

ST. CLAIR COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Monday, October 9, 2023 – Goodells County Park

1) ROLL CALL

Present: Linda Taylor, Donna Wojtysiak, Lindsey Uppleger, Alan Thueme, Chris Ruemenapp, Rob Usakowski, Mike Tomasek, Colleen Provost, Scott Hill, Linea Burch, Tim Warchuck, Tom Vincent, Rick Ruemenapp, Liz Pennazoli, Kylie Veldman, Bernie Dudek.

Guests: Tom Stickley, Megan Tomasek, Jake Sieloff, Ken Sieloff.

Excused: Kent Renn

Absent: Kim Hetzel.

2) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

R. Usakowski requested to add review of planning meeting. A motion was made by C. Ruemenapp, supported by M. Tomasek to approve the agenda with that addition.

Motion carried.

3) HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Ken Sieloff has given thoughts to trams, curious about repairs and overall safety of them. Studying other areas and what they have for trams and trailers and thought process, inclined to create another tram or trailer or add to what we already have, feels it will be advantageous.

Would like to see the trams being entered in front versus the back so people aren't jumping on and off. We currently have monitors on the trams, evening is peak movement of traffic, thoughts perhaps having people paid to monitor the trams. Would like to see people 6-10 p.m. on each tram. Community Service may be an option.

Jake Sieloff will work with us on emergency management. Some of the cadets are FEMA certified.

4) SECRETARY'S REPORT

A motion was made by A. Thueme, supported by S. Hill to approve the minutes from September 11, 2023.

Motion carried.

5) TREASURER'S REPORT

R. Ruemenapp indicated he reviewed the reports and payee comparisons, looked like that was complete across the board for livestock and fair board. Livestock committee would like closer oversight on their funds and make sure that the committee is paying their expenses appropriately and that Fair Board is reimbursed for things they paid on behalf of livestock.

There are things in the account that seem like they are miscategorized. The committee would like a copy of the check register or log on to the account so they can review things as they clear. Fairbanks bill is outstanding for \$971. Tomasek indicated it was paid last week. Prefair admission in 2022 \$45,000, in '23 they were \$54,000. Total revenues \$535,000 in '22 and \$615,000 in '23. A motion was made by R. Ruemenapp, supported by S. Hill to approve the treasurer's report.

Motion carried.

6) FAIR OFFICE REPORT

Nothing

7) MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

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There are 119 volunteers, enrollment system is open. Year-end reporting is done. Leaders' Banquet invites and RSVP being collected. Carlie Krueger is the new regional director. Office currently working on Capac Science Night, Project Red and Open House. Joe Provost going to Blue Water Sportsman's Club to request dates for the county shoot. There is a fund raiser on Friday night at American Legion, 4-7. Carlie Krueger will be housed in Tuscola County.

8) COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Agricultural Education/Entertainment – Lori Warchuck & Donna Wojtysiak
No report.

b) Awards – Bernie Dudek
No report.

c) Audit – Mike Tomasek
Do we have enough info to do 120 day report? Have to wait until October 31st.

d) Capital Improvements
No report.

e) Crater
Talked about switching promoters for motor sports to Superior Motor Sports, Fistlers out of Capac, \$22,950 for the 3 nights, up \$4,000 from last year, changing up Wednesday and going to a team derby. 3 man team, driver and 2 blockers, bumped the purse for the derby. A motion was made by R. Ruemenapp, supported by T. Warchuck to hire Superior Motor Sports to handle our entertainment on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday in 2024.
Motion carried.

The 2024 line up with be monster trucks, rodeo, truck and tractor pulls, team derby, auto cross/demo derby and figure 8.

f) Facilities – No report

g) Handicapable Day – No report.

h) Livestock
Committee is purchasing a new beef scale for approximately \$12,500. The current scale is too narrow and beef rubbing on the sides, going to disperse the old scale. Looking at a caterer for Thursday night. Kylie talked to Quinlan's and they will do Thursday night and get more info. Cost would be \$13 a plate, need to know how many they're feeding, carves meat and 2 lines and no drinks and we will have to provide drinks. Next meeting in February, weigh in January 27th for beef.

i) Parks & Recreation
Dennis Delor has been off, don't have an answer on the drain tile, don't know why they wouldn't approve that. Our contract is up for renewal.

j) Personnel – Chris Ruemenapp

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A motion was made by B. Dudek, supported by C. Provost to approve the Dusty Corners Cleaning Services contract.

Motion carried.

A personnel meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. prior to the November meeting.

k) Publicity – Linda Taylor

Discussing the pamphlets, there were 3 boxes that remained that did not get distributed. Looking at going to an additional one-sheet entertainment card and reducing the number of printed pamphlets.

l) Sponsorship – No report.

m) Still Exhibits – Megan Tomasek

Talking about changes in times for still exhibit barns. Reviewed those times and will table them until changes are submitted the first of the year.

n) Superintendent Development – No report.

o) Electronic Ticketing

Need to make sure the last invoice was paid, indications are that's outstanding.

9) OLD BUSINESS

a) ELECTION BALLOT COUNTING

The committee will consist of L. Taylor, R. Ruemenapp, L. Burch, T. Warchuck and R. Usakowski.

b) PLANNING MEETING

Instead of enclosing horse barn, decided on a shipping container and paint and put it out here. Can purchase one for \$2000. Need to establish a 501c3, capital improvement projects were discussed, such as tearing down the existing horse barns and building an equine indoor riding arena with adjacent stalls.

c) MAFE AWARDS

Nominations will be Brendan Yera, Jake Sieloff, Chris Ruemenapp for Heritage. Award.

10) NEW BUSINESS

a) MFEA Convention – November 3, 4

A motion was made by C. Ruemenapp, supported by B. Dudek to pay the registration fee for anyone who wants to attend, at the Blue Water Convention Center.

Motion carried.

b) MAFE Convention – January 11, 12, 13

A paper is being circulated for anyone who wants to attend. Reservations are being made.

11) ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by R. Ruemenapp, supported by L. Pennazoli to adjourn at 8:38 p.m.

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Motion carried.

Next meeting to be held on Monday, November 13, 2023 at Goodells County Park.

Chris Ruemenapp, Secretary