

**Cass County Fair Association
Regular Meeting
November 11, 2025
Minutes**

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

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 Daryl Keesler, Secretary Sara Johnson, Fair Manager Brenda Smego, Executive Directors Mike Frushour, Jim Teter, Directors Stephanie Breseman, Rob Eubank, Neil Bowman, Rob Carpenter, Shane Harris, Ben Waldschmidt, Zelda Cloud, Gail Peterson, Bob Thompson, Jason Holdeman, Recorder Stephanie Knepple, Guests Beth Klug, Mike Luna, Deputy Tiffany Graves, Vicki Schoetzow, Bridget Teter, Preston Bartow, Nick Dussel, Jon Blough, Tim Miller, Skip Dyes.

Public Comment: None to report.

Committee Reports:

Brenda Smego reported as follows:

- Golf carts will be the same for 2026.
- Superintendent approvals
 - The Beef Department would like to add Cameron Hayden and Bubba Williams as assistants.
 - Gail Peterson moved to approve the addition of County Born and Raised Beef Class, supported by Zelda Cloud. Motion carried.
- Brooke Lamb the dog superintendent requested changes.
 - Remove three assistants and add two.
 - Would like to add a new dog class: agility, trick dog, and jumper classes
 - There were only 12 dog exhibitors in 2025.
 - Shane Harris moved to approve the new dog show classes, supported by Stephanie Breseman. Motion carried.

Old Business:

- Annual Meeting Report
 - Elected Directors:
 - Zelda Cloud
 - Gail Peterson
 - Jim Teter
 - Jason Holdeman
 - Bob Thompson

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- Round Table Report 11/1/25 Meeting:
 - Shane Harris shared that one of the conversations was about other fairs' budgets. Centerville's advertising budget is \$75,000.00.
 - Gail Peterson shared that Elkhart offers year round activities.
 - Berrien County Fair sent an email sending their regrets that they were not able to attend the Round Table.
 - 22 people were present.
 - The insurance rep was on the phone to answer questions.
 - Bob Thompson reported that auction receipts were compared to Centerville and Cass was higher.

New Business:

Officer Elections

President: Shane Harris

Vice President: Neil Bowman

Secretary: Zelda Cloud

Treasurer: Mike Frushour

Executive Committee at large: Gail Peterson

Bookkeeper: Beth Klug (none voting member)

Fair Manager: Brenda Smego (none voting member)

Director Purchase of Memberships

Sign Board Documents

Departments

MAFE Conventions: January 8-10, 2026

Maintenance Employee: Zelda Cloud moved to approve to hire Scott Croniger part-time at \$17.00 per hour, supported by Stephanie Breseman. Motion carried.

Dave Bratton took a moment during the meeting to express his sincere gratitude and appreciation for the opportunity to serve as President of the Fair Board. He reflected positively highlighting the enjoyment he derived from the role and the unwavering support he received from the board members, fair staff, and the wider community. Mr. Bratton's comments underscored the spirit of collaboration that defined his time in office, acknowledging that the Fair's success was a collective effort. He expressed confidence in the future direction of the Fair and wished the incoming leadership well, emphasizing that he valued the experiences and relationships he gained during his time in the leadership position.

Adjournment: 7:59 p.m.

Mike Frushour, moved. Rob Eubank, supported. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Stephanie Knepple