

Minutes of Monday, August 14, 2023 – Goodells County Park

- 1) Roll Call
Present: Chris Ruemenapp, Rob Usakowski, Alan Thueme, Scott Hill, Alan Thueme, Rick Ruemenapp, Liz Pennazoli, Lindsey Uppleger, Linda Taylor, Linea Burch, Donna Wojtysiak, Tom Vincent, Bernie Dudek.
Excused: Tim Warchuck, Kent Renn, Lori Warchuck, Mike Tomasek, Collen Provost.
Absent: Kim Hetzel
Guests: Bob & Lois Podgorski, Megan Tomasek, Kristy Hardy, Tom Stickley, Connie Murray, Dave Goretski, Ken Sieloff
- 2) Approval of Agenda
Add sweepstakes showmanship and parking groups. A motion was made by C. Ruemenapp, supported by S. Hill to approve the agenda with the additions
Motion carried.
- 3) Hearing of the Public
Connie Murray thanked Fair Board and said as a whole the week went fantastic. Having moved entertainment tent to the north side it was always crowded over there, a lot of people. South side of the park not so much, a little quieter in the evening. Would like to run classes later at night. Would like to put some stuff in the ring, possibly a horse clinic, mounted shooting organization. Have some plans to keep the rings busier. Suggested leaving a long lunch break on Monday so kids can run rodeo. Running slack at noon worked better than after the rodeo.

Tom Stickley, from Civil Air Patrol said everything went well.

Ken Sieloff said the trams went well. Jake will work with emergency management and labeling the radios.

Bob Podgorski said parking went well, but will be looking for different groups to work with parking for 2024. Appreciate the work of his wife and son also.
- 4) Secretary's Report
A motion was made by A. Thueme, supported by S. Hill to approve the June and July minutes.
Motion carried.
- 5) Treasurer's Report
No report. Camelot Studio bill for \$525, Michigan Tournament Fleet, one damaged card for a cost of \$525.80 for the damage. Carl's Septic \$13,080. Saffire \$4,294 (this is not the complete bill).
- 6) Fair Office Report
Inputting fair results to have checks prepared for September.
- 7) Michigan State University Extension – No report.
- 8) Committee Reports:
 - a) Agriculture Education/Entertainment – No report.
 - b) Awards – No report.

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- c) Audit
Need to start working on the 120 day report. Was a report filed in 2022?
- d) Capital Improvements
We would like to file the rest of the north lot and tile old campgrounds. Would like to seek a quote on finishing the north lot. Cost of re-seeding is \$4500 and fertilizer \$1200. Have additional seeded area in crater pit. A motion was made by A. Thueme, support by R. Ruemenapp to pay an amount not to exceed \$7000 and include pit area seeding the north lot.
Motion carried.

Going to ask T. Warchuck to get an estimate on the balance of north lot from Cook's Drainage.
- e) Crater – No report.
- f) Facilities
Vendors were fantastic in cleaning their equipment up. We need better forklifts next year, cost is \$500 a week for a forklift.
- g) Handicapable Day
Event went well. Megan Tomasek met with the carnival, working on getting sponsors for bigger stuffed animals and shirts for 2024.
- h) Livestock
We had the biggest sale to date at \$445,000 total gross on sale, currently outstanding is \$100,000. Bills went out. Agri Valley spent \$53,000 and after fair season is done, going to take them lunch to their facility. Very appreciative that they held prices up and bid on almost all the animals. Thorner family donated a hog and sold it \$4000 and people added to bills to collect \$7500 and that went back to the swine project. Bob Blumerich is asking for a larger tent, bringing in the most commission and want room to groom steers. This will need to be worked out with the goat project which shares this tent. T. Vincent said chutes and equipment need to be neatened up. Goats requested backs for their goat pens. Looking at a new scale for the beef, it's in a working chute and animals are bigger and not fitting in the chute. Looking at new hog highway and gates for sheep and swine barn for the doors of the barn. Complaints that there is a lot of room in the goat barn used as tack pens between farms/clubs that other project areas do not have and this is not something that is recommended by MDARD, but a superintendent preference.
Will talk about dinner down the road. Need to talk about the caterer in a future meeting.
- i) Parks and Recreation
Dennis was off week after fair. Talked to Nate, all seemed good with where things were at. A motion was made by R. Ruemenapp, supported by T. Vincent to buy lunch in

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September for Parks & Recreation staff at the park. Our contract is expiring this year for the park.

- i) Personnel
Superintendent Ashley Sebastian resigned as sheep superintendent.

A motion was made by A. Thueme, supported by S. Hill to pay the tram drivers. Lenox EMS, Emmett Fire, Port Huron Athletes at the reduced rate.

Motion carried.

A motion was made by R. Ruemenapp, supported by A. Thueme to pay Ken Sieloff and Jake Sieloff \$599 each for their services to the fair, which were greatly appreciated.

Wood chips sold were 12x45 and an additional 40 bags. We still owe money to the Civil Air Patrol.

- j) Publicity Sponsorship
Camelot did a nice job, signs were great.

- k) Sponsorship
Gave the vendors who had nights that were rained out a \$500 discount for 2024 VIP tent to Leslie Tire and Clancy Excavating. Looking for ordering software that handles vendor contracts. Preliminary sponsors dollars is \$110,000. Square reader will send out invoices and they can pay them automatically.

- l) Still Exhibits
Barn superintendents would like to shift some more projects off of Monday to later in the day Sunday, set up Thursday, have some judged before everything starts, and then they can stay on. A motion was made by A. Thueme, supported by L. Uppliger to redo the still exhibit barn judging schedule.
Motion carried.

- m) Superintendent Development – No report.

- n) Electronic Ticketing
Everything seemed to go okay. Plan to purchase a ticket printer. Buy the ticket printer and they will supply tickets. Want to get it sooner rather than later. Have tickets in 3 different colors for the different types of tickets.

- 9) Old Business – None

- 10) New Business

- a) Parking Groups
Lots of us spent time parking cars. Don't want to do that again. Talked with Mike, break up all the groups, each gate into a separate group. Advertise for groups to park cars.

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Yale Band would be interested. Put out feelers for groups that are interested. Pays between \$3000-\$4000, need 8-10 people, 6 days. Contact Tom Vincent or Scott Hill.

b) Sweepstakes Showmanship

Going to have exhibitors fill out forms for jackets when they check into sweepstakes so there's no confusion on who gets jackets. Adding walking fleece and sheep reserve champions to sweepstakes.

11) Adjournment

A motion was made by A. Thueme, supported by S. Hill to adjourn at 8:58 p.m.

Motion carried.

Chris Ruemenapp, Secretary