

**Cass County Fair Association  
Regular Meeting  
Gregarek Building  
September 10, 2024  
Minutes**

President Dave Bratton called the meeting to order at 7:01 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, David Gleason, Ben Waldschmidt, Neil Bowman, Rob Carpenter, Rodney Waldschmidt, Jim Teter, Mike Frushour, Sara Johnson, Jerry Zackary, Guests Jordan Flrian-Butzel Long, Stephanie Bender-Breseman, Bunton Westphal, Bridget Teter, Deb Ridenour, Tressa Ridenour, Vicki Schoetzow, Nick Dussel, Tim Miller, Heather Burchfield, Sarah Datton, Julie Johnson, Hillary Hunt, Bill Shupp, Tim Schrok, Emma Miller, Al Ives, Anna Ives, Nikita Mehaney, Tom Gregory, Donald Obermesik Cass PD, Melissa Town, Jon Blough, Laura Blough, Charles McCarthy, Samantha Webb, Bubba Williams, Jason Holdeman, David, Jennifer Stillwell, Karen Wright, Tracie Irwin, Katie Harris, Erica Boulanger, Michael Rogers, Ann Johnson, Recorder Stephanie Knepple.

**Absent:** Directors Daryl Keesler and Alex Wilson.

**Minutes:** Shane Harris moved to approve July 2024 Minutes, supported by Rodney Waldschmidt. Motion carried.

**Financial Report:** Jerry Zackary moved to approve the Financial Report, supported by Rodney Waldschmidt. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:**

- Stephanie Bender-Breseman thanked the Fair Board for handling situations during fair week with grace. Also thanked the board for the opportunity for her to volunteer.
- Vicki Schoetzow thanked all for an amazing fair week and appreciates everything that the board members do. Schoetzow also reported winners of the Dairy Feeder drawing were contacted.
- Hilary Hunt thanked the board members for all of the support that she received for her first fair.
- Emma Miller shared her appreciation to the board and gave an applause to the new horse crew.
- Ives reported all went well during fair week. The effort that is going into the fair is evident. Light horse experience and enforcing rules. Shared appreciation of the support given to the new light horse superintendent.
- Jon Blough reported that everything went well in the Rabbit barn. Thanks to all who helped with the barn. Suggested making a plan if it rains on show day. Blough shared that if the kids were not in the barn during the auction he took the rabbit to auction for them. Will not be doing that next year.

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- Jason Holdeman reported on behalf of the church tent and shared what he was told throughout the week from attendees. The free ground concerts did not go well.
- Consideration for a volleyball tournament or different types of tournaments. Someone offered to help sponsor and pay for more spots. Another suggestion is to offer a basketball tournament or strong man competition. Vendors struggled this year and heat issues. Police were wonderful and Fairboard for all of their support. Many families missed out due to the cost of the fair.
- Karent Wright shared that she felt like it was a great year. Family offered to paint the green pens black at no cost. Questioned the progress of plumbing for restroom and wash rack update. An adjustment in show schedule to help save time.
- Tracy Irwin thanked the board and asked for a better understanding of how the buy back process works.
- Bill Schupp shared his appreciation to the fair board.

**Committee Reports:**

- Dave Bratton asked about the asphalt update. Redo man holes, paving will take place next spring. This weekend Beef Barn will be a work weekend. Organize someone to take down curtains. Auction checkers were mailed, still have 19 outstanding.
- Brenda Smego reported 13 buyers have not paid. Phone numbers were not included for contact. Grandstand was down from 2023 \$88,718.00.
- Dave Bratton asked to have Swine Superintendent for 2025 to have applications close in 2 weeks. Start dates to schedule superintendent reviews.
- Dave Bratton asked to contact Jeremiah Lee to take down the netting down on Swine Barn. Rob Carpenter offered to organize it.

**Old Business:**

- Beer Garden report: \$8,565 token sales, \$833 tips, Sold banners \$4,400.00. Do not have expenses calculated to share.
- Scholarships were posted on Jot and on Facebook. Four applications have been received. Applications are due by October 11th.
- Grand Update on Restroom/Storm Shelter
  - Awarded \$100,000.00 grant. Has spent \$83,610.00 so far. Received \$55,740.00 reimbursement.

**New Business:**

- After Fair Meeting for Livestock scheduled for September 17 at 6:00 p.m.
- After Fair Meeting for Horses scheduled for September 24 at 6:00 p.m.
- Purchase of Portable Restrooms from Mobile Facility for \$500.00
  - Rob Carpenter moved to approve the purchase of the portable restrooms from Mobile Facility for the amount of \$500.00, supported by Shane Harris. Motion carried.

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- Tree bid from Dussel's
  - Zelda Cloud moved to approve the replacement of trees with red maple trees at \$160.00 each quantity of 30 trees for a total of \$4,800.00, supported by Shane Harris. Motion carried.
- Service donations for week of fair for Fire and Ambulance
  - Zelda Cloud moved to approve donating \$1,000.00 to Smakus, supported by David Gleason. Motion carried.
- Round Table with other fairs is scheduled for November 2nd 9:00am to 2:00pm/3:00pm
- Ghouls Night Out Update: Smego reported the partnership with the Village for the event and the cost of \$75 for camping

**Adjournment:**

8:01 p.m.

Shane Harris, moved.

Jerry Zackary, supported.

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephanie Knepple