

The regular meeting of the Ross County Agricultural Society Board of Directors was held February 5, 2024, at the Ross County Fairgrounds, 344 Fairgrounds Road, Chillicothe, Ohio.

The meeting was called to order by President Bradford Cosenza at 6:01pm.

Roll Call revealed the Bethel, Corcoran, Kemper, and McCorkle were absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Cosenza.

Guests – Gayle Mahaffey, Tom McWhorter, Kacey Shaffer, Dustin Cottrill, Matt Ealey, Ashley Ealey, Dave Carroll, Jeremy Roll, Jason Wiseman, Kate Wells, Autumn Uhrig, Makinley Haynes, Dixie Mollenkott, and Kenton Richter.

Gayle Mahaffey requested that either a parking pass or weekly wristband be provided for the current Homemaker of the Year.

2-1-24: Clever moved, Free seconded to provide a wristband during the fair for the current Homemaker of the Year. Motion carried.

Jason Wiseman went over the classes for the tractor pulls. Riffle Machine Works has finished the hitches for the tractor pulls as a donation. Wiseman has a pulling sled that he would like to store somewhere on the grounds. This will be looked into.

Dave Carroll with the Antique Tractor Display during the fair would like to see if there could be work done on the fence to avoid people gaining free entry into the fair. He would also like a release form available for the displayers to sign.

Dusting Cottrill with the Cattleman Club would like to use the scales, PA system and the Show Works program for their October show. McWhorter and Shaffer volunteered to be there and help.

Matt and Ashley Ealey asked the Board what are the results of their son Gunner Ealey's swine exhibit that tested positive for an illegal substance. They have been cooperating with ODA in the investigation. ODA is considering changing the rule.

2-2-24: VanHoose moved, Prater seconded that Gunner Ealey will be banned from having a market project for three years, 2024, 2025, and 2026 due to the drug violation with his swine project. Motion carried.

Wells reported that the livestock judges have been hired except for the beef judge. Superintendents are being interviewed for the Beef Barn. ODA is working on some rule changes and would like input from the Fair Boards in the state. She and Shaffer are working on setting up the registration with Show Works program.

Jr Fair Board reported that they are working on organizing a corn hole tournament during the fair as a fund raiser. They would like several Sr Fair Board members attend their meetings.

2-3-24: Clever moved, Elliott seconded to approve the January 9, 2024, minutes. Motion carried.

2-4-24: Haubeil moved, Wetzel seconded to approve the January Treasurer Report. Motion carried.

2-5-24: Boggs moved, Haubeil seconded to approve payment of January 10-31, 2024 bills totaling \$8,133.68. Motion carried.

2-6-24: Boggs moved, Clever seconded to approve payment of February 1-7, 2024, bills totaling \$59,676.80. Motion carried.

2-7-24: Hill moved, Clever seconded to approve the 2024 working budget. Motion carried.

The two checking accounts from the Sales Committee will be rolled into one account.

2-8-24: Prater moved, Wetzel seconded to allow Big Brothers/Big Sisters to use the Multipurpose Building on February 10, 2024, free of charge for their event. Motion carried. Nelson abstained.

A moment of silence was observed for the passing of Frank Hirsch.

Free reported that the Commercial Building Event Fund received a pledge of \$5,000.0 from Dr. and Mrs. Wissler.

Gray handed out Fair Book pages to be updated and needs them returned by April 15, 2024.

Elliott reported that the Pioneer School has received a grant for making the restrooms on the grounds more handicapped friendly. They will start installing these updates.

Hill has booked the band Hotel California for the August 10, 2024 concert in the campground.

Nelson will be sending out the camping contracts next month.

Shaffer has been working with Andy Wettersten on getting a quote for computers to be used by the Sales Committee.

2-9-24: Clever moved, Elliott seconded to approve payment of \$450.00 for license renewal of Show Works. Motion carried.

The checks that were cut for the market projects this year have a 90-day limit to be cashed.

McWhorter would like for the scales to be serviced before this fair season; he will get an estimate.

The order for Fair Books will be reduced this year from 4500 copies to 4000 copies.

The Sponsorship packages have been redone.

Horizon and Kevin Ross will be working on the ATM machines.

2-10-24: Clever moved, Wetzal seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm. Motion carried.

WITNESSED BY:

RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTED BY:

BRADFORD COSENZA
RCAS PRESIDENT

MARY LUDWICK
RCAS SECRETARY

