

# 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  
Dawn Sailer  
Tracy Siemieniewski  
Rita Skraba  
Tiffany Weigum

## MEETING MINUTES

Bee's Café, Hazen  
March 30, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Rick Bauman at 5:34 p.m.

**Members Present:** Craig Askim, Rick Bauman, Val Bauman, Donna Buchmann, Aaron Kasper, Jeff Klein, Vern Muscha, Tracy Siemieniewski, Rick Skraba, Rita Skraba, Tiffany Weigum

**Members Absent:** Chandler Sailer, Dawn Sailer

**Guests Present:** Travis Frey, Duane Hopfauf, Marla Klein, Kandie Lindemann, Brenda Weigum, Shannan Weigum

**Secretary's Minutes** – Rick S. moved to accept the minutes as emailed from the March 9 meeting with these corrections. Vern Muscha was listed as not present. He was present for the meeting by phone. Rick S. and Rita S. were not listed as present. Tracy Siemieniewski was voted in as a member but her term is a one-year unexpired term instead of a two-year term. She replaced Liz Simpfenderfer on the board. Donna moved to accept the report with corrections. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report** –Jeff reported the balance on hand as of March 30 is \$73,440.86. Rita S. moved to accept the treasurer's report. Tiffany seconded. Motion carried.

**Correspondence:** Craig submitted the 2022 IFFE dues invoice and an application for the North Dakota Surplus purchase options to Jeff. Rick B. read a thank you letter from NDSU Extension Mercer County for the donation of \$1,000 for West River Judging.

Rick Bauman received a request from Brett at Heritage insurance wanting to hold a showmanship clinic on the fairground sometime in May. Tiffany moved to allow them to do so. Jeff seconded. Motion carried. The board stated Brett would work with Rick to set a date and time.

Kandie Lindemann gave a short report on the co-op BBQ. She wants to have it Saturday of the fair starting at 5 p.m. CT, out of the Civic Center again, and would like the board to provide music or entertainment. The board said they have Duane Hopfauf with Breakaway Music hired to DJ. He can play old-time music and country. Kandie informed the board she would like to change the menu to shredded beef to avoid using grills.

### 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.

## Old Business (Continued):

- **Sponsorship Drive** – To date we have about \$6,000 with many other businesses stating they will sponsor something. The deadline to turn in sponsorship money is April 21. The board gave approval for the Beulah Beacon to starting asking for their ad sponsorships.
- **Vendor/Food Letters Update** – Donna presented the vendor and food letters. The food vendors will be the same as last year except Kimi's catering will also have a food truck. We are still looking for someone to have the kitchen in the civic center but the rental fee may be different because of what the city may charge us to use it. Jeff K. will mail the letters later this week.
- **Beer Garden** – Rick S. stated the ice and beer trailer are ordered. A letter requesting help from the county fire departments was read to the board. The board approved the letter. Letters will be mailed this week requesting feedback by April 25. Board will make a schedule once feedback is received. Rick S. will see if he can get a pallet of water from Farm Credit Services and Bronson's.
- **Audit update** – Jeff K. and Craig met with Don LaFleur from Morton County on March 18. Don toured the fairgrounds and went over the computer information with Jeff. Don will conduct the audit review sometime after April 18. Jeff K. said Don made suggestions of handling money. He said two people should count the money and be present at the bank when deposits are made.
- **Livestock Show Boxes and Update for 2021 Fair** – Tiffany gave an update on the show boxes that were to be given to winners of the showmanship livestock contests. Tiffany said she has tried many times to reach the distributor for the boxes with no answer. She moved to pay each winner \$500 instead of giving them show boxes. She still has \$3,500 to cover these costs and is looking for an additional \$500 from the board because she had eight winners. Rick S. moved to pay the winners \$500 instead of a show box to clear the fair board from this issue. Aaron seconded. Motion carried.
- **Committee Updates** –
  - **Static Division** – Rita gave a report on the static division. She asked the board to move the static division to the civic center, increase the premium payouts and have a grand prize winner. She will report back at the April 13 meeting with suggested payout amounts. She is working with a lady to do a spinning wheel demo on Friday and Saturday of the fair. She is also working with the quilters. She asked the board to give gate passes to these people. The board agreed.
  - **Gateway to Science** – Vern stated the Gateway to Science will only come for one day of the fair for \$550. The board asked Vern to book it from 4 – 8 p.m. Saturday night of the fair.
  - **Petting Zoo** – Dennis Erickson will bring his petting zoo Friday from noon to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 11-7 p.m. for \$1,750, plus one double motel room. Vern moved to book the petting zoo. Rick S. seconded. Motion carried.
  - **DJ** – Duane Hopfauf from Breakaway music is willing to work with the board to DJ music whenever needed. The board stated they will work with Duane and come up with times at the April 13 meeting. He will provide music on Saturday during the co-op meal for sure.
  - **Lights and Sound** – Tiffany moved to hire Dean Clott from Minot, to provide lights and sound for the Saturday night bands. Rick S. seconded. Motion carried.

## Old Business (Continued):

- **Sunday Entertainment** – The board discussed options for Sunday afternoon entertainment. Some options are: ATV Show, Corn Hole Tournament, Jack-pot Barrel Racing and Little Kids Rodeo. After discussion Rita moved to book the Buzzard Bait Bucking Ponies and K-8 Bucking Bulls for Sunday afternoon of the fair starting at 1 p.m. Tracy seconded. Motion carried. Rick B. will report back at the April 13 meeting.
- **Western Edge Bull Riding** – Rita moved to approve Western Edge Bull Riding's written contract for Saturday night of the fair for \$9,350. Jeff K. seconded. Motion carried on a vote of nine to one with Vern voting against the motion.

## New Business:

- **Avian Influenza (bird flu)** – Craig informed the board of the Avian Influenza (bird flu) issue in poultry in the state and how that could affect the poultry shows at the 2022 fair. The poultry show may have to be canceled.
- **Rabbit Show** – Jeff suggested adding a third rabbit ARBA show to the fair. The board asked Jeff to get more information and report back at the April 13 meeting.
- **Program Schedule** – A schedule that was drafted and reviewed by the subcommittee of Rick B., Tiffany and Craig was given to board members. Board members are asked to review the schedule and give input at the next meeting. The final approval deadline for the schedule and premium books will be April 27.
- **Hoop Barns** – Rick B. presented estimates and updates on costs and loans for putting up hoop barns on the northeast corner of the fairgrounds across the road from the hog barn. He is looking at two 46' X 150' hoop barns that will total 13,800 sq. feet for a total cost of around \$198,020 dollars. Rick B. asked the board for approval to move forward with the process and get the hoop barns ordered. Rita moved to start the process. Jeff seconded. Motion carried on a nine to one vote with Vern Muscha voting against the motion. (See attachment for full Invoice.)
- **Hog Barn Improvements** – The board agreed to get an estimate to cement the south end of the hog barn. Travis Frey did some rough estimates and said it would be around \$2,000. Board will look at getting the hog barn improvements done in May.
- **Area Improvements** – Rick B. stated that Brace construction would be willing to paint the arena panels and chutes at no cost to the board. The board would need to replace or fix the broken panels, fix the chutes and build a crow's nest before painting could take place. Work nights will be set up at the April 13 meeting.
- Jeff said the board needs to inform the City of Beulah they need to have all trucks etc., out of the fair board barns by June 25. Set-up for some things needs to occur before the scheduled set-up night of July 12.
- Craig said the Extension office is short-staffed with Christi Beauchamp, the part-time secretary leaving for a different job. They are in the process of finding a replacement but until a replacement is hired, the amount of assistance the office can give to the board will be limited.

**Other Business: None**

**Next meeting:** Next meeting date is April 13 at 5:30 p.m. at the County Kettle in Beulah.

Rick S. moved to adjourn the meeting. Val seconded. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Submitted by: Craig Askim, CEA/Fair Board Secretary