

The regular meeting of the Ross County Agricultural Society Board of Directors was held March 4, 2024, at the Ross County Fairgrounds, 344 Fairgrounds Road, Chillicothe, Ohio.

The meeting was called to order by President Bradford Cosenza at 6:02 pm.

Roll Call revealed that Elliott, Haubeil, Haubeil Jr., McCorkle, and Wetzel were absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Cosenza.

Guests – Karl Gearhart, Tom McWhorter, Kacey Shaffer, Lynette Grigsby, Wayne Grigsby, Holly Helber, Sally Bluck, Bill Speakman, Chuck Downey, Chet Downey, Ryan Andrews, Sara Lute, Rachel Lute, Kenton Richter, Kate Wells, and Katrina Robinson.

Chet Downey with Chuck Nasty's Sewage introduced himself and asked questions on the pumping of sewage during the fair.

Karl Gearhart with the Calf Scramble requested the use of a building for their committee meetings. A discussion on the status of liability and loss of life insurance for the calves from time of purchase until the calves have been picked up within two weeks after the fair.

Wayne Grigsby with the Horse Arena Project has spoken with two prospective sponsors that would like to see another large arena. They would like to use the existing arena for warm up and build a large arena under roof for the shows.

3-1-24: Clary moved, Kemper seconded to add to the changes made to the fitting Rule #35 to include "except horses". Motion carried.

Rule #25, all injections administered on fairgrounds do need to be witnessed by a Superintendent.

3-2-24: Clifton moved, Clever seconded to approve the purchase of three (3) Dell Latitude 5540 computers for \$5,358.81. Motion carried.

3-3-24: Bethel moved, Kemper seconded to purchase banners for \$140.00.
Motion carried.

Two exhibitors have not received their checks from the auctioneer. Money from the Reserve Grand Champion Hog has not been refunded as of yet. A meeting took place with Williams Auctioneer, not sure if we will have them back for the 2024 Livestock Sale, but changes will be made if they are used.

3-4-24: Bethel moved, VanHoose seconded to pay the two exhibitors that have not be paid. Motion passed.

Multiple exhibitors have waited too long to cash their checks resulting in them bouncing. This information will be sent to Cosenza.

Sales Committee will be meeting on March 14th.

Jr Fair Board members Ryan Anderson, Sarah Lute, and Rachel Lute reported that they will be conducting a fund raiser on Friday, August 9, 2024, after the Fair Awards. A corn hole competition for ages 9-19. There will be 32 teams with half of the money awarded to the winners and the other half donated to the Homeless Shelter.

3-5-24: Bethel moved, Clary seconded to permit the Calf Scramble Committee to hold their meetings on the fairgrounds. Motion carried.

Wells reported that enrollment deadline was Friday, March 1, 2024. Late enrollment exhibitors will have one chance to enroll late. Enrollment has increased by 62, Ross County is the second largest enrollment, Licking County being the largest by 100 more enrollees.

3-6-24: Clever moved, Boggs seconded to approve the February 5, 2024, minutes.
Motion carried.

3-7-24: Corcoran moved, Clary seconded to approve the February Treasurer Report. Motion carried.

3-8-24: Bethel moved, Boggs seconded to approve payment of February 8-29, 2024 bills totaling \$60,739.53. Motion carried.

3-9-24: Hill moved, Clever seconded to approve payment of March 1-4, 2024 bills totaling \$64,096.45. Motion carried.

Reservations for the OFMA District Spring Meeting were taken.

The process of how and who should sell RCAS membership tickets was discussed and there will no changes made with the process at this time.

Cosenza reported that grants have become available for RCAS to apply for and the following are suggestions on what to apply for;

Air conditioner unit for one end of the Commercial Building.

Redo the roof and electrical upgrade to the Bandstand.

New sound system for the Grandstand.

Fencing and road work on the 207-connector exit/entrance.

Jr Fair Building interior paint and a ventilation system.

There is \$250,000.00 left on the grant received to install the fiber optic and Wi-Fi in the buildings and midway. This will possibly be used to start the Wi-Fi in the campground.

Free reported that she has received a total of \$145,000.00 for the Commercial Building Event, \$100,000.00 of this is from Adena Health System.

Gray will need fair book pages completed and turned back in. Are there any suggestions for the dedication page.

Nelson will be sending out camping contracts soon.

Bethel would like more electric hook ups in the infield for concessions. The golf cart order will be sent in earlier this year. The permanent booths will be charged 14% this year, and they will have to sign their contract before setting up. Bethel would like for the contract to be updated before the fair. The Conservation League has never paid for trash or electric, he wants the Board's opinion on this situation.

3-10-24: Boggs moved, Kemper seconded to increase the Multipurpose Building booth rentals to \$470.00 plus \$5.00 trash fee totaling \$475.00. Motion carried.

Boggs would like for the ceiling fans in the Multipurpose Building to be checked before the fair.

The Kissel Amusement Co invited the Fair Board to Harvest Ridge at Holmes County Fairgrounds for a day of indoor and outdoor rides and dinner.

The Building Inspector has required that there be plans and a load calculation for the electrical grid available when he arrives for inspections.

The Contract Service Workers quotes were tabled until the April 1, 2024, meeting.

3-11-24: Clever moved, Gearhart seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 pm. Motion carried.

WITNESSED BY:

RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTED BY:

BRADFORD COSENZA
RCAS PRESIDENT

MARY LUDWICK
RCAS SECRETARY