

Gratiot County Fair for Youth  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, June 6, 2024  
Bill & Grace Vanderbeek Conference Room

Members Present:

Chuck Efaw, Matt Jorae, Andrew Lombard, Angie Lake, Shanna Smith, Keegan Humm, Martha Stellow, Becky Hirschman & Kent Humm

Absent Members: Adam Wood

Fair Office Present: Hannah Reeves and Raegan Falor

Guests: Kelly Becker, Amiee Minnick, Jennifer Dickman, Lydia Davenport, Kristi Davenport, Kipp Krenz, Greg Wolfe, Ellie Martyn, David Robinson, Ron Bushre, Teresa Bushre, Larry Richards

President Chuck Efaw called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

Martha presented the treasurer's report. She went through the bathhouse remodel project and reviewed the numbers again. Brent made a motion to accept the financials. Darcy seconded. Motion carried.

Fair Office Report –

- There's a couple campsites open still for the week of fair.
- One of our interns, Raegan Falor, is starting on Monday, June 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Hannah is working through what is still needing to be done for the golf outing and road sign auction.
- Camping waiting list is almost all the way through. Waiting for a few responses before moving on.
- Hannah mentioned how Ivy Davenport was looking for a co-op job. She wasn't looking for pay but wanted to gain experience going into her senior year. Hannah mentioned that it isn't something she wants to start a trend on but would be open to the idea as there are still some things that require more time and having Ivy would be helpful in the next year. The board discussed and Brent made a motion to hire Ivy for a co-op position and pay her minimum wage. Shanna seconded. Motion carried. Hannah will get with Ivy to let her know.

Public Comment –

- Jennifer Dickman reported that the fan installation would be starting at the end of June. She also shared with the board that she was told a board member was downgrading the fan project. With her and Jami's hard work towards the project they did not appreciate the negativity.
- Dave Robinson shared with the board that he helped pick up trash and cans during the fair in the past.

Committee Reports:

- 4-H Council – Bri reported that the fridge in Barn A has sold. They will come pick up possibly June 19<sup>th</sup>. The freezer is still in the works. The food license for the food booth during fair is still in the works as well. WMLM 4H-er of the week has been airing. There is a Kid's Day on June 20<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm for beekeeping. Farming for the Future Succession planning event through the Conservation District is in the works. There will be Cloverbud Camp on July 23<sup>rd</sup> at the fairgrounds. Kelly Becker reported that 18 seniors got cords and that Livestock Judging contest is on June 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Horse Developmental – Becky reported that Horse Camp was a great success along with both horse shows they hosted.
- Large Livestock – No report.
- Awards – The ordering is in the works.
- 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – The golf outing currently has 13 teams and all 18 holes have sponsors. The picnic continues to go forward. Setup info for the event is to come. The special week of fair events are in progress.
- FFA – No report.
- Small Animal – It was reported that they met on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. There is a small number of dogs registered. Currently there is still no exhibition of poultry. The plan is no poultry but exhibitors still need to do an educational poster, there will be showmanship of some sort and cages will have a display in them. Market pens for poultry will be two for processing. Even if ban is lifted, they would like to only have terminal poultry on the grounds. Egg pullets will still be sold. Exhibitors would be responsible for delivery. Greg Wolfe's concern for goats is he's not bringing his to the fair. Dairy to goat transfer can happen and they share a barn. Breeding stock maybe do a haul in and haul out for the show day. An education piece should be put out via biosecurity. Brent made motion that any breeding stock shown this year of the fair

can be hauled in and out the same day as the show. Darcy seconded. Motion carried. Angie made motion to accept small animal report. Brent seconded. Motion carried. Becky made motion that there's no lactating goats. Shanna seconded. Motion carried. The east end of the arena is where they will haul in for breeding stock.

- Rodeo – Kent reported that we have \$4500 for the rodeo so far. He has called everyone on the list to confirm an additional \$2750 to come. The board discussed what the costs might be to get out of the rodeo contract for this year if donations don't pick up. A plan needs to be figured out.
- Buildings & Grounds – Exhibit barn clean up on June 18<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Barn B needs volunteers to clean up dust. Kristi Davenport will head up crew to power wash Barn A & B. Chuck went through buildings and grounds list. Kent made motion to purchase a new John Deere mower. Jack seconded. Motion carried. No update on PA system. We need to rent an edger and get the asphalt sealed. It's \$99 per day to rent an edger. Met state guy that works with armory. We can't use the NE corner of armory property anymore. Rodeo parking needs to be adjusted. No alley way over by practice arena either. Another thing is that campers must be backed in and tongues facing the road. Need to get asphalt sealed before fair and estimates need to be collected. Becky made motion to get bids for asphalt seal coating and go with the lowest of three bids to get it sealed before fair. Jack seconded. Motion carried.

#### Upcoming Rentals

- 6/15 Cow Pie Bingo – Covered Arena
- 6/16 Kountry Kids 4-H Meeting
- 6/22 Road Sign Auction
- 6/23 Open House – Barn L

#### Old Business --

- Memorial Weekend Fundraiser – Community Garage Sales – It was a great success with lots of donations. Hannah had people asking before the day was over if it would happen again next year.
- After Fair Clean Up (August 13<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> from 5-7 pm) – All hands-on deck to get things cleaned up.
- Barn Fans Project Status – Installation will begin towards the end of June.
- Vendor Line Up w/Armory Fence & Camper w/Radio Station – Per the armory there is to be nothing parked within 8' of the armory fence. Dawn from the radio station was inquiring if a small camper could be parked over Barn A during the week of fair to broadcast from if the situation lined up correctly. The board mentioned there was limited space but the vendor committee could work with her.
- Set Date & Time For Cleaning Barn A Corner – Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup> at 6pm.
- MDARD Exhibitions of Dairy & Poultry – This was discussed during the small animal report. As of now no poultry still and dairy remains the same as before.
- Appreciation Awards – Hannah will be emailing a list with previous winners and those nominated. Email her back with your votes.
- Emergency Management Meeting Date – This will take place on Wednesday, July 10<sup>th</sup> at 10 am.
- Winter Storage Dates
  - In on Saturday, October 19, 2024
  - Out on Saturday, April 12, 2025
- July Board Meeting – Due to the holiday it will be pushed back a week and take place on Thursday, July 11<sup>th</sup>.
- New Fair Board Picture – If everyone is in attendance in July we will take an updated one then.

#### New Business—

- Gratiot County Herald Ad/Insert – Marta from the Herald stopped by and asked if we wanted the same insert as last year at the same price. Hannah told her that she would see what the plan was with the 75<sup>th</sup> and report back. Angie will talk with Michael and Marta further.
- ORV Plan – Adjustments have been mentioned but nothing has been decided. If changes are going to be made Hannah needs to know sooner rather than later to communicate for fair.
- Golf Outing Update – This was given above in the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary report.
- Radio Station & Rodeo Tickets – The board agreed to give 4 tickets for them to give away again.
- Superintendent Meeting – More info to come but Hannah will be planning one before fair so everyone is on the same page again.
- Campground Rules – Per the fire marshal and discussion with a guy from the state all campers need to be tongue facing the road in case of an emergency. Any campers not parked correctly this year will be moved.
- Swine Holding Situation – John Dill is not holding animals this year. Shanna said Sage's in Greenville could take 10. Cozat's would take all of our pigs if we needed and they would want them hauled in Saturday night. Shanna also talked to Clare Stockyard to confirm that they would be willing to resell. Also check on possibly holding. More info to come.

Darcy moved to adjourn. Brent seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

The next meeting will be July 11, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brent Skinner  
GCFY Secretary