

# Mercer County Fair Association

PO Box 640  
Beulah, ND 58523

## MEETING MINUTES

Beulah Civic Center

March 10, 2021

5 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  
Rick Skraba  
Rita Skraba  
Tiffany Weigum

The meeting was called to order by President Rick Bauman at 5:11 p.m.

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

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

**Guests Present:** Paul and Josey Johnson, Stef Scherbenske, Jeff Klein

**Secretary's Minutes** – All members stated they read the minutes that were emailed to them. Gloria moved to accept the report with correction of Justin Ringkob would cost \$250 plus mileage which will be \$350 plus a motel room for one night. Liz seconded with corrections. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report** – Liz reported the balance on hand as of March 10, 2021 was \$149,097.93. Tiffany moved to accept the report. Gloria seconded. Motion carried.

**Correspondence:** Craig gave a short recap on the West River Judging Contest held on February 20, 2021.

### Old Business:

- **Fair Board Director's Resignation** – Craig received a text message from Allison Skraba stating her wishes to resign. Gloria moved to accept the resignation. Jessica Bauman seconded. Motion carried.
- **Kids Rodeo** – Rick B. was in attendance of the Bust'n Mini Broncs & Bulls event held in Dickinson on February 21 featuring K-8 Bucking Bulls and Buzzard Bait Bucking Ponies. He gave an overview on vendors and organizers. The cost to host this type of event would be about \$4,500 to \$5,000. He checked into insurance for this event and the board would be covered. Gloria moved to have Buzzard Bait Bucking Ponies and K-8 Bucking Bulls on June 19, 2021. Liz seconded. Motion carried.
- **Computers, Printers and Software** – Jessica Bauman presented information on computer devices, prices and ShoWorks software for better record keeping and entries for the open class shows. Vern moved to purchase one HP 2500 G7 notebook, one HP Laserjet Pro M29 wireless printer, two 10" Windows 10 Fusion5 Ultra Slim Tablet PC and one toner cartridge for a total of \$2,540 plus \$350 per year upgrade fee. Rick seconded. Motion carried.

## Old Business (continued):

- **Gate/Vendor fees** – Discussed what the **daily gate fee and family pass rate** should be for the upcoming fair. Gloria stated the cost of entertainment, etc. has increased. Tiffany moved to increase the daily gate fee from \$7 to \$9, and family passes for four-days for parents and their children under 18, from \$50 to \$75, with kids under six being free of charge. Gloria Seconded. Motion carried. Rick S. moved to set the **food vendor fees** at \$400 for all the days of the fair. The kitchen vendor was \$200 and the outdoor food vendors were \$300. Gloria seconded. Motion carried. Tiffany moved to set the fee for **commercial vendors located on the east side of the civic center** at \$100 for the four days of the fair. Rick S. seconded. Motion carried. Discussion was held on ways to have people walk through the civic center to enter the fairgrounds.
- **Livestock Committee** – Tiffany stated all **judges** have signed contracts that plan to judge the fair. She discussed changes in the livestock show and pre-registration will be required. Participation is estimated to increase with Ryan Rasch, a national top-rated judge, judging the open class on Saturday. Stef Scherbenske approached the board with concerns about the **size of the open class livestock show** if the number of entries increases greatly from having a national judge. She stated the fairgrounds has limited space and won't have enough room to hold the event if it is too large. Josey Johnson reported she is helping Tiffany with the open class livestock show. She is working on bringing in behind the ring **merchandise vendors** and mapping out the fairgrounds to see what the maximum capacity of animals could be stalled on the fairgrounds. The board discussed these concerns at length and are developing a plan. Liz asked Steph to email any questions and concerns to her and they will be discussed at the next meeting. Tiffany moved to open the livestock **open class registration on May 1** and close it on June 1. Cost/entry fee will be \$40 per animal for the first two animals and \$20 for each additional animal. The fee will provide the exhibitor the opportunity to show in the Saturday and Sunday shows, provide bedding, a meal (day to be determined) and a t-shirt. Rita seconded. Motion carried.
- **Exotic animal sale** – Rita Wright presented a written letter discussing the auction details and asked about renting the building, panels, etc. and the use of the fairgrounds May 14 and 15, 2021 for a rental fee of \$300 per day. She was present at the meeting to address any questions. Vern had previously gathered information from people involved with other alternative auctions across the state. He stated the Jamestown event involved 25 helpers at 40 to 80 hours of work and they charged \$1,000 to rent the buildings. Other items like insurance, NSF checks, hidden costs, damages to panels/equipment were discussed by the board. **Vern moved** to rent the Mercer County Fairgrounds to Rita Wright for the alternative livestock sale at \$1,000 per day with a \$1,000 deposit. The deposit will be held until after the sale. Once all things are cleaned up and panels and all other equipment are returned in good working order, the deposit will be returned. Rita must provide a copy of insurance and get permission from the City of Beulah for the use of their barn. Rick S. seconded. **Tiffany moved** to amend the motion by changing the rental fee to \$300 per day with a \$1,000 deposit with the rest of the motion remaining the same. Rick S. seconded the amended motion.

## **Old Business (continued):**

**Exotic animal sale (cont.) Vern moved** to amend the motion made by Tiffany to change the deposit to \$1,500 with the rest of the motion remaining the same. Tiffany seconded the motion. Vote was taken and passed with the deposit being \$1,500. Vote was taken and passed on the amended motion for the rental fee of \$300 per day instead of \$1,000. Vote was taken and passed on the original motion to rent the fairgrounds to Rita Wright to hold an alternative livestock sale on May 14 and 15 on the Mercer County Fairgrounds with a rental rate of \$300 per day with a deposit of \$1,500. Rita will provide proof of insurance to the board before the event and must have approval from the City of Beulah to host the event and use their barn. Motion carried.

- **Website update:** – Gloria removed the old open class registration information from the website.

## **New Business:**

- **Schedule of Events/Premium Books** – have been reviewed. All board members must have all contracts and/or information turned in by the April meeting for publishing.
- **New Board Director Position** – Jeff Klein, Hazen expressed interest in the vacant position. Donna moved to instate Jeff to fill the open seat left by Allison Skraba, for the remainder of the term expiring in 2022. Liz seconded. Motion carried.
- **Meetings and agenda** – Discussion was held about the upcoming lengthy meetings and many agenda items to be discussed before the 2021 fair.

**Other Business:** None

**Next meeting:** March 30, 2021 at 6 p.m. at the Beulah Civic Center. Gloria. moved to adjourn the meeting. Vern seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Submitted by: Craig Askim, CEA/Fair Board Secretary