

Mercer County Fair Association

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

2022 Fair Board Directors
Rick Bauman, President
Rick Skraba, Vice President
Jeff Klein, Treasurer
Craig Askim, Secretary
Valerie Bauman
Donna Buchmann
Aaron Kasper
Vern Muscha
Chandler Sailer
Rita Skraba
Tiffany Weigum

REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

Beulah Civic Center

October 26, 2021

The reorganizational meeting was called to order by President Rick Bauman at 6:54 p.m.

Members Present: Craig Askim, Rick Bauman, Donna Buchmann, Aaron Kasper, Jeff Klein, Vern Muscha, Liz Simpfinderfer, Rick Skraba, Rita Skraba, Tiffany Weigum

Members Absent: Chandler Sailer

Guests Present: Marla Klein and Travis Frey

Secretary's Minutes - Craig read the minutes from the October 12, 2021 meeting. One correction was noted. Gene Wolf was not present at the meeting. Rita moved to accept the minutes with the correction. Jeff Seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Liz reported the balance on hand as of October 26, 2021 was \$80,155.01. Donna moved to accept the report. Tiffany seconded. Motion carried.

Correspondence: Rick B. read a letter from North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund (NDIFR) stating the fair board was not at fault for the 4-wheeler accident that occurred during the 2021 fair.

Old Business:

- **Outstanding bills** – Vern stated Jesster's Catering paid the rental of the Beulah Civic Center kitchen. She stated she was not aware of a problem with the cleanliness of the stove. Rick will talk with city council member, Kathy Kelsch to finalize.
- **Sponsorship**– Heritage Insurance still owes the board \$500 for sponsorship. There was a misunderstanding on the amount, what it was for and what it all covered. The board is working on getting this cleared up.
- **Static judges** – Board held a discussion as to what to pay open class static judges that had judged at the 2021 fair. Some judges are willing to donate their time, others would like payment. Vern motioned starting in 2022, that open class static judges be offered \$40 plus mileage. Rita seconded. Motion carried. Rita stated with the board agreeing, to offer the two unpaid 2021 open class static judges a flat fee of \$50. All other open class judges in the livestock areas are on a year to year negotiable contract.

Old Business: (Continued):

- **Heartland Association of Fairs, Festivals and Events Convention** – will be held at Aberdeen, S.D. on November 18-20, Rick B., Rita and Donna will attend. Any other members wishing to attend need to let Rick B. know by Friday, October 29. Valerie is the only other board member expressing interest at this time.
- **North Dakota State Fair Annual Meeting** – will be held at the N.D. State fairgrounds in the FFA Hall on November 16 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Rita and Donna will represent the Mercer County Fair Board and NDSU Extension Mercer County. Gary Knell of Pick City was voted to represent the Mercer County Board of Commissioners.
- **Hog barn** – Vern contacted Pride Contracting regarding the concrete pour to finish the hog barn floor. The estimate came in at \$7,000 - \$9,000. Vern contacted other contractors but has not received a return call at this time. Rick B. stated he will contact a contractor from Halliday. The board will continue working on this and update at future meetings.
- **Boat storage** – Vern reported a few boats are in the storage building. He is putting together a written contract and asking for proof of insurance. Payment of \$125 made to Mercer County Fair Board.
- **Tent repair** – still in progress.

New Business:

- **2022 committees** – Members are to review the list of committees and report back at the November meeting what committees they would like to be on and what changes need to be made.
- **Entertainment budget** – Jeff moved to set the 2022 entertainment budget at \$35,000. Donna seconded. Motion carried.
- **Fair dates** – have been set for July 14-17, 2022. These dates will be given to the carnival and vendors at the Heartland Convention.
- **Sound system** – Jeff presented an estimate of \$9,950 for a sound system to be placed in the barn area. The company came onsite and measured the area. The bid includes eight speakers to be placed on the west wall, two larger speakers for the outside of the southeast and northwest corner of the building, mix amp, digital hand-held microphone, 6 ft. wired microphone, all the cable, power conditioner and storage rack. The company would like a response by November 1, 2021 because the cost of this type of equipment will increase. Jeff stated that the board could reduce the cost if they provide some labor, but is not sure what amount it would be reduced to. Discussion was held. Rita moved to proceed with getting more information on what amount would be saved if the board provided labor, if the deadline could be moved to November 9, and to also look into other companies for estimates. Jeff seconded. Motion carried with a vote of 10 to 1 with Vern voting no. Jeff will continue working on this and provide information as soon as possible.

New Business: (Continued):

- **Website and email** – with the vacancy of Gloria, Vern stated the board will need someone to maintain the fair website and manage the emails. Val stated she would be willing to look into this.
- **Payment for work** – Tiffany approached the board about paying Marla Klein and Dylan Weigum for their extraordinary work they did at the fair setting up the fair grounds. Tiffany estimated they put in over 40 hours of work over the week of the fair. Rita moved to give Marla and Dylan \$200 each for their services. Liz seconded. Motion carried.
- **Election of 2022 Mercer County Officers:**
 - President Rick Bauman asked for nominations for the office of **President**. Rita Skraba nominated Rick Bauman. With no other nominations, Donna Buchmann moved to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Rick Bauman. Jeff Klein seconded. Motion carried.
 - Rick B. called for nominations for the office of **Vice President**. Rita Skraba nominated Rick Skraba. Liz Simpfenderfer nominated Vern Muscha. A written ballot was taken and counted by Craig Askim and Marla Klein. A vote of seven to four was recorded. Rick Skraba was elected Vice President.
 - Rick B. called for nominations for the office of **Treasurer**. Rita Skraba nominated Jeff Klein. With no other nominations, Rita moved to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Jeff Klein. Donna Buchmann seconded. Motion carried.
 - **Secretary:** Craig Askim, ex-officio by county commissioners.

Other Business: None

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 9, 2021 at 5:30 p.m., at the Beulah Civic Center

Rita made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jeff seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Submitted by:

Craig Askim,
CEA/Fair Board Secretary