

Mercer County Fair Association

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

2023 Fair Board Directors
Rick Bauman, President
Rick Skraba, Vice President
Jeff Klein, Treasurer
Craig Askim, Secretary
Billy Anvik
Valerie Bauman
Donna Buchmann
Duane Hopfauf
Chandler Sailer
Dawn Sailer
Rita Skraba
Tiffany Weigum
Cody Wiedrich

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Beulah Civic Center
October 30, 2023

The meeting was called to order by President Rick Bauman at 6:30 p.m.

Members Present: Billy Anvik, Craig Askim, Rick Bauman, Valerie Bauman, Duane Hopfauf, Jeff Klein, Rick Skraba, Rita Skraba, and Cody Wiedrich.

Members Absent: Chandler Sailer, Dawn Sailer, Donna Buchmann and Tiffany Weigum.

Guests Present: Kathy Earnest, Mark Hafner, Roy and Ashley Rasch.

Secretary's Minutes – The 2022 Annual Meeting minutes were read by Secretary Craig Askim. Rita moved to accept the minutes as read. Billy seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – Jeff read the treasurer's report. Total income was \$181,369.37. Total expenses were \$178,196.03. The checkbook balance as of October 26, 2023 was \$9,916.44. Rick S. moved to accept the report. Duane seconded. Motion carried.

Correspondence: Rick B. distributed the sponsor certificate presented to the Fair Board by the Mercer County 4-H Council.

Old Business:

2023 Fair Recap Reports:

- **Attendance** – Craig stated the 4-H participant numbers increased slightly and the FFA numbers decreased slightly.
- **Exhibits** – Rita reported there were 232 open class static exhibits, which is 38 more than 2022.
- **Beer Sales** – Billy said beer sales increased from 2022 and the tent for the beer gardens was well accepted. The sheriff and Beulah Police Department were happy with the set-up arrangement.
- **Open Class Livestock** – Jeff reported the open class livestock numbers slightly decreased from 2022.
- **Gate** – Val said the gate went well, but more volunteers were needed. She suggested sending a letter to businesses asking for help. There were issues with the online sign up for gate workers and no telephone number available to call.
- **Music** – Duane stated the music went well. There were good comments about the Sunday Jam Session event.
- **Issues** – Cody and Rick S. said things went well, but water was a problem and the hog barn needs repairs.
- **General** – Rick B. thanked the Board for their hard work this year. The Fair had a good attendance with an estimated 7,000 people going through the gate. The carnival set record sales of \$40,000. Some food vendors departed Saturday night because they were completely sold out of food.

New Business

2024 Improvement Goals

- Improve water lines to the hoop barns, rodeo pens and food vendors.
- Move the beer garden building.
- Look at moving the inlets and outlets in the rodeo arena.
- Remove the chain link fence on the east side of the hog barn and install a fence on the north side of the hoop barns.
- Improve the signage around the Fairground.
- Paint and wash buildings.
- Finish or look at options for the ticket booth/office.

Election of Directors

- Names listed on the ballot were Billy Anvik, Kathy Earnest, Mark Hafner and Tiffany Weigum. Donna Buchmann stated she was not running for re-election. Chandler Sailer did not respond to the secretary by the deadline. Rick S. moved to accept the ballot. Valerie seconded. Ballot was accepted.
- Rick B. asked if there were any nominations for directors from the floor. Jeff nominated Roy Rasch. Rick B. nominated Ashley Rasch. Rick S. moved that nominations cease. Jeff seconded. Motion carried. Rick S. moved to have Rita assist Craig in recording the votes. Jeff seconded.
- A written ballot was cast to select four directors to serve a three-year term, from January 1, 2024 to January 1, 2026. Names on the ballot were Billy Anvik, Kathy Earnest, Mark Hafner, Ashley Rasch, Roy Rasch and Tiffany Weigum. The directors elected were Billy Anvik, Roy Rasch and Tiffany Weigum. There was a tie for fourth place between Kathy Earnest and Mark Hafner. A second vote was taken. Kathy Earnest will serve as a director.
- Rita moved to destroy the election ballots. Duane seconded. Motion carried.

Other Business – None.

Rita moved to adjourn the 2023 Mercer County Fair Board Annual Meeting. Rick S. seconded. Motion carried.

The annual meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Craig Askim,
CEA/Fair Board Secretary