

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
Liz Simpfenderfer
Rita Skraba
Tiffany Weigum

MEETING MINUTES

Country Kettle
March 9, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Rick Bauman at 5:31 p.m.

Members Present: Craig Askim, Rick Bauman, Val Bauman, Aaron Kasper, Jeff Klein, Vern Muscha, Chandler Sailer

Members Absent: Liz Simpfenderfer, Donna Buchmann, Tiffany Weigum, Vern Muscha

Guests Present: Marla Klein, Tracy Siemieniewski, Dawn Sailer

Secretary's Minutes – Minutes from the February 16 meeting were read by Craig. There were two corrections. Rita Skraba was listed twice for members absent. It should have read Rick and Rita Skraba were absent. Under old business it stated Don Fafleur wasn't comfortable doing the audit for the fair board. It should have stated Don didn't feel comfortable doing the audit because he didn't have all the necessary documentation at this time to complete it. Rita moved to accept the report with corrections. Jeff seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report –Jeff Klein presented the treasurer's report. The balance on hand for February was \$79,160.74. The balance on hand as of March 9 is \$71,598.95. Everything matches the bank statements now. Rita moved to accept treasurer's report. Val seconded. Motion carried.

Correspondence: None

Old Business:

- **Sponsorship Update** –Rick B. stated he and Rick S. were in Mandan on March 9 and gave sponsorship bulletins to many businesses. Chandler covered Golden Valley and Zap. Aaron worked on main street in Beulah. Rick B. covered many businesses in Beulah and a few in Hazen. Jeff went to four places in Hazen and a few in Stanton. Many businesses stated they will sponsor at some level.
- **Livestock Show Boxes and Update** – Rick B. presented a list of livestock winners from the 2021 open class show that did not receive their show boxes. Tiffany tried to contact the manufacturer sales representative many times with no luck. Rick B. stated this problem needs to be resolved because the fair board image is on the line. Tiffany told Rick B. that \$3,500 is still available to pay for these show boxes. The board gave Rick B. approval to look into this and do whatever it takes to get these ordered from wherever he needs to so we can get the winners their show boxes. Rick B. stated the rabbit and poultry show open class judges are in place for a cost of \$150 plus mileage. He said since we have all of the open class large and small animal judges in place we should advertise on social media so we can encourage more people to show livestock at the Mercer County Fair.

Old Business (Continued):

- **West River Judging Contest Recap** - Craig gave a short overview of the West River Judging contest held February 26 in Beulah. There were 375 participants in four different contests. He thanked the board for the sponsorship and thanked the board members that helped with the contest.
- **Entertainment** - Rick B. gave a report on the entertainment and costs of the acts that are booked for the 2022 fair. The board still needs entertainment for Sunday. The petting zoo and Gateway to Science needs to get booked. Lights and sound are needed for the band Saturday night. Total cost of entertainment so far is about \$32,000. Rick B. talked to Brandon from Thomas Carnival. He gave a verbal agreement they will be at the Mercer County Fair.
- **Liz Simpenderfer Resignation** - The board discussed Liz's status on the board. She has not attended a meeting since the annual meeting. Vern stated to Rick B. that Liz no longer wants to be a member of the board. Rita moved to honor Liz's wishes and accept her verbal resignation as a board member. Val seconded. Motion carried.
- **Vendor Letters** - Rick B. said Donna sent the forms and paperwork needed for gaming permits to Jeff. Donna is drafting a letter to send to commercial and food vendors but needs to know prices for outside vendors and gate admission. The prices were set at the last meeting at \$400 for food vendors and \$125 for commercial booths, plus each vendor will get two daily gate passes. The board received a request for an outside vendor space. Rick S. moved to charge outside vendors \$250 per 1,600 square feet. Chandler seconded. Motion carried. Rick will get the information to Donna so letters can be sent.
- **Admission** - Daily gate and family pass prices for the 2022 fair were discussed. Rick S. moved to set daily gate admission prices as follows: Adults ages 18-60, \$10; ages 6-17, \$8; ages five and under, free and Sunday will be "Senior Day", ages 60 and older, \$8. Family passes will remain the same at \$75. Camping sites will be \$50 for the four days of the fair. Aaron seconded this motion. Motion carried.
- **City of Beulah Letter to the Board** - The board discussed the letter Rick B. received from the City of Beulah in regard to the rental fee the city wants to charge the fair board for the use of the civic center during the fair. The board will draft a letter requesting to reach an agreement with the city and request to be on an upcoming city council meeting. The question is, if the city wants to charge for the use of the civic center during the fair, should the fair board charge the city for the use of the fair board barns where the city stores their trucks etc. during the year? Rita moved to draft a letter to the City of Beulah expressing their concerns. Rick S. seconded. Motion carried.

New Business:

- **New Board Members** – Rick B. stated Tracy Siemieniewski and Dawn Sailer have expressed interest in being members on the fair board. Rick S. moved to accept Tracy Siemieniewski and Dawn Sailer as members to the Mercer County Fair Board. Tracy will serve the remaining two-year term of Liz Simpender and Dawn will serve the vacant one-year seat on the board. Jeff seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 30, 2022, Bee's Café, Hazen at 5:30 p.m. No other business. Rita made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chandler seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Submitted by: Craig Askim, CEA/Fair Board Secretary