

**Cass County Fair Association
Regular Meeting
Gregarek Building
August 12, 2025
Minutes**

“This Meeting is a meeting of the Cass County Fair Board in Public for the purpose of conducting Fair Board business and is not considered a public meeting. There is a time for public participation during the meeting as indicated in the agenda.”

President Dave Bratton called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: President Dave Bratton, Vice President Daryl Keesler, Secretary Sara Johnson, Treasurer Diane Skibbe, Fair Manager Brenda Smego, Directors Jim Teter, Rob Eubank, Neil Bowman, Stephanie Bender-Bresemann, Zelda Cloud, Rob Carpenter, Gail Peterson, Ben Waldschmidt, Recorder Stephanie Knepple, Guests Julie Johnson, Bridget Teter, Hilary Hunt, Jeremiah Hartsell, Arin Johnson, Jon Blough, and Julie Tavriles.

Absent: Directors Shane Harris, Rodney Waldschmidt, Mike Frushour, David Gleason, and Rental Mike Smego.

Minutes: Zelda Cloud moved to approve the July 22, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes, supported by Stephanie Bender-Bresemann. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

- Jon Blough Rabbit Superintendent thanked Neil Bowman and Sara Johnson for all of their help during fair week. All went well in the Rabbit Barn for fair week. Jon Blough, Rabbit Superintendent, extended his gratitude to Neil Bowman and Sara Johnson for their invaluable assistance during fair week. Operations in the Rabbit Barn proceeded smoothly throughout the week.

Committee Reports:

- Stephanie Bender-Bresemann reported that an additional one to two bleachers will be needed for next year's Pedal Pull.
- Zelda Cloud reported that Nick has been booked for the 2026 fair at a rate of \$900 per day for six days.
- Gail Peterson reported that the Rabbit show was very organized. He commended the volunteers and participants for their efforts in making the event a success.
- Daryl Keesler reported on the success of the Beer Garden, which generated a profit of \$5,800. Due to this positive outcome, a proposal was made to expand its operation to include Sundays in 2026. This extension is anticipated to further increase revenue and attendance, building on the strong performance observed.
- Mega Raffle profit \$15,000.00

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New Business:

- Board Workshop scheduled for Saturday, September 27th 8am-12pm
- The annual "Ghouls Night Out" event, scheduled for October 4th, will proceed with some modifications this year. The Village will not be partnering with the fair for the event as in previous years. However, the fairgrounds will still offer camping facilities for attendees. A trick-or-treating experience with the campers will be available, ensuring a fun and festive atmosphere for families and participants.
- Fair Round table is scheduled for November 1st
- Superintendent Reviews have been scheduled for two separate sessions to accommodate all necessary evaluations. The first session will take place on Wednesday, September 18th, from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. The second session is scheduled for Friday, September 20th, from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Each individual review slot has been allocated 25 minutes to ensure a thorough and efficient process.
- Post-Fair Meetings Schedule
 - Light Horse September 2 at 6pm
 - Livestock September 4 at 6pm
 - Still Exhibit September 8 at 6pm
- Grandstand profit was \$10,000 less than 2024
- Insurance: A new insurance broker has been selected, and the necessary forms require signing. The broker is scheduled to visit on November 1st to facilitate this process and address any questions regarding the new policy.
- The dairy feeder resale achieved a successful price of \$2.67 per pound.
- The auction office needs to know the haul out time schedule.

Adjournment:

8:04 p.m.

Rob Carpenter, moved.

Stephanie Bender-Bresemann, supported.

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Knepple