ST. CLAIR COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Minutes of Monday, May 9, 2022 – Goodells County Park

1) ROLL CALL

Present: Tom Vincent, Colleen Provost, Jacqui Rabine, Scott Hill, Mike Tomasek, Chris Ruemenapp, Rob Usakowski, Liz Pennazoli, Rick Ruemenapp, Linda Taylor, Bob Clogg, Lori Warchuck, Bernie Dudek, Tim Warchuck.
Excused: Donna Wojtysiak, Linea Burch, Mark Pederson, Kent Renn, Kim Hetzel.
Guests: Megan Tomasek, Bob Podgorski, Carter Modrich, Barb Hahn, Julie Modrich, Ray Long, Tom Stickley.

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

2) AGENDA

A motion was made by T. Warhcuck, supported by S. Hill to approve the agenda.
Motion carried.

3) HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Bob Podgorski is interested in parking lot superintendent position. Spent 31 years with Schwann's, location general manager and lived in Ruby for 15 years and moved and living in Yale now. He will be involved in set up and prefair, set up a lot of snow fencing prior to the fair, a lot of help. Wednesday spraying where posts go. There will be a group on Friday come in and install the fence, show them what you have laid out. Through the week repair as knocked down, managing parking lots as they get full. Flag crew to park the cars. Will pay him $2500. Yale Band doing set up and tear down.

4) SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mike Thornhill recently passed away who did the sound at the fair. His son Mike, Jr. will take over his place this year. A motion was made by S. Hill, supported by A. Thueme to approve the April minutes.
Motion carried.

5) TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by J. Rabine, supported by S. Hill to approve the treasurer's report. M. Tomasek will be out of town next month during the meeting, gone for two weeks.
Motion carried.

6) FAIR OFFICE REPORT – No report.

7) MSU EXTENSION

There are in excess of 800 volunteers and 4-H members reenrolled. Kristen is working in the office helping out. Day camp was awesome, 43 enrolled, had some no shows, positive feedback. No horse sessions.

8) COMMITTEE REPORTS

A) AG EDUCATION – No report.

B) AWARDS – No report.

C) CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

We received a grant for tiling the north parking lot. Park is going to take down the Service Club building and rebuild a new one.

D) CRATER

USA Demolition has been sold to someone out of Saginaw by Jack Fistler.

E) ENTERTAINMENT

Dawn Nowicki is struggling to get robotics up and running again. We have the facility with the equipment, and it may be starting up soon. Probably won't be doing high school age.

F) FACILITIES

B. Blumerich is all set with his truck. Will be doing wood chips again. B. Clogg talked to him and will reach out again for ½ truck.

G) HANDICAPABLE DAY

Woodland's is coming, 120 students and we had 25-30 others that mailed it back, at about 150 people without turning anyone away. Doing shirts, figuring out how to feed them and mail their pass for a car and pick up a shirt that morning, rides at carnival. Looking for a couple people to help on Wednesday for check in at 10:30 and runs until 1:00. Colleen and Lori Warchuck to help Megan do that.

H) LIVESTOCK

Discovery Day was held and there were 139 hogs, 47 sheep, 20 veal, 10 goats. Missing 75 hogs that do not have state tags, ordered themselves or waiting for breeders to supply tags between now and fair. State said they would help us find tags or call tag manufacturers.

I) PARKS AND RECREATION

Road going in by the crater isn't going in until after fair, don't want us driving down this path, can't take the trucks through the crater, have to use that road. Parks will post our event on the sign out front. Dennis Delor is in charge of this park. Darrel is still here.

J) PERSONNEL

A motion was made by T. Warchuck, supported by R. Ruemenapp to approve Bob Podgorski as the parking lot superintendent, payment of $2,500.00.

Motion carried.

Will advertise for horse superintendents again.

K) PUBLICITY

May not be able to do the bus wraps, they are recycling buses currently. Yard signs are on order. Need to have a meeting to figure out social media timeline. Will meet May 23rd.

L) SPONSORSHIP

L. Pennazoli is currently going through sponsors. Talked about Monday night instead of doing a sponsor thank you, change to anyone donated reserve or best of class, free wrist bands with chips and pop, advertising opportunity.

M) STILL EXHIBITS

Going back to 2019 schedule. M. Tomasek looking for someone to assist in still exhibit barn on Monday since she has to work, to work with Kim Tomasek.

9) OLD BUSINESS

A) TICKETING & INTERNET

Working with 123 Net for internet services for booths and looking at around $4,000 to do that. Gives us guaranteed service if we want to go through that route. Jody Bearish from Sapphire contacted me again, what cell service they use, whatever gets the best service out here. Cannot pull up ticket on phone, we can look them up by email or phone and cash out that ticket without having a scan of the ticket. Recommend when purchase a ticket, screen pocket mobile wallet. They recommend we send out emails prior to event to remind them what's going on and remind them to take the extra step to have ticket ready. Can put reminders in there no dogs allowed. There are mature people working gates, that's what every fair has. Hesitation in using system, within the first hour everyone is comfortable. She recommends to push to have people use online purchasing, easier at the gates and up gate price if purchase at the gate which is higher to encourage buying online. Per ticket fee for Sapphire, $10,000 minimum.

Sounds like a project for 2023, maybe do an accurate count of weekly, daily and where they're coming from before, at gate, know true count and can figure out what the cost of service is. Probably increase our daily car load. A motion was made by C. Ruemenapp, supported by R. Ruemenapp to institute online ticketing for 2023.

Motion carried.

B) INTERNET SERVICE

R. Ruemenapp to meet with Parks and currently they're in the process of moving. Will talk to them about putting in internet service into the Community Building.

10) NEW BUSINESS

A) CLYDESDALE'S

Greenwood Vet said she would cover the veterinary services and bring Clydesdales for $10,000. B. Clogg will follow through with a contract. A motion was made by R. Ruemenapp, supported by T. Vincent to pay $10,000 for the Clydesdale's and vet services. She wants to move closer to the walkway from where she was in 2020.

Motion carried.

B) INSURANCE UPDATE

Our insurance is paid and confirmed. Discussed extent of insurance. Monster Truck show participants need to get their own insurance. We may be reimbursing them for that. We

will be looking at fencing. Clarity in lease agreement as to who's liable. 4-H is going to rent the grounds for the archery shoot. MSU will insure that event.

C) CONVENTION UPDATE

B. Dudek took a session about making the public more aware of what it cost to run our fair. Average yearly cost of equipment rental, grounds rental. Insurance, grounds, entertainment, equipment, premiums, awards, paid staff. B. Dudek would like to put that on corregated laminent. Calculate volunteer hours. Number of exhibitors, number of volunteers, vendors.

D) RAINCOAT/SHIRTS

B. Dudek looked into the cost of raincoats or shirts. Cost is $48-$55 without embroidery.

E) CIVIL AIR PATROL

CAP has changed their timeline for encampment, same time as the fair, no idea how many I will have. Found out Thursday.

F) TRAM

Ray Long sees no foreseeable cutbacks, no changes.

G) TIM WARCHUCK RETIREMENT

Tim is retiring from Selfridge. If anyone would like to attend they need clearance. It's June 4th at 2 p.m. with a 5 p.m. party at American Legion in Smiths Creek.

10) ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by C. Ruemenapp, supported by M. Tomasek to adjourn at 8:55 p.m.

Chris Ruemenapp, Secretary