

Gratiot County Fair for Youth  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, December 5, 2024  
Thompson Home Public Library, Ithaca, Michigan

**Members Present:**

Jack Butcher, Chuck Efaw, Raegan Falor, Andrew Lombard, Keegan Humm, Kent Humm, Brent Skinner, Shanna Smith, Becky Hirschman and Martha Stellow

**Members Remote:** Angie Lake, Matt Jorae, Adam Wood

**Fair Office Staff:** Hannah Reeves

**Guests:** Joe Bowen, Kelly Bushre, Darcy Martyn, Larry Richards, Eric Whitford, and Jennifer Whitford

Chuck Efaw called the meeting to order at 6:21pm concluding the Annual Meeting.

**Election of Officers:**

Chuck opened the nominations for the executive committee. Chuck nominated Brent for president. Jack second. Motion carried. Shanna nominated Chuck for vice president. Adam second. Motion carried. Chuck nominated Martha for treasurer. Angie second. Motion carried. Martha nominated Kent for secretary. Keegan second. Chuck nominated Shanna as secretary. Angie second. Ballots to vote were provided, cast and counted, Shanna voted secretary.

Becky moved to accept Raegan Falor as our newest teen representative. She has shown goats and still exhibits in addition to serving as one of our summer interns last year. Shanna second. Motion carried.

Secretary Report – Presented in packet by Brent. Becky moved to accept. Chuck second. Motion carried.

Treasurer Report – Martha presented financials. Chuck moved to accept. Keegan second. Motion carries.

**Fair Office Report :**

- Hannah is expecting to receive \$60,000 grant this week or next. She has been in contact with Tracy. Once the money is received, Hannah will move the amount to the money market account.
- Donor letters have been sent out. Hannah discovered an old list and added more of these donors to her mailing list. Donations are starting to trickle in.
- There is a surplus of 75<sup>th</sup> cookbooks and T-shirts in the office. Hannah suggested selling these at a discounted price with Christmas approaching. Martha moved to allow Hannah to sell cookbooks at \$15 each. Kent second. Motion carried. Martha moved to allow Hannah to sell shirts at a discounted price determined by Hannah. Jack second. Motion carried.
- Hannah will be working to get the fair book out as soon as possible. She will email a copy to the board for proofing first.

**Public Comment:**

- Martha asked the public for their thoughts on the threat incident during fair week. Discussion was held. Communication and speaker improvements were suggested. The fair board is currently working on both. Joe Bowen suggested having a debrief meeting with involved law enforcement.

## **Committee Reports:**

- 4-H & 4-H Council – No Report.
- Horse Developmental – Have not met. Becky reported that they will meet again in April. Becky is working on a Coggins/vaccination clinic to be held in April as well.
- Large Livestock – Have not met.
- FFA – Hannah reported that Brent DeSaegher placed in the top 6 in the state for the MFB discussion meet. Breckenridge FFA has also reached out asking for assistance in watching their members' practice presentations. If interested, please see Hannah for more information.
- Small Animal – Have not met. Martha reported that Darcy is stepping down from the chair position and that they will need a new one.
- Building and Grounds – Have not met.

## **Old Business:**

- GCCF Weburg Fund - Hannah reported that we have approximately \$3,600 to use. Brent recommended we reach out to George and Linda to see what the intent of this money was or if they would like to see the money used in any particular way.
- Fair Entry - Hannah reached out to superintendents asking for them to send her questions they want answered at her training. Fair Entry emailed Hannah stating that our annual payment was not yet received. Hannah has been in contact with them regarding this. Check was mailed prior to the due date but has not yet been cashed. Hannah will continue working on this.
- Fan Update - J Channel is up. Hannah gave an update on the rebate and invoice status. She has been asked to be CC'd in communications and this has not yet happened

## **New Business:**

- Committees – Committees will be formed at Jan. meeting.
- Archery Supplies – Darren reached out to Hannah stating that they have target faces that need to be replaced. They have been using these for 10+ years. There is also a \$70 coaching fee he pays yearly. It was discussed that an archery should become a line item in our financial report. We have already received a donation from Gratiot County Big Buck Pole in Memory of Jamie Oswald. Martha made a motion to purchase the items needed for the Gratiot County archery program and the coaching fee. Kent second. Motion carried.
- 2025 Dates to Plan for:  
Dinner Dance – March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025  
Golf Outing and Road Sign Auction – June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- Barn Security - Kristi Davenport and Hannah spoke about barn security. For 2025 they will be changing shifts to 30 minutes.
- Hannah reported the Donkey Bash company we were looking into has now booked during our fair. Kent and Keegan Humm and Brent and Jessica Skinner will be attending MAFE convention next month. Becky moved to allow these board members to act on behalf of the board to book an event costing approximately \$2000. Martha second. Motion carried.

Kent moved to adjourn. Keegan second. Meeting adjourned at 7:19pm.

Next meeting - January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 at 7:00pm – Bill & Grace Vanderbeek Conference Room

Respectfully submitted,

Shanna Smith

GCFFY Secretary