at this time
  - Advertising – getting sponsors and one newspaper ad was \$350
  - Vendor/Craft Fair – nothing discussed

Rick spoke with Heritage Insurance and they informed him that the Mercer County Fair's policy will not cover the sale and the manager of the exotic animal sale needs to obtain their own insurance. Rita will call Heritage and get a quote. The board decided they need a clearer picture of expenses. Rita will gather the information and report back at the March meeting.

- **Entertainment Report:**

**Unleashed** – scheduled for Thursday night. Rita has a signed contract for \$4,500 plus accommodations for one room, one night and no deposit.

**Brianna Helbing** – scheduled for Friday night. Rita has a signed contract for \$2,400 with a \$500 deposit, plus water, soda and a warm meal. No other accommodations. Check will be voided if cancelled due to COVID-19 only.

**32 Below** – scheduled for Saturday night. The contract is \$5,000 with a \$1,500 deposit and accommodations of three double rooms with queen beds for one night along with other suggested items of water, cooler and ice, case of Coors Light and a hot meal. Jessica will submit the contract to Rick and Vern to review.

**Iron Will** – scheduled for Thursday and Friday. Rita has signed contract for \$1,850 with no deposit plus accommodations of one room for two nights.

**Bull-A-Rama** – has been \$7,800 with one bull roper, \$2,600 is for prizes. Discussion on needing a second bull roper which would increase the cost by \$350. This year fees would be \$8,150.

**Ranch Rodeo** – scheduled for Sunday from 1-4 p.m. Cost is \$3,500.

**Freckle Farm** – petting zoo, pony rides and turkey races. Will only come for three or four days. Turkey races will run four times a day at \$500 per day. Pony rides and petting zoo is \$1,000 per day. Randy charges \$8 per rider and \$8 per photo, however, if the board would pay \$1,000 they would not charge for rides. They would also need 25 bales of shavings, estimated cost \$250. Four-day estimate is \$6,000 plus shavings at \$250 = \$6,250 or \$7,250 for no fee pony rides. Three-day estimate is \$4,500 plus shavings at \$250 = \$4,750 or \$5,750 for no fee pony rides. Tiffany motioned for the three-day option with paying the additional \$1,000 for free pony rides. Gloria seconded. Motion carried.

**Messy Mania** – scheduled for Friday and Saturday. Cost is \$2,300. Tiffany moved to approve the contract. Gloria seconded. Motion carried.

## Old Business (continued):

**Gateway to Science** – usually has been from 1-8 p.m. but would like to change the hours to 4-8 p.m. for the two days because the attendance was low between 1-4 p.m. Rates are hour based and estimated between \$800 - \$1,000. Gloria moved to approve the contract. Tiffany seconded. Motion carried.

The entertainment committee stated they would meet and review time slots to see where they are at. There are other events that will not cost a lot of money that can be used as fillers. Rick B. stated someone from the virtual conference in Sioux Falls from Heartland had a lot of fillers. He will find out his information and contact him.

Total band expenses (excluding accommodations) is \$11,900, total other entertainment (excluding accommodations) is \$24,050, for a total of \$35,950.

- **New Mailing Address:** PO Box 640, Beulah, ND 58523
- **Bylaw Review** – Rick read an email from Jessica Binder. Board decided to table item.
- **Public Relations Committee Report** – intended to reach out to Mercer County towns, park boards and council representatives to talk about the fair but the committee has not met yet, so report was tabled.

## New Business:

- **West River Judging Contest** is expecting 340 plus kids. Board has sponsored in the past. Donna moved to sponsor \$1,000. Jessica Beck seconded. Motion carried.
- **Schedule of Events Draft and Premium Book Review** – the subcommittee is working on these and will meet again before the next meeting in March. Liz will contact Extension to see if Ag Communications can print the book in color, the cost, etc.
- **Website** – Gloria has been updating the Mercer County Fair website and has added all the minutes.
- **Livestock Judges** – Tiffany has been in contact with the following:
  - Dairy Cattle & Goats – Brandy Doll for Saturday, \$250.
  - Beef – Ryan Rasch, a national judge who will bring a lot of new interest into the livestock show. He resides in Texas and asked for \$900 to cover his travel expenses in addition to \$700 for judging, for a total of \$1,600.
  - Poultry and Rabbit – Dennis Erickson, \$100 plus mileage.
  - Junior Point Show judge for Sunday – Justin Ringkob, \$250 plus mileage, and accommodations of one room and one meal for Saturday night.Liz moved to accept all judges. Rick S. seconded. Motion carried.
- **Buzzard Bait Bucking Ponies** – Rick B. mentioned them as a stand-alone event. They supply their own insurance, etc. Further discussion was tabled till next meeting.

**Old Business (continued):**

**Other Business:** None

**Next meeting:** March 10, 2021 at 5 p.m. at the Beulah Chamber office. Rick S. moved to adjourn the meeting. Jessica Bauman seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Submitted by: Liz Simpfenderfer