

The regular meeting of the Ross County Agricultural Society Board of Directors was conducted Monday, February 6, 2023, at the Ross County Fairgrounds, 344 Fairgrounds Road, Chillicothe, Ohio.

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm by President Brad Cosenza.

Roll Call revealed that Boggs, Clary, Corcoran, and Hill were absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Wheeler.

Guests – Melody Young, Tom McWhorter, Chris Hooks, Kacey Shaffer, Katie Wells, and Jackie Detillion.

Melody Young with the Chillicothe Visitors Bureau spoke on the proposed new Commercial Building and thinks this will be a great addition for the area. She has had to turn down prospective clients due to not a large enough facility for their event in the area.

Pickerrell reported that the Horse Arena Committee has not received hardly any pledges or donations.

Wells informed the Board the 4-H Extension Office has two new employees, Dawn Woods and Dee Forest and are hoping to hire a program assistant for the summer. The Jr Fair Board will be meeting on March 2, 2023, at 5:30 pm in the MPB to prepare their presentations. They will practice in front of the Senior Fair Board on March 6, 2023, first presentation starting at 5:30 pm and the second at 6:00 pm. The FFA instructions with deadlines, rule changes, and enrollment paperwork have been emailed to the schools. Barn superintendents are being interviewed. Most livestock judges have been booked. The voucher examples will be revamped with better explanations. In the past the superintendents have helped with the show bills. The market show bills are prepared by the Sales Committee.

2-1-23: Elliott moved, Haubeil seconded to add “Exception: Guernsey Breed” to the new slick sheering rule for Dairy Goats. Motion carried.

2-2-23: Bethel moved, Free seconded to pay \$6.00 per picture sign for 4-H seniors to hang in the barns during fair. Motion carried.

McWhorter went over proposed changes to the Sales Committee procedures and deadline for releasing show bills and sale bills. The Board questioned why superintendents checked the show bills before releasing. McWhorter explained that only two changes were permitted on weight and to check if an exhibitor was excluded.

Wells knows an educator from Allen County that is willing to meet with the Senior Fair Board and Sales Committee to explain what the program Show Works is capable of doing.

There are six unpaid buyers and all exhibitor checks have been mailed.

The Board has spoken with auctioneers that would handle the sale, money, and distributing the exhibitor's checks. There is still a question of the balance on the Sales Committee's accounts.

2-3-23: Clever moved, Chain seconded to approve January 3-13-23, 2023, minutes. Motion carried.

2-4-23: Elliott moved, Clever seconded to accept the January Treasurer Report. Motion carried.

2-5-23: Clever moved, Kemper seconded to pay January 4-31, 2023, bills totaling \$42,205.46. Motion carried.

2-6-23: Bethel moved, McCorkle seconded to pay February 1-6, 2023, bills totaling \$30,996.83. Motion carried.

2-7-23: Haubeil Jr. moved, Kemper seconded to approve the purchase of "The Square" for Wheeler to receive payments on site. Motion carried.

2-8-23: Clever moved, Gearhart seconded to renew the electric contract with Champion Energy for a three year period at the price of \$.06992 per kWh. Motion carried.

The Commissioners have signed a MOA on the exit onto the 207 Connector. The Adena MOA will continue as written.

Wheeler has replaced the mirrors in the restrooms in the MPB.

Wheeler recommended the hiring of Jeff Stanley, he has been working on the grounds under the Alba House.

2-9-23: Free moved, McCorkle seconded to pay \$4,000.00 to the architect, Eric Karhoff, to begin the design of the Commercial Building. Motion carried.

Clifton says he will have his granddaughter take pictures this year during the fair.

Discussion took place on whether to supply a free campsite to the photographer that takes pictures and sales the pictures of the exhibitors, no decision was made.

A meeting with Hometown Tickets will be set up later in February.

The special meeting scheduled for May 15, 2023, will be changed to May 16, 2023.

2-10-23: Haubeil moved, Pickerrell seconded to increase the permanent food booths to 15% of gross revenue, increase the square footage vendor sites to \$5.00 per square foot, all vendors must purchase a golf cart permit, vendors will be charged \$255.00 for 30amp campsites and \$335.00 for 50amp campsites, the allotted tickets to vendors will be 2 weekly or 14 daily, allotted tickets to permanent food vendors will be 2 weekly or 14 daily and 1 ticket per \$50.00 paid to RCAS from the previous year's fair. Motion carried.

2-11-23: Bethel moved, Kemper seconded to budget \$3,000.00 for renovation to the office trailer that was purchased. Motion carried.

2-12-23: Haubeil Jr moved, Haubeil seconded to have a beer garden at the 2023 fair and to sell beer during certain events at the Grandstand. Motion carried, 12 Yes, 2 Opposed.

Haubeil Jr asked for someone to please talk with Kissel Amusement Rides to bring a better selection of rides.

Bethel announced that their would not be restrictions on the food vendors menus.

Gray handed out the fair book pages to be updated for the 2023 fair book. A person or persons needs to be chosen for the dedication page.

2-13-23: Bethel moved, Clever seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 pm.
Motion carried.

WITNESSED BY:

RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTED BY:

BRADFORD COSENZA
RCAS PRESIDENT

MARY LUDWICK
RCAS SECRETARY