

**Cass County Fair Association  
Regular Meeting  
Gregarek Building  
July 9, 2024  
Minutes**

President Dave Bratton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Present:** President Dave Bratton, Vice President Gail Peterson, Secretary Zelda Cloud, Treasurer Diane Skibbe, Executive Secretary Brenda Smego, Space Rental Mike Smego, Directors, Shane Harris, Jim Teter, Sara Johnson, Daryl Keesler, Rodney Waldschmidt, Rob Carpenter, Neil Bowman, David Gleason, Alex Wilson, Ben Waldschmidt, Jerry Zackary, Recorder Stephanie Knepple, Guests Karen Wright, Julie Johnson, Heather Burchfield, Tim Miller, Stephanie Bender-Bresemann, Bridget Teter, Buba Williams, Jon Blough, Joline Lock, Treasa Ridenour.

**Absent:** Director Mike Frushour.

**Minutes:** Zelda Cloud moved to approve the June 2024 Minutes, supported by Rodney Waldschmidt. Motion carried.

**Financial Report:** Shane Harris moved to approve the Financial Report, supported by Zelda Cloud. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:**

- Goat Superintendent Karen Wright expressed her gratitude to Shane Harris for picking up 20 new goat pens. Wright also reported that there are 40 more goat exhibitors than there were in 2023.
- Julie Johnson spoke on the behalf of her daughter Cassie and asked the board for their approval of taking pictures and doing mini photo sessions during fair week.
  - Executive Secretary Brenda Smego replied that Cassie would need to reserve a vendor spot.
- Horse Superintendent Tim Miller thanked the Board for going above and beyond with their support with the horses.
- Beef Superintendent Jeff Peterson shared that he submitted the request for new poles in the Beef Barns.
  - Executive Secretary Brenda Smego responded that it will be discussed during the old business portion of the meeting.
- Rabbit Superintendent Jon Blough reported that there were 385 rabbits tattooed over the weekend.

**Committee Reports:**

- Shane Harris advertising has been submitted and will air the week before fair and the first half of the week of fair. Harris also expressed his gratitude to Executive Secretary Brenda Smego and Jenny for preparing the giveaway packets.
- Jim Teter suggested completing the booth for the pit gate.

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- Mike Smego reported that Rob Carpenter and Alex Wilson are all set to spray the grounds. Smego also shared that the road will be black topped by the Beef Barn before the fair.
- Daryl Keesler announced that there will be 12 shifts for a 3 hour time-frame that fair board members will need to fill.

**Old Business:**

- Poles for Beef Barn
  - Jeff Peterson submitted a proposal for new poles in the Beef Barn. Total cost will be \$6,000.00. Would like to complete one barn in 2024 and the second barn previous to fair in 2025. Peterson requests the fair to contribute \$1,500.00 and the species will pay \$1,500.00 for 2024 and the same amount for 2025. For a total of fair contribution for the amount of \$3,000.00 and the species will contribute \$3,000.00.
    - Shane Harris moved for the fair to pay a total of \$3,000.00 between 2024 and 2025 for the pole project in the Steer Barns, supported by Rob Carpenter. Motion carried.
- Scholarship Amount
  - Daryl Keesler moved to approve a scholarship amount of \$3,000.00 to be awarded to 3 applicants for the amount of \$1,000.00 each, supported by Zelda Cloud. Motion carried.

**New Business:**

- Facebook Accounts Using Fair Name
  - Sara Johnson moved to approve to have the fair as administrators of fair associated facebook pages and add superintendents as contributors, supported by Shane Harris. Motion carried.
    - Sara Johnson will follow-up by setting up the accounts.
- Ventures Group - Price increase for Grounds Clean Up
  - Daryl Keesler moved to approve \$3,500.00 to pay the Ventures Group for grounds clean up an increase of \$500.00 from \$3,000.00, supported by Zelda Cloud. Motion carried.
- MMC Increase due to extra time: Previously paid \$800.00
  - Jim Teter moved to pay MMC \$1,600.00, supported by Rodney Waldschmidt. Motion carried.

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- Fair Week Banking Resolution
  - Treasurer Diane M. Skibbe, will make arrangements with Billie Hires to open an account for the Cass County Fair Association at G.W. Jones Bank in Cassopolis, MI. Diane, Vice President Gail Peterson, Executive Committee Member Michael Frushour will be signatories on this new G.W. Jones checking account.
  - It has also been resolved, moved, and approved that all financial accounts that the Cass County Fair Association currently have should be changed to the same three signatories before the end of the fiscal year 9-30-2024.
    - Zelda Cloud moved to accept G.W. Jones Bank and open accounts, supported by Shane Harris. Motion carried.
    - Zelda Cloud moved to add Treasurer Diane Skibbe, Vice President Gail Peterson, and Director Michael Frushour to the G.W. Jones Exchange Bank accounts.

**Adjournment**

8:02 p.m.

Shane Harris, moved.

Zelda Cloud, supported.

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephanie Knepple