

St. Clair County Agricultural Society | 2017

Minutes of Monday, July 10, 2017

1) ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Alan Thueme, Cindy Leone, Scott Hill, Bob Blumerich, Dan McCue, Donna Wojtysiak, Tim Warchuck, Kristy Hardy, Bernie Dudek, Jeff Schelske, Bob Clogg, Rick Ruemenapp, Chris Ruemenapp, Rob Usakowski, Lori Warchuck, Linea Burch, Al Leone, Mike Tomasek.

Excused: Kent Renn, Kim Hetzel.

Guests: Russ and Kelly Helmreich, Jacqui Rabine, Barb Hahn, Abigail Summers, Brad Brenske.

2) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Request to add Farm Museum to New Business. A motion was made by J. Schelske, supported by S. Hill to approve the agenda with the addition of the Farm Museum under New Business.

Motion carried.

3) SECRETARY'S REPORT

No report.

4) TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by T. Warchuck, supported by J. Schelske to approve the treasurer's report as submitted.

Motion carried.

Check request forms submitted for payment of invoices and reimbursement. A motion was made by R. Ruemenapp, supported by A. Thueme to approve the payment of bills submitted.

Motion carried.

5) HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Brad Brenske from Parks is present asking who is putting up the portable horse stall. Matt Liebetreu will be starting at 5:00 p.m. tomorrow. Campsites must roll back sod in order to have a campfire. Back driveways are only 8,000 lb. maximum. Sand coming in Monday for the horse stalls and they will be stockpiling it in the parking lot.

Tara Peters forgot to sign her veal calf up, so she won't be eligible for grand or reserve champion. Rachel Winters, her boys didn't get signed up for dog showmanship. Kids are able to show, just no grand or reserve champion.

Barb Hahn: Entries are way up this year in dogs and will need three easy up tents.

Abigail Summers: ABC Supply donated tar paper. We gave them a weekly pass in exchange. Horse group needs tar paper and tape for the Quonset Hut floor.

CanAm/BMX working on the track at night, have dirt and artificial turf coming during the week of the fair. They will be given 6 daily passes.

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Bob Blumerich would like to take home the worst looking ticket booth to spruce it up for 2018.

Evelyn Weber has \$130 for fair court, would like to get them a shirt for each day so they look consistent, may come up \$50 over budget. A motion was made by T. Warchuck, supported by C. Leone pay the additional sum over budget for the t-shirts.

Motion carried.

6) FAIR OFFICE REPORT

Everything is ready for fair.

7) MSU EXTENSION

Lori Warchuck reported camp attendance was up this year.

8) COMMITTEES

a) AG EDUCATION

Blacksmith is not coming. Everything else set to go.

b) AWARDS

Ribbons are done and B. Dudek had to order additional ribbons, missing sweepstakes ribbon.

c) CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

No report.

d) CRATER

Parker will come out and do additional filming with his drone. Would pay him \$250 for additional footage. The monster truck will be set up the east side of the crater. Sound booth coming from McCue's on Sunday.

e) ENTERTAINMENT

Wood carver suggested we have a minimum bid for the wood carvers. No minimum bid. Ronald McDonald will come on Tuesday, not Wednesday because of the parade in Port Huron. Need a golf cart for beautify the fairgrounds judging, will use the cleaning cart. Tuesday loaning a golf cart to Danielson family. Audree Danielson will run in front of the horses to pace them.

No fun run this year due to organizer being out of the country. Georgene Bourdeau will be judging and visiting the fair on Monday until 5:00 p.m.

f) FACILITIES

Wood chips are \$5 a bale, \$4.40 cost for us. 80 x 90 petting farm tent. Trailers coming this week for storage. We rent 13 tents from ABO Tent rental. Trams will be picked up by Mike Pennazoli. Suggest putting up a cement barrier by the food vendors to stop car traffic.

They will start taking items from the barn for set up on Wednesday night.

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g) LIVESTOCK

Purchased 32 new sheep pens to be delivered, difficulty getting a delivery date.

h) PERSONNEL

The sewing superintendent position has been advertised with one person interested. A motion was made by R. Ruemenapp, supported by A. Thueme to approve Kim Riley as the sewing superintendent.

Motion carried.

i) PUBLICITY

Everything is set up.

j) SPONSORSHIP

K. Hetzel needs 3 vending spots for her sponsors.

k) SUPERINTENDENT DEVELOPMENT

No report.

l) SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS

Band boosters are setting up fencing on Friday starting at 8 a.m.

Hammer's are good for dumpsters, and R. Usakowski will call and ask them how many passes they want. Farm Museum members were admitted with their membership cards in the past. 20 daily passes for Farm Museum each day will be provided. Farm Museum wants to keep manure spreader and front end loader for manure removal on site.

9) OLDBUSINESS

None.

10) NEW BUSINESS

a) WELCOME FLAGS

Alan Thueme would like to purchase 6 welcome flags for the entrance. A motion was made by T. Warchuck, supported by C. Ruemenapp to purchase the flags.

Motion carried.

b) FOOD FOR FAIR

A motion was made by M. Tomasek, supported by T. Warchuck to appoint Maria Hill and Scott Hill as the menu coordinators.

Motion carried.

Farm Museum food trailer not available for Saturday during dog show.

c) STORAGE CABINETS

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A motion was made by R. Ruemenapp, supported by B. Clogg to purchase two additional metal storage cabinets for \$200 each. Poultry project would like one for their equipment and the treasurer would like one for his stuff.

Motion carried.

d) PRINTER PURCHASE

A motion was made by A. Thueme, supported by T. Warchuck to purchase a new printer.

Motion carried.

11) ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m. to Monday, July 17, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.

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2:00 p.m.

Fair Board directors present, some for the entire meeting, some on a partial basis.

1) MINI HORSES

Sue Cook, complaints about mini horses and ponies and measuring. Horse Leaders are going to purchase their own measuring stick and will then have a consistency in measuring instrument from year to year. In prior years there were various people measuring with their instruments and they will now have one stick and one group measuring consistently from year to year.

2) PARKS AND RECREATION

Brad Brenske indicated there's a camper on the cement "viewing pad" in the campground that needs to be moved. The orange Kabota was parked in the circle in front of the community building.

3) ADMISSION PASSES

Admission pass complaints. They must be stuck in their window. If they are ruined because they pull the sticker out of a car and it's ruined then we will exchange the ruined sticker for the new sticker. M. Tomasek said they can be peeled and re-stuck. This style pass has been used in the past without a problem.

M. Tomasek indicated if the gate revenue does not remain consistent then we will be looking at an increase in gate admission, so this style is an attempt to maintain gate revenue.

Billy Nugent and Kathy Williams: Told at the gate they have to stick the pass to their window. They want to show the pass as opposed to sticking it to the window. Fair Board concern that in the past admission passes have been misused. They were never intended to be passed from one car to the next or from one family member to the next. It was intended that an admission pass admits one car and all occupants, not different cars or running

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passes out to the gate to give to someone coming into the gate. The policy in place is intended to discourage misuse of the passes.

Concern that people are mad at the gate workers for stopping them to check their passes and they're running the gates and yelling at the gate workers.

Fair Board has studied our prices compared to other fairs and our prices are reasonable and competitive. Local fairs are charging exhibitor fees, parking and admission, etc.

4) SPONSORS

Greenwood Vet and Lakeside Pediatric are the sponsors tonight in the tents. Lakeside is technically Wednesday, but their kids are in camp and cannot come on Wednesday. Directors encouraged to go to the sponsor tent to thank them.

5) VETERINARY

Vet is on Channel 3 if you need her on the radio.

6) CLYDESDALE PARADE

Need two golf carts to clear the path. Need to stop traffic over the bridge. Need to watch for trams. They will finish up their parade at the Crater for the 7:00 show.

7) CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Good turn out from Chambers members this morning.

8) FLAGS & SPONSOR STICKERS

Need to have an inventory on the flags to get them hung before fair. They seem to be missing and/or haven't been hung.

If you golf cart doesn't have a sticker it needs one. Golf carts without stickers do not belong driving around the park.

9) JEREMY AUTOMOTIVE MONSTER TRUCK

We didn't have a confirmed sponsorship from Jeremy's Automotive, but he showed up today and wants to do monster truck rides and is sponsoring Wednesday night at the Crater. We have St. Clair Collision doing rides on Saturday. Due to his late confirmation we are unable to accommodate his monster truck rides this year.

10) VENDORS

Health inspector had one booth that was unacceptable and the health inspector has told him he needs to make changes or leave. They have today to make those changes and they're going to check them again.

11) POULTRY BARN

Given list of kids selling birds, names on that list that did not sign up for poultry. Rick's working with them. They were working off of an Excel spreadsheet that they created and not off our class lists. They were advised they have to use our class lists so they know who

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was entered and who wasn't. If they don't enter the class or enter the fair they're not eligible for grand or reserve champion. Changing a class isn't a problem, it's the ones that didn't sign up for fair. If they didn't sign up for the fair, how do we know where to send their sale check?

The superintendents aren't working well together, but working hard, at this point. There was a poultry cabinet purchased and needs to be shared. That's a very difficult, stressful project area and they need to work together as a team. May consider having a superintendent for the barn, have to have glue to bring it all together, or agreement they'll work together.

12) ORANGE FENCING

Going to look at some of the fencing and throw away the small pieces that are dirty and broken.

TUESDAY, JULY 18, 2017

2:00 p.m.

Fair Board directors present, some for the entire meeting, some on a partial basis.

1) COMPLAINT REGARDING TRAMS

We received a complaint regarding a tram driver taking too long going around the tram route when she was complaining she had somewhere to go and to hurry up. There was some delay at the tram stop due to bringing in swine this morning.

2) SWINE CHECK IN

Due to the current situation it was a wise decision to bring the hogs in this morning as opposed to Sunday. There was a fair in Ohio that due to swine influenza euthanized all the swine at the fair and there is a conference call this week with all fairs in the state that have not started already by MDARD to reiterate the importance of preventing swine influenza and detection.

May need to make provisions in the future if exhibitors are bringing in animals during fair that they are allowed in without a pass. Several people brought swine this morning and had an issue with not having their pass on the vehicle that drives the trailer. Can work on that for 2018.

3) EMS & POLICE

They will be on channel 4 on the radio. The Sheriff's command truck was here, but it's gone now. Likely went to Port Huron for boat week.

Channel 14 & 15 are parking lots, 1 is general discussion, 2 private discussion, 3 the vet, 4 EMS/Police.

4) SPONSORS

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Want the announcers at the Crater to announce the sponsors, especially the nightly sponsors. Sponsors that get armbands for the carnival if it isn't an armband day they can exchange the armband for 50 ride tickets, per K. Hetzel. Grace Performance is sponsor tonight.

5) DIRECTIONS

Need to get the exact address of the park for our people coming in for entertainment, such as trucks and tractors so they know what gate we want them to come into. They're getting the address off the website and it takes them in the west gate, which is not where we want them.

6) EXHIBITORS

We had an exhibitor that was attempting to watch his cattle at night and told to go to his campsite and not happy, however he did go back to his campsite. Actions have increased between exhibitors compared with the competitiveness and cost that what exhibitors invest in their projects. Exhibitor expressed last night he was concerned that another exhibitor was going to mess with his steer.

7) PETTING FARM

They need more fans if he gets warmer, 2 of their 3 fans aren't working.

8) RONALD McDONALD

Ronald worked out better on Tuesday versus Wednesday so we will schedule him for Tuesday next year. Fair Court is doing an excellent job and have different matching t-shirts for each day. Will be looking for sponsors for those shirts next year.

9) SUNDAY SECURITY

K. Hetzel had a complaint that there was someone on Sunday prior to fair talking to exhibitors that wasn't related to the fair. Any suspicious behavior, criminal actions, misdeeds should be reported to the police on site and Trooper Laimon is here almost all the time and very responsive in following through on any complaints.

10) EXHIBITS

M. Tomasek asked everyone to look around at the barns to see what improvements we would like to make in the future. The exhibit barn would like to get some more table clothes which have made a tremendous difference in the look of the barn with the cloth tablecloths and they're looking at replacing the wooden doors with display panels. The poultry barn also have things they would like for 2018 to improve the look of their barn. The sound guy would like metal cabinets like the ones we have which would replace all the heavy containers that he has and easier for us to move and store here in the office.

11) POWER WASHER

Need to purchase one for 2018 to wash banners and golf carts.

12) TV & FLAGS

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They need to be hung in the beef barn.

13) SWEEPSAKES SHOWMANSHIP

If exhibitors don't want to participate there is no penalty, including taking away their award. There are financial awards which should be an incentive.

14) VENDOR

The health department was back today and the vendor took everything out of their trailer and bleached it and health department reports the booth is spotless today.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 2017

2:00 p.m.

Fair Board directors present, some for the entire meeting, some on a partial basis.

1) FAIR BUCKS

Need to get the word out to any vendor that can accept fair bucks that they accept them and turn them in after the fair. Request that we give fair court fair bucks to help offset drinks. Gave them meal passes instead. Will discuss the use of fair bucks after fair and who gets them.

2) HOMELAND SECURITY

Representative here to prep the site for the Blackhawk landing. He will be on hand to direct them in. Channel 4 not coming out today.

3) SPONSOR

Clancey's are the sponsor for tonight. Jeremy Automotive tomorrow night.

4) PARKING

Going to put up string so people aren't parking on the hill facing the horse rings. That only gets used as an overflow parking in the evening. People are parking there in the morning. When we close a gate, it doesn't affect the percentage that's paid to the gate workers, they share and pool the gate receipts for their percentage. There was a hit and run, taken care of by Trooper Laimon.

5) PETTING FARM

Someone took a goat out of the petting farm, was concealing it in his coat and he was found by security and the goat returned.

6) OLD TYME GAMES AND WORK OUT

The ladies running old time games are 90 years old and they haven't had a empty chair all morning, very popular. The morning workout with Emily Shinavier was very popular this morning.

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No meeting tomorrow due to livestock sale.

FRIDAY, JULY 20, 2017
2:00 p.m.

Fair Board directors present, some for the entire meeting, some on a partial basis.

1) ADMISSION PASSES

Complaints from Kathy Nugent and Kathy Williams regarding the type of admission passes. These concerns were addressed on Monday. Complaints that gate workers are being rude. If they feel at any point they're not being cooperated with, they should pass that along to a director.

Gate workers are watching people passing passes amongst each other, tow truck driver come in saying he needs to service a car and let in and 3 min. later coming out having dropped off his passengers. There are other instances where the gate workers are seeing different things happening which might be contributing to their attitude.

We need a white board or bulletin board out there where they can leave notes from shift to shift so messages get passed along. There's different sorts of passes, our admission passes, MAFE, livestock letters and they need to know from shift to shift what's going on.

2) ANTENNA FOR WI-FI & LIVESTOCK SALE

The antenna worked very well on the show arena for wi-fi for the livestock sale. No network issues and everything ran very smoothly. Very hot sale. 30 cases of water and 20 cases of pop were served. \$385,000 sale.

3) ANIMALS FOR SALE

Animals can be listed for sale after the livestock sale.

4) CAMP SITES

Will look at adding an additional fee for accepting camping applications after July 1st next year. Office staff is spending a lot of time the week prior to fair assigning camp sites.

5) HANDICAP PARKING

Complaint that people are parking in handicap parking without a sticker or license plate and there's no enforcement.

6) MANURE REMOVAL

Received a bill for 2016 and 2017, requesting an additional \$200 from last year. Farm Museum is doing a good job and easy to work with. A motion was made by R.

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Ruemenapp, supported by T. Warchuck to pay the 2016 and 2017 invoice for manure removal. We will put a services contract in place for 2018 forward. We need to look at the services that Farm Museum are providing and agree on how many passes, what's paid, etc. We have a great relationship with the Farm Museum and we don't want any misunderstandings. We just received the invoice for 2016, never got the invoice to be paid until now.

Motion carried.

7) TREASURER HELP

We need to have additional support for the treasurer during the week of fair to write checks and help him.

8) HORSE SUPERINTENDENTS

Cindy Leone said that the horse superintendents that previously resigned don't want to resign anymore.

9) AUDIO

Need to work on speakers in the beef barn so audience can hear the judges giving their remarks. Per Mike the audio guy, the moto cross buried the electronics for the speakers and it's full of mud and it's ruining the equipment.

10) FAIR COURT

The queen is letting young girls wear her crown and sash and the kids love that and it's really appreciated.

11) HORSE STALLS

Horse exhibitors need to wash down the pens in the Quonset and building by the creek that have portable stalls. They can use a bucket and sponge. Other projects wash down their pens when they set up the gates, so it's not asking those project exhibitors to do anything that other projects don't do.

12) GROUND CLEAN UP

The grounds are very clean this year and we're very happy with Matt Liebetreu and the job he's doing.

13) PORT-A-JOHN DESTROYED

There was a port-a-john destroyed last night and other things moved or stolen during the night. No complaint from Carl's, but a vendor let us know it was destroyed.

14) TRAILERS

The trailers behind the dairy tent worked out good this year for tack, but the ones that have been parked out there today need to get moved up to the old campgrounds.

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SATURDAY, JULY 21, 2017

2:00 p.m.

Fair Board directors present, some for the entire meeting, some on a partial basis.

1) ST. CLAIR COLLISION MONSTER TRUCK & ENTERTAINMENT

The monster truck rides are going very well, a line waiting to ride. The entertainment was really good last night, drivers were very happy and lots of people signed up for tonight.

2) ADMISSION PASSES

Complaints from people again today regarding paying to come into the fair from exhibitors and their parents.

3) CORNHOLE

They went on in the rain and had a good turn out. Everyone seemed to have fun.

4) SWEEPSTAKES SHOWMANSHIP

Crystal Sovey inquired about a rule regarding exhibitors participating in sweepstakes showmanship. The exhibitor in walking fleece left on Wednesday and has someone else caring for her animals and hasn't been back to the fair. There are no penalties for exhibitors who don't participate in sweepstakes showmanship.

5) STILL EXHIBIT BARN

The awards of t-shirts are very popular this year and kids love being able to pick out their shirts and Viney's put the design on their shirt. May want to consider going to t-shirts for livestock projects too so that all the grand and reserve winners get shirts. We can survey the exhibitors in the future.

6) WOOD CHIPS

Ran out of wood chips and we had two less days of pigs. May need to order more wood chips if our numbers remain high next week.

7) EQUIPMENT OF KEYS

Carlton Equipment gave us a set of keys for all equipment, every key ever made.

8) BATHROOM PEOPLE

A motion was made by C. Ruemenapp, supported by A. Thueme to tip the bathroom attendants \$600.

9) ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by K. Hetzel, supported by T. Warchuck to adjourn at 2:58 p.m.

Chris Ruemenapp, Secretary