

The special meeting of the Ross County Agricultural Society Board of Directors was conducted Tuesday June 16, 2020 at 6:00 pm at the Ross County Fairgrounds, 344 Fairgrounds Road, Chillicothe, Ohio.

The meeting was called to order by President Bryan Bethel at 6:00 pm.

Roll call revealed that all Directors were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Bethel.

Guests – Katie Feldhues, Sally Bluck, Karlton Wheeler, Von Cremeans, Dan Ramey, 2 Ross County Health District Representatives, and approximately 45 guests from the community. There was not a sign in sheet per the Health Departments advisement.

Bethel addressed the meeting to explain that the State had lessened the Health Mandates for fairs. He then asked if any guest wanted the floor.

Tiffany addressed the Board on wanting them to consider deciding collectively on having a full fair. She explained that she thinks that most of the community did not want to participate in a one-day show for Jr. Fair market projects and was confident that the community would abide by the health mandates.

Judy Reese suggested having a food court with no rides.

Monica would like to help with the fair any way she can.

Von Cremeans, the President of the Pickaway County Agricultural Society explained how the Pickaway County is conducting a full fair and following the States Health Mandates. They have spent \$1,100.00 on signs and suggested to have a sign at the entrance “Enter at Your Own Risk”. There is no liability to the Ag Society if you are not negligent.

Boggs would like to discuss a full Jr. Fair and a partial Senior Fair which would include camping and rides.

Prater thank the guests attending for showing interest in the fair and to volunteer their time to help.

Free would like to see a full fair to take place and thanked the guests.

Bethel has spoken to the lawyer and insurance and we would not be liable if someone contracted Covid 19. If we were to hold events in the Grandstand

168 tickets would cut off sales when the maximum capacity was met. First Capital has stated that their price for extra cleaning would not be over \$2,500.00 and Gator's Jons would not be over \$3,000.00 for extra cleaning of the porta jons. The State will be giving fairs \$50,000.00 for those that conduct a Jr. Fair and \$15,000.00 for those fairs not being able to have any sort of fair.

S6-1-20: Boggs moved, Chrisman seconded to conduct a Senior Fair modified to comply with State Health Mandates. Opposed – Corcoran, Cosenza, Elliott, Gray, Haubeil, Haubeil Jr., Hurtt, McCorkle, Nelson, Pickerrell and Whitten (11). Affirmative – Boggs, Chain, Chrisman, Clever, Free, Gearhart, Hill, and Prater (8). Abstained – Clary (1). Motion failed.

Haubeil Jr. is concerned with the cost of having a Jr. Fair without any income. He went over each expense of the Jr. Fair. The Ag Society has lost almost all the income so far this year.

The Health Department cautioned on not to cut costs on cleaning the fairgrounds and that the Senior Fair Board would have to enforce the social distancing on the grounds during a Jr. Fair.

Prater asked the Health Department if they could help the Ag Society with sanitizers.

One guest wanted to know where is all the money that the Ag Society makes on rentals. The Board explained that the money goes into the buildings and expense of holding a fair each year.

Bethel announced a 10-minute break at 7:11 pm while guests were leaving. Bethel called the meeting back into session at 7:22 pm.

Katrina Robinson thanked the Board for listening and apologized for the other guests leaving and would still like to see a Jr. Fair.

Feldhues reported that she and her staff, superintendents and volunteers have been working hard on a schedule for a Jr. Fair Livestock Show but with the State Health Mandate changes would like to hold a more traditional Jr. Fair with camping for the exhibitor and immediate families instead of the trailer in and trailer out schedule that she had prepared. OSU will pay for the signage and a \$12,500.00 donation from 4-H to help cover expenses for the show. The fans can now be running in the barns for the livestock, when the public is in the barns, they

must wear masks. She suggests having a pool sale for the market projects and split the money evenly among the species. She has a committee and the 4-H will help make calls to the buyers.

Gray would like to stay with the trailer in plan that Feldhues had developed.

A discussion on requirements on camping took place.

All campers must be backed in.

No common area.

No more than 10 people on a campsite.

No mass gatherings.

Cosenza is concerned with exhibitors camping the Ag Society will hit peak demand on the electric bill for the year.

S6-2-20: Prater moved, Hill seconded to have a modified Jr. Fair Livestock Show with camping of exhibitors and essential personal deemed necessary by the Senior Fair Board. Affirmative 12, Opposed 6, Abstained 1. Motion carried.

Hooks reported that most buyers did not want to come because of social distancing. He recommends a terminal show.

Haubeil Jr. suggested conducting the sale at the Grandstand to comply with social distancing.

S6-3-20: Clary moved to make the 2020 Livestock Sale a partial non-terminal show. Motion died for lack of a second.

Cosenza reported that the Grant agreement was received, it has been signed by Bethel and will be mailed back on the June 17, 2020.

S6-4-20: Clary moved, McCorkle seconded that the president be authorized to contract with Murphy Tractor and Equipment Company for the purchase of a John Deere 331G Compact Track Loader in the amount of \$67,780.10. \$50,000.00 of this will be reimbursed by the Ohio Department of Agricultural via the grant that was submitted the Society. Motion carried.

Gray reported that the fair book will need to be posted on the website, copies will be printed off to send to ODA and OFMA.

Pickerrell reported that the Harness Racing will be held on Sunday.

A press release will be posted on the RCAS website on the manner of the Jr. Fair Livestock Show.

FedEx had contacted the fairgrounds wanting to park OTR trailers and delivery vans on the grounds year-round. There is not enough room.

S6-5-20: Chrisman moved, Cosenza seconded to reschedule the 2020 Jeep Fest on October 2-4, 2020. Motion carried.

Feldhues would like to not have 4-H premiums this year, Cosenza will be checking with OFMA to see if this could be waved for the 2020 fair.

Cosenza suggests that local food vendors be used this year.

Whitten asked if vendors selling show supplies will be on the grounds. Yes, they will.

S6-6-20: Boggs moved, Prater seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:01. Motion carried.

WITNESS BY:

RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTED BY:

BRYAN BETHEL
RCAS PRESIDENT

MARY LUDWICK
RCAS SECRETARY