

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

Country Kettle, Beulah
Wednesday, April 20, 2022

The meeting was called to order by President Rick Bauman at 5:24 p.m.

Members Present: Craig Askim, Rick Bauman, Val Bauman, Aaron Kasper, Jeff Klein, Chandler Sailer, Dawn Sailer, Tracy Siemieniewski, Tiffany Weigum

Members Absent: Donna Buchmann, Vern Muscha, Rick Skraba, Rita Skraba

Guests Present: Travis Frey, Duane Hopfauf, Brenda Weigum

Secretary's Minutes – Tiffany moved to accept the minutes as emailed. Tracy seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report –Jeff reported the balance on hand as of April 20, 2022 is \$77,114.67. We received \$4,000 in sponsorships. Rick gave Jeff dividend checks from Heritage Insurance for \$1,426. Tiffany moved to accept the treasurer's report. Val seconded. Motion carried.

Correspondence: Rick B. informed the board that the North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund annual meeting is set for May 18 at 9:30 a.m. in Bismarck. He may attend.

Old Business:

- **Sponsorship Update** –Jeff and Rick were in Bismarck on April 20. They talked to four vendors. ABC Siding is willing to side the ticket booth for us. All sponsorships must be in place by May 4 in order to be printed in the fair books.
- **Audit Update** – Jeff said the audit is in progress and should be completed by the end of next week.
- **Livestock Show Boxes** – Tiffany will get addresses of the winners that did not receive show boxes from the 2021 livestock show. Jeff wrote and gave checks to Tiffany. She will mail them this week.
- **Committee Reports** –
 - **Vendor/Commercial/Food** letters have been mailed.
 - **Ticket Booth Helpers** - Val and Tracy will work on getting ticket booth request letter for helpers to city Chamber offices within the next two weeks.
 - **Livestock** – Tiffany reported no changes from last month. She will be working on getting registration up and running on Show-Works program in the next few weeks.

- **Committee Reports (cont.) –**

- **Schedule of Events** - Tiffany presented the final draft of the schedule of events. We are waiting on two things, the times for the Iron Will shows and the spinning wheel demonstration. Rick will work with Rita to get this taken care of by the next meeting.
- **Carnival** – Rick B. read an emailed contract he received from Thomas Carnival. Thomas Carnival agrees to have at least ten rides and has rights to have games on the grounds. The fair board agreed to \$20,000. If ticket sales gross over \$30,000 dollars the board will receive 15% of the money over \$30,000. Example, if carnival grosses \$35,000, the board would get 15% of \$5,000 dollars or \$750. Tiffany moved to accept the carnival contract and have Rick B. sign and return it. Jeff seconded motion carried.
- **Civic Center Fee** – Rick B. asked Travis Frey what it would cost to rent the civic center for the fair. Travis said he and Rick would need to talk before the next meeting to discuss what the fair board would be charged. Travis stated he didn't have the numbers in front of him.
- **Static Class Payouts** - Rick B. talked to Rita about increasing the payout for the static classes. Rita wants to put an additional \$300 to make an award for grand and reserve champions in each division instead of just offering a blue, red or white award. Jeff moved to allow Rita \$300 to increase award payouts. Aaron seconded. Motion carried.
- **Premium Books** – Tiffany and Val are working on the books. They should be finalized by the middle of May, printed and back to us by June 1.
- **Beer Garden** – Letters to all Mercer County Fire Chiefs asking for help were mailed last week. Rick received no replies back as of yet.
- **Hoop Barns** – Rick B. and Jeff talked to Brad Miller in Bismarck at Kirkwood Bank for loan funding. They are not able to provide us with a loan because of the time it takes to get an appraisal done. They are willing to work with us in a smaller capacity. These options along with others will be explored. The project is moving forward and on schedule to be in place for the 2022 Mercer County Fair.
- **Hog Barn** – Rick S. is working on it and looking at the middle of May to pour concrete.
- **Arena Improvements** – Rick B. said he and Shanan Weigum tore out the panels from the sorting pens and will start replacing them once the snow melts and weather improves. They have a plan in place to construct a crow's nest.
- **Wash Rack improvements** – Rick B. gave Aaron a list of things that need to be done with the wash rack. Aaron will start on this once the weather improves. He will also work on barns and any other little things that need to be fixed on the fairgrounds. Aaron will be chairman of these projects and other members will be asked to help. Aaron will be setting up work nights along with Rick B.
- **Banners** – Tiffany and Jeff are working on pricing for banners. The old signage on barns will be taken down.
- **Website** – Val, Tiffany and Tracy will meet with Travis Frey to work on the website and get it up-to-date since the schedule of events is about 95% done. They plan on meeting April 21.

New Business:

- **Tent** – Rick B. has spoken for a 40' X 100' tent to be placed in front of the food vendors for a cost of \$2,500. He has two more tents on hold in case the hoop barns are not in place. The plan is to use the two tents that the fair board owns. One would be placed in the beer gardens and the other would be placed on the fairgrounds where needed.
- **Parade** – The board discussed if they want to be in charge of the parade because the Beulah Chamber doesn't want to be in charge of it anymore. It would be nice to have the parade but they don't know what needs to be done and who to ask. Rick B. stated he would talk to Al Schmidt and see what can be done.
- **Breakaway Music** – Duane Hopfauf was present for Breakaway Music. On the schedule the board listed the times they wanted him to play each day of the fair. The total hours the board wanted to hire him was eight hours. He said he was good with the times to play and was going to charge \$100 per hour. Val. moved to approve the verbal contract agreement. Chandler seconded. Motion carried. Duane stated he would mail a written contract to Rick within the next week.
- **Badlands Express** – Rick B. said the Badlands Express band would be willing to open before Diamonds and Whiskey on Saturday night for \$800. This would be over the \$2, 500 we are paying them for sound and lights. Tiffany moved to hire them for \$800 to open before the Saturday night show. Dawn seconded. Motion carried.
- **Corn Hole Tournament** – Rick B. stated there was interest in having a cornhole tournament at the fair. He asked Dawn if she would be willing to be in charge of this event. She said yes. The event will be held Saturday afternoon of the fair. Full details still need to be worked out.
- **Viral Games** – A vendor (Troy) from Mandan has 3D viral games available for us to hire. He builds the games himself and has five games. These are full scale games that are about five feet in length. Three need to be inside and two can be outside. The charge is \$3,000 for all four days of the fair. He will man the games. The fair board has the option to charge an additional fee for people to play the games or have the games be part of the gate admission. After discussion Tiffany moved to book the viral games for all four days of the fair and proposed the following times of operations: 4 p.m. to midnight on Thursday, noon to midnight on Friday, noon to midnight on Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. on Sunday. Troy will be responsible for manning the games and getting help. The board will charge five dollars per ride. Each ride lasts five to ten minutes. Aaron seconded. Motion carried.
- **Dairy Judge** – Tiffany reached out to Jacob Klautt to judge the dairy cattle show for \$200. Jeff moved to hire Jacob to judge the dairy cattle show. Tracy seconded. Motion carried.
- **Advertising** – Rick will start working on the advertising this week. The board would like to get an ad in the Dollar Saver by the middle of May. Rick is working on getting banners to start hanging around the county that will have dates and website on them. He would like to have them hung up by the middle of May. Rick has a list from last year of places they did advertising with. If any other board members have outlets for advertising to let him know. He will ask all board members to help with this. The board talked about getting shirts/jackets etc. for fair board members to help with advertising year-round. This will be brought up at the next meeting.

Other Business: None

Next meeting: Next meeting date is May 4 at 5:30 p.m. at the Bee's Café in Hazen.

Val moved to adjourn the meeting. Tracy seconded. Motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Submitted by: Craig Askim, CEA/Fair Board Secretary