

**Cass County Fair Association
Regular Meeting
Gregarek Building
May 14, 2024
Minutes**

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

Absent: Directors: Gail Peterson, Rodney Waldschmidt

Present: President Dave Bratton, Secretary Zelda Cloud, Treasurer Diane Skibbe, Executive Secretary Brenda Smego, Space Manager Mike Smego, Ben Waldschmidt, Jerry Zachary, Shane Harris, Daryl Keesler, Alex Wilson, David Gleason, Jim Teter, Rob Carpenter, Neil Bowman, Mike Frushour, Sara Johnson.

Guests: Karen Wright, Deputy Tiffany Graves, Stephane Bender-Breseman, Hilary Hunt, Nikita Mehaney, Tim Miller, Julie Johson, Racel Richmond, Jena Bradley, Leslie Bradley, Cassie Conrod, Layla True, Frank Starr, Cameron Hayden, Erica Boulanger, Jeremiah Hartsell, Mackenzie Hartsell, Tom Gregory, Teresa Ridenour, Erin Ridenour, Sara Heuer, Kim True, Ed Dohm, Jon Blough, Jennifer Stockwell, Mike Stockwell

Minutes: Zelda moved to accept the April 2024 minutes, Jerry seconded, motion passed.

Financial Report: Jerry moved to place the financial report on file, Zelda seconded, motion passed.

Public Comments:

- **Deputy Tiffany Graves** – Discussed having the reserves at the fair. They would start Sunday of fair and work 10:00 PM to 4:00 AM.
- The price would be the same as last year.
- They have 10 for the mounted division and would have workouts on 5/19, 6/2, and 6/23 over by the posse barn.
- On derby night, she would pull from other units.
- The Emergency Safety meeting is set for June 11 before the regular meeting.
- She would need possibly 3 campsites for the reserves.

Shane moved to have the reserves for the 2024 Cass County Fair. Mike seconded, motion carried.

Bridget Teter

- Asked about the second poultry barn having concrete in it.

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- Director Mike Frushour asked how much money they have in their account, Diane said it was \$2,922.87.
- Buildings and Grounds will investigate the big bird barn.

Cassie Conrod

- Had complaints regarding swine validation

Frank Starr

- Concerns regarding swine validation
- Wondered why we only accept the 840 tags

Cameron Hayden

- Is holding a livestock judging informational meeting in the Agri science room at Cassopolis High School on Thursday.

Kim True

- Emailed a letter to the board regarding an incident that happened at the swine validation.

Jon Blough

- Rabbit barn has leaks.
- The roof had been coated a couple of years ago.
- Lights need to be fixed.

Jennifer Stockwell

- 233 hogs were validated
- \$373 came out of the barn fund for a \$7500 project
- Was not going to respond to any of the comments that were given

Karen Wright

- Inquired if the board was going to put a wash rack in for the goats
- Goat numbers were good.

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Committee Reports:

Buildings & Grounds

- The committee met and looked at some new projects
- Work nights were going to be every Wednesday at 5:30
- They were going to pull the old fence, clean the old Grange building, and finish the roof over the ATM.
- Gail wanted to know how much it would cost to replace the posts and roof in the beef barn. Would depend on labor. They would get ahold of Jeff before ordering anything.
- They were going to wait until after the fair to do any paving.

Safety

- Jim said that Ed had found a website that has cones about 3 or 4 feet tall. He would like to purchase those instead of the metal poles. Probably would need cross bars every 8 ft.
- Ed would check on renting.
- Jim will have the numbers and pricing at the next meeting.

Mike Smego

- Mike reported that he was able to get a reefer the whole week of the fair.
- It would be \$1000 plus the cost of the ice which is \$2.78 a bag for the week.
- Need to check out the coolers to see if they still work. If we purchased them, they would be \$2500 apiece.
- There are new bleachers down in the horse arena, on the south side of the office. They will destroy the old bleachers.

Dave Bratton

- Needs a volunteer to do the spraying 2 weeks before the fair. Alex said that he would spray. Jerry also volunteered.

Brenda Smego

- Was a good turnout for the board workshop.
- Accomplished everything on the list.
- Will have another workshop after fair and after fair meetings.
- Will also have another round table discussion with surrounding fairs.
- We received the matching Capital Improvement Grant for \$100,000 for the new bathrooms. The project will start after the fair is over. This will also serve as a storm shelter.

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- Blue Ribbon and registration is up and running even though we had a glitch the first week.
- The Superintendent meeting is set for May 16, 2024, at 6:30 PM. Dave would like board members to attend.
- Would like all validation numbers reported before Superintendent Meeting.
- Director Shirts
 - Directors would need to go to the Simply Swank website to look and see what is available then give information to Brenda to order
- Patty Dohm is retiring at the end of May. She has dedicated 40 years of serving the fair, 4-H, the youth and the parks.
- She will still do our fairbook.

New Business:

None

Old Business:

None

Adjournment:

Mike moved to adjourn the meeting, Shane seconded, meeting adjourned.

Adjourned 8:07 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Zelda Cloud
Secretary, Cass County Fair