

Gratiot County Fair for Youth
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 9, 2024
Bill & Grace Vanderbeek Conference Room

Members Present:

Chuck Efaw, Matt Jorae, Andrew Lombard, Angie Lake, Shanna Smith, Kent Humm, Keegan Humm, Martha Stellow & Becky Hirschman

Absent Members: Adam Wood, Darcy Martyn, Kylie Acker, Brent Skinner & Jack Butcher

Guest: Kipp Krenz, Frank Welling, Larry Richards, Mary Redman & Amiee Minnick

President Chuck Efaw called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Martha presented the secretary report for Brent. Angie moved to accept the minutes as presented and Shanna seconded. Motion carried.

Martha presented the treasurer's report. She shared how the ranger needs some repairs and tires. Lakeside will cover all the expenses per Ed. Becky made a motion to accept the financials. Kent seconded. Motion carried.

Fair Office Report –

- We received the MDARD matching grant. More to come with that before the money gets sent to us.
- The campsite waiting list has been being gone through. People are given a date to let Hannah know by and then she moves on.
- Hannah has been communicating with parkers and contracts will be sent next week.
- Another late-night offering happened but there probably won't be anymore. If there is it'll be closer to July 1st deadline.
- There's a lot going on around the fair grounds this week so if you need something from Hannah an email is best.

Public Comment –

- Mary Redman – She is the Arcada Township Treasurer for the board. They have been talking about large trash pick up item for their residents. Mary came to ask if their township can use a portion of the fairgrounds on September 21st from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. for King's to come collect the large items for their residents. Martha made a motion to approve and Kent seconded. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

- 4-H Council – They are working on their food license and working with Willie's Weiner Wagon.
- Horse Developmental – Becky reported that there would be 32 kids coming to Horse Camp. There is a speed show Saturday, May 11th in the evening and an open horse show Sunday, May 12th. They are having a meeting on May 10th.
- Large Livestock – No report.
- Fair Schedule – No report.
- 75th Anniversary – They finalized the dinner and golf outing details. Sponsors and teams are needed for the golf outing. Past queens are being contacted for upcoming events.
- Rodeo – The committee hasn't met. Kent will be doing follow ups.
- FFA – Banquets are happening now.
- Small Animal – No report.
- Buildings & Grounds – Bathhouse is almost done. Campsites are fixed and picnic tables are updated. Martha mentioned a power washer at Gilbert's. They offered one like we had for \$1,550. We do need a power washer. Kent made a motion to get the power washer. Martha seconded. Motion carried. Martha reported on Alexandria Jeffery for cleaning the bathrooms. She will do the cleaning and will start on May 10th. A meeting for this committee needs to be planned.
- Awards – The committee hasn't met. Awards have been being ordered.

Upcoming Rentals

- 5/10-5/12 Horse Camp & Horse Show
- 5/19 Kountry Kids 4-H Meeting
- 5/25 Community Wide Garage Sale
- 6/4 RESD Employee Picnic

Old Business --

- 75th Anniversary Polos – Hannah has all sizes now and will work on those.
- Memorial Weekend Fundraiser – Community Garage Sales – Have lots of donations expected to be dropped off starting the middle of the month. Currently have 10 booths signed up.
- After Fair Clean Up (August 13th and 15th from 5-7 pm) – All hands-on deck to get things cleaned up. Had to change from the 14th due to an event on the grounds.
- Sponsorships – Fair, Rodeo, Golf – Hannah had asked at the last meeting for sponsorship ideas and members were to bring them to this meeting. There wasn't much input given again. All board members need to get Hannah some suggestions.
- Chamber Community Event – It was a great event. We received a very nice award and Hannah shared some words as a thank you.
- Barn Fans Project Status – At this time the first payment of 25% has been submitted. As of today all of the funds needed for the project have not been received. Each board member has the current numbers in their packet.

New Business—

- Vendor Line Up w/Armory Fence & Camper w/Radio Station – Items along the Armory fence need to stay 8' away. Hannah will get a vendor letter together to go to Ellen's Burnips, Janson's and Hutson for equipment along walk in fence. Angie made a motion to invite Cupcake Creation back again. Matt seconded. Motion carried. Hannah will send her an invite as well. If the camper place does decide they want to setup they will need to pay a vendor fee to plug in.
- Setup Date & Time for Cleaning Barn A Corner – Tuesday, June 18th at 6:00 p.m.
- Intern Update – Raegan Falor will be starting Monday, June 10th and Mary Sopocy will be returning on Monday, July 8th.
- MDARD Exhibitions of Dairy & Poultry – As of now there are no lactating dairy cattle allowed until 60 days free of new cases. There is to be no poultry exhibits or exhibitions until there are no new bird flu cases for 30 days.
- Appreciation Awards – Hannah will email the board a list of past winners. In return the board needs to send Hannah their recommendations.
- Day Chair Sign Up – Martha collected who wanted what day. Hannah will send the list to the board.
- Isabella Bank Community Shred Day (May 28th) – Martha has this on her radar if we have anything that needs to go.
- Emergency Meeting – Last year it was July 12th. Chuck is going to work on getting this setup.
- Winter Storage Dates
 - In on October 19, 2024
 - Out on April 12, 2025
- July Board Meeting – July 11 – We will not be having it on the holiday.
- New Fair Board Picture at June Meeting – As long as all board members will be in attendance.
- Other – A motion was presented to excuse all that were absent tonight. The board had discussion on the topic since they had been voting for excused or unexcused in the past. The bylaws were looked at due to the thought of if three meetings were missed by a board member then that board member would be done serving their term. After further discussion on the topic it was discussed that three meetings could be missed for whatever. Then after that the board would discuss if the board member was released or not. This topic still needs further discussion but we hope to not have to get to that point of needing to discuss if a board member gets released or not.

Angie made a motion to adjourn, and Matt seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

The next meeting will be June 6, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hannah Reeves
GCFFY Fair Coordinator