

Gratiot County Fair for Youth  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, December 7, 2023  
Bill & Grace Vanderbeek Conference Room

Members Present:

Chuck Efaw, Martha Stellow, Clay Mills, Matt Jorae, Darcy Martyn, Kylie Acker, Andrew Lombard, Brent Skinner, Jack Butcher, Angie Lake, Shanna Acker, Adam Wood, Kent Humm & Keegan Humm

Guest: Amiee Minnick, Kristy Davenport, Samantha Sinclair, Cindy Whitford, Doreen Slavik, Jim Slavik, Becky Hirschman, Kim Reisterer, Beth Gruden, Laurie Gager, Jennifer Whitford, Jami Bebow, Jennifer Dickman, Jason Lombard, Gary Skinner, Larry Richards

Brent made a motion to suspend the rules and start the meeting at 6:36 p.m. Adam seconded. Motion carried.

President Chuck Efaw called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

Chuck opened up nominations for the executive board. Shanna Acker nominated Chuck Efaw as president. Darcy seconded. Motion carried. Martha Stellow nominated Kent Humm as vice president. Darcy seconded. Motion carried. Jack Butcher nominated Brent Skinner as secretary. Darcy seconded. Motion carried. Adam Wood nominated Martha Stellow as treasurer. Darcy seconded. Motion carried.

Martha reported that for the teen representative we had one applicant, Andrew Lombard that applied. Hannah, Becky and Martha met with Andrew and recommended bringing Andrew on as the new teen representative. Kent seconded. Motion carried.

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

Martha presented the treasurer's report. The new budget needs to be added into QuickBooks and roll the year forward. Kent moved to accept the treasurer's report as presented. Darcy seconded. Motion carried.

Fair Office Report –

- Hannah has been working on getting the donor mailings ready for the donor mailing that will happen following this meeting.
- The 120-day report was submitted but they also needed info from the annual meeting so that will be updated, and final submission done.
- A lot of prep work went in to getting the program and presentation ready for the annual meeting.
- Camper mailings will not happen until early February.
- If anyone else wants to go to the MAFE Convention they need to let Hannah know by the end of the week.

Public Comment –

- Becky Hirschman – She welcomed new board members and advised them to look at sides of the job. To think of what is best for the youth. We are servicing the same group whether they are fair exhibitors or 4H kids. It's all for the youth.

Committee Reports:

- 4-H Council – Kim Reisterer reported that there is a new 4H program coordinator starting January 8<sup>th</sup>. She is going to MSU to work on her masters. Kim also reported that the 4H awards ceremony was successful.
- FFA – Brent DeSaegher was in the top six for the Farm Bureau Discussion Meet. Nicole Hollabaugh participated as well.

- Horse Developmental – They met this past Tuesday. Horse camp will be May 10-12. Becky has the clinicians all set but there will be more info to come. The committee will not be meeting again until April. There will be a Coggins clinic in early April.
- Large Animal Committee – No report.
- Special Event Committee (75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary) – Angie reported that 400 cookbooks were ordered this week. The proof is in the process. They should ship 20-25 days after so they should be here mid-January.
- Special Event Committee (Fair Dinner Dance) – Hannah handed out 10 tickets to each board member to sell ahead of time. Flyers and solicitation letters were also handed out to board members to work on. Hannah passed a list of places to solicit to for board members to sign up by. That will be updated on the Google Sheet that Hannah has shared with the board to update as they go. Tickets are \$25 each, doors open at 5pm and supper is at 6pm and all being held at the Pins in Ithaca.
- Fair Schedule Committee – Hannah reported on the recommendations that the committee had agreed upon. Brent made a motion to change all recommendations provided including having the exhibitor dance be 8:30-11:00 p.m. Jack seconded. Motion carried.
- Small Animal Committee – No report.
- Building and Grounds – Chuck reported that we need to post the specs for bid on the bathroom project. We need at least two more bids. Specs will be put on Facebook. Estimates are being gotten to fix the electrical in the campground. We probably need to get locks on all the panels in time. The sump pump might need to be looked at. The furnace needs to be serviced as well. Elite out of St. Louis did it the last time. Hannah will call them.
  - Clay added that we should do structure work on Barn C (Archery Barn). It would possibly need a cable. Clay and Chuck will work on a solution.

#### Upcoming Rentals

- 1/21 – Lucky Stars 4H Club Meeting

#### Old Business --

- Bathhouse project – Continuing in forward motion. Sealed bids are due by Friday, January 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Flags around fairgrounds – Looking into pricing for new flags out front.
- Insurance review – Hannah and Chuck reported on what Breckenridge Insurance Agency came back with. The quote was much larger than anticipated. There is an insurance session at the MAFE Convention that Hannah will attend.
- Superintendent reviews – Chuck has them done and needs to sit down with the superintendents.
- Fair Book Changes – None provided from board.
- Registration Dates – Hannah went over. Brent made the motion to accept as presented except all breeding stock except beef and then the peewee due dates would be May 17<sup>th</sup>. Then the futurity and beef breeding stock would be due to register by June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Still Exhibit Project Sizing – Brent made a motion to add “it’s exhibitor and families’ responsibility to move still exhibit project to and from exhibit barn for sale”. Adam seconded. Motion carried.
- Barn Security – Will stay for 2024. If they don’t sign up for barn security, they don’t sell in the still exhibit sale. They don’t sell if they don’t sign up and they don’t get paid if they don’t show up for barn security duty. Matt made a motion that the exhibitor must sign up for barn security to sell in the still exhibit auction and if they don’t show up to their time slot, they don’t get paid. Kent seconded. Motion carried.

#### New Business—

- 2024 Special Pricing for Rentals – Leave alone.
- Form new committees – Hannah passed around the committees and info on each for board members to sign up under.
- Camping letters for 2024 – Hannah will be sending out in early February.
- Record Books & Skills Test – Market animal superintendents would need to add in a med label with questions on the label. Then a question would need to be added to the skills test to see what exhibitors want for awards. Also, include

a fill in the blank of rule on drug policy in the fair book. Currently it is the last bullet point on page 6. Brent made a motion to have market animals record books have a med label with questions included, have a question where there is fill in the blank on the drug policy and then for all skills tests to have question on what exhibitors want for awards. Andrew seconded. Motion carried.

- Conference Room Chairs – Angie is going to steam clean the chairs.
- MAFE Convention – If anyone else from the board wants to go, they need to let Hannah know by tomorrow. (12/8)

Darcy made a motion to adjourn, and Brent seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

The next meeting will be February 1, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brent Skinner  
GCFFY Secretary