

The regular meeting of the Ross County Agricultural Society Board of Directors was held April 1, 2024, at the Ross County Fairgrounds, 344 Fairgrounds Road, Chillicothe, Ohio.

The meeting was called to order by President Bradford Cosenza at 6:03 pm.

Roll Call revealed that Clary, Corcoran, Hill, Kemper, and McCorkle were absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Cosenza.

Guests – Kacey Shaffer, James Campbell, Karl Gearhart, Mike Magill, Amy Smythe, Katrina Robinson, Bill Brown, Kate Wells, Wayne Grigsby, Isaac Corcoran, Marislea Wax, and Tom McWhorter.

Grigsby with the Horse Arena Cover Subcommittee has been talking with possible donors and the donors have asked what is the commitment of the Senior Fair Board. The Board passed a motion (Motion S6-2-22) at the June 21, 2022 meeting that 90% of the funds would have to be raised before breaking ground on the project. Haubeil will work with Grigsby to prepare an estimate for the complete project.

4-1-24: Boggs moved, Clever seconded to approve the changing of the Voucher Redemption Program, eliminate Skillathon from the program, \$5.00 per project/activity, checks will be sent to the club advisors after the fair for distribution along with a list of recipients with a signature sheet. Eleven Affirmative, Two Opposed. Motion carried.

Jr Fair Board members Corcoran and Wax reported that they are learning the process of ear tagging. They will be having a bonfire soon, and they have been learning Jr Fair activity times by playing trivia games.

Bill Brown with the Lyons Club brought their check for payment during the 2023 fair that became lost in the mail. He also is still concerned with the increase of percentage that permanent food booths are paying.

Shaffer turned in the fair book edits. They will be bringing back Division Winners to be figured into the sale bill. The Sales Committee has a new Facebook Page. A print out of the total sales has been requested from the auctioneer. The checks from the Jr Fair Livestock Sale will be distributed no later than October 4, 2024 with an in person check delivery over a 2-day period, if checks are incorrect, they will correct and cut another check. Online registration for Show Works is up and running, there will be a demo with written instructions to register.

4-2-24: Bethel moved, Elliott seconded to accept the Sales Committee changes and pay the \$450.00 renewal fee for Show Works. Motion carried.

McWhorter reported May 4, 2024 is small animal tag in. A check was received from Adena in the amount of \$5,000.00 in honor of Frank Hirsch and given to the Treasurer. They also received a \$200.00 check from a livestock buyer for what they purchased 2 years ago.

Karl Gearhart with the Calf Scramble Committee would like to add a rule to the official rules for the Jr Fair Calf Scramble concerning the date that dehorning must be done by.

4-3-24: Bethel moved, Clever seconded to add Rule #31 to the Official Rules for Jr. Fair Calf Scramble stating, "Dehorning must be done by November 15th. (This must be done before December weigh-in, if not done calf will not be able to tag & weigh-in.) Calf will be removed from participant and gave to a participant that didn't catch a calf in the scramble if dehorning is not done by November 15th." Motion carried.

4-4-24: Clever moved, Nelson seconded to approve the March 4, 2024 minutes. Motion carried.

4-5-24: Clever moved Chain seconded to approve the payment of March 5-31, 2024 bills totaling \$31,340.00. Motion carried.

4-6-24: VanHoose moved, Prater seconded to approve the payment of April 1, 2024 bills totaling \$19,552.44. Motion carried.

4-7-24: Bethel moved, Clever seconded to accept the March Treasurer Report. Motion carried.

4-8-24: Haubeil moved, VanHoose seconded to approve the following extra meeting dates for RCAS, Tuesday May 21, 2024, Monday June 17, 2024, Monday July 15, 2024, and Monday July 29, 2024. Motion carried.

Matt Clifton arrived at 7:23 pm.

4-9-24: Clever moved, Clifton seconded to approve signing Mount Starting Gate Service contract for \$650.00 for fair Harness Racing. Motion carried.

Haubeil has estimates for grant application for multiple upgrades, road work, infrastructure projects, and will obtain estimates for ceiling fans for MPB and an air conditioning unit for Commercial Building.

4-10-24: Boggs moved, Clever seconded to approve signing Dr. Davis contract for the 2024 fair vet in the amount of \$5,000.00. Motion carried.

Wheeler reported that all Winter Storage has been picked up.

4-11-24: Haubeil Jr. moved, Clever seconded not to charge VanHoose extra Winter Storage for 2023/2024 season. Motion carried.

4-12-24: Bethel moved, Haubeil seconded to approve raising non-fair camping fee to \$30.00 per night as of May 1, 2024, and events will have to pay for sewage dumping tanks to be pumped out that were used during their event. Motion carried.

Wheeler asked for help with the square so he can take a payment with a credit card by entering the number without having to swipe the card.

Free has spoken with several new leads on sponsors for the Commercial Building.

4-13-24: Clever moved Haubeil seconded to award Scioto Valley Dumpsters contract for the 2024 fair at the rate of \$450.00 per dump and they will supply 8 20-yard dumpsters. Motion carried.

4-14-24: Clever moved, Gearhart seconded to award the sewage pumping contract for the 2024 fair at the rate of \$35,100.00, this includes portable toilets, hand washing stations. Motion carried.

4-15-24: Bethel moved, Clever seconded to award the emptying of trash cans to Tradesmen Building Services for the 2024 fair at the rate of \$20,000.00 with a start up fee of \$7,500.00 paid by July 28, 2024. Motion carried.

4-16-24: Boggs moved, Chain seconded to award the Grounds Sanitation at the rate of \$22,000.00 and Restrooms and Building Sanitation at the rate of \$12,000.00 to Tradesmen Building Services for the 2024 fair with a start up check for \$15,000.00 paid by July 29, 2024. Motion carried.

4-17-24: Clever moved, Clifton seconded to award the Tents contract to Higley Tents for the 2024 fair at the rate of \$9,995.00. Motion carried.

4-18-24: Clever moved, Boggs seconded to award the Ticket Sellers, Ticket Takers contract to the Navy Petty Officers Club for the 2024 fair at the rate of \$28,924.00 with 5 golf carts. Motion carried.

The 2024 Fair Slogan was voted on and the winner this year is by Jr Livestock Growers 4-H Club "The 80th year is finally here – the Ross County Fair 2024"

4-19-24: Bethel moved, Chain seconded to approve the ticket prices for the Grandstand events this year, first Saturday Semi/Tractor Pulls \$5.00, Monday Big Time Wrestling \$20.00 – Ringside \$30.00 (this will include fair entry), Tuesday Jr Fair Night \$3.00, Wednesday TBD, Thursday Rodeo \$10.00, Friday Autocross \$10.00 – Pit Passes \$15.00, Saturday Demo Derby \$10.00 – Pit Passes \$15.00. Motion carried.

Haubeil – Camping rows being upgraded are almost complete.

Gray needs all fair book pages by April 15th.

4-20-24: Haubeil moved, Clever seconded to approve the PEP Insurance renewal. Motion carried.

4-21-24: Clever moved, Bethel seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 pm. Motion carried.

WITNESSED BY:

RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTED BY:

BRADFORD COSENZA
RCAS PRESIDENT

MARY LUDWICK
RCAS SECRETARY

