

The regular meeting of the Ross County Agricultural Society Board of Directors was held on April 3, 2023, at the Ross County Fairgrounds, 344 Fairgrounds Road, Chillicothe, Ohio

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Steven Clever at 6:05 p.m.

Roll call revealed that Clary, Corcoran, Cosenza, Elliott, Gray, Hill, McCorkle, and Ludwick were absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by VP Clever.

Guest - Mike and Shawna Bell, Kathie Rapp, Derek Miller, Janet Prickett, Nancy Detty, Tom McWhorter, Lisa Bair, Joy Cox, Gene Donahue, Cindy Powell, Alan J. Hamburger, Herbert, Mike Bogil, Sheila Blevins, Debbie Kellough, Melinda Stephens, Paige Congrove, Megan Jean, Kacey Shaffer, Chris Hooks, Ryan Kline, Bill Brown, and Katie Wells.

Courtney Davis with Pioneer Center spoke on the concerns regarding handicap accessibility. Ms. Davis is requesting for improvements to be made and up to date with ADA requirements. Suggestions such as: pavement around barns, and show arenas instead of gravel, adult changing stations, lift table, bathrooms to have paper towel holders and soap dispensers lowered and possibly porta potty units for handicap persons. Step in wash, and in time a mobile shower and bathroom unit. Ms. Davis is looking into a Landon grant for funding to help with these new changes and additions.

Megan Jean with the Zane Trace PTO has a complaint on this year's new adult night entertainment with Lori Graves and Donnie Baker. Ms. Jean was also very adamant about the percentage increase on the Zane Trace sausage booth. From years past of 10% to an additional 5% increase. Megan feels this new 15% will mean failure for the kids and Zane Trace booth. Ms. Jean would like for the board to reconsider the increase.

Shelia Blevins is also requesting the board to reconsider the 15%. Bill Brown also has request reconsideration.

VP Clever reassured guests that as a board we will reconsider the notion and get back with everyone.

Guest: Derek Miller was offering his services for firewood for all events at the Fairgrounds.

Mike and Shawna Bell with Bell Farms expressing concerns on 15%. Letting the board know he and his wife have invested \$55,000.00 in equipment in order to make the Grange work. Mr. Bell feels this will be devastating to his business and also provided paperwork with breakdown of food cost.

Lisa Bair with the Horse Arena Subcommittee informed the board that the project is still moving forward and received a small donation from a 4-h club.

Bethel made a motion to extend food booth deadline from April 30<sup>th</sup> to May 15<sup>th</sup> in order for directors to discuss at next month's meeting. Haubeil Sr. second the motion. Motion carried.

Katie Wells reported Jr Fair Board have been working on their pictures for the fair book and Sally Bluck is working on making those changes. Jr. Fair Board decided to include King, Queen and court scholarships of \$4,000.00 to be distributed across the different titles. Additional funds will also be held back for those titles. Presentation and training were done to teach the kids how to handle situation where a child is involved; such as a conflict with an adult, judge, barn superintendent etc.... What is the Jr Fair members roll in that situation and how to handle that? Project changes have closed as of April 1<sup>st</sup>. Hog judge has pulled out; however, new judge has been contacted. Tag ins are coming up May 6<sup>th</sup> 8-11, a.m. May 8<sup>th</sup> 6-8 p.m. Jr Fair board have voted to put together Donuts for Doe to raise money and split between new commercial building and new horse arena.

Sale Committee Report: Tom McWhorter reported as of March 9, 2023 operating account was \$10,373.00, 54 outstanding checks, 4 unpaid buyers, totally \$3,256.67. Kacey Shaffer presented a proposal for 2023 Fair book updates. Outlining the new line up of sale order. Line 9 of Junior Fair Livestock Sale to be taken out and read just as: Sale order will be:

4-1-23: Haubeil Sr. moved, Prater seconded to accept the above purposed changes of the Livestock Sale to be published in the 2023 Fair Book. Motion carried.

4-2-23: Pickerrell moved, Chain seconded to approve March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 minutes. Motion carried.

4-3-23: Chain moved, Gearhart seconded to pay April 1-3, 2023, bills totally \$8,283.63. Motion carried.

4-4-23: Bethel moved, Pickerrell seconded to accept the March Treasurer Report. Motion carried.

4-5-23: Pickerrell moved, Boggs seconded to pay March 7-31, 2023, expenses totaling \$14,722.53. Motion carried. Four opposed.

Ms. Hoop brought to the board's attention that Wheeler has the Square and wants to know if the board is ok with paying the convenience fee associated with the Square.

4-6-23: Boggs moved, Bethel seconded to apply for the PEP Grant of \$1,000.00 to be spent on an additional AED. Motion carried.

Insurance paperwork was discussed, premium has gone up roughly 10% from last year for a total of \$29,156.00.

4-7-23: Haubeil Jr. moved, Pickerrell seconded to accept terms and conditions of the PEP insurance. Motion carried.

VP Clever will hold paperwork for signature upon President Cosenza's return.

Caretaker Report: Wheeler has a bride who rented the building in February and the wedding was called off, she would like to request a refund.

4-8-23: Haubeil Sr moved, Pickerrell seconded to refund deposit on cancelled wedding. Motion carried.

Commercial Building Report: \$15,800.00 in pledges an additional \$50,000.00 is coming in.

Adena would like to put up two pop up tents for free ride day. In hopes to help grandparents and kids to get a break from the heat during that time. Benches are in and ready to be delivered. Cost of delivery is \$50.00 per trip with two trips needing to be made.

4-9-23: Free moved, Prater seconded to pay \$100.00 to craft mall for delivery of benches. Motion carried.

Gray is needing all updates and changes in by May 15<sup>th</sup> along with bio for Lee Whitten for the dedication page, and Chris Kline for Outstanding Fair Supporter.

Old Business:

Contract Service quotes:

Brad Johns said he is now interested so he will be submitting a bid.

Sewage: Gearhart is speaking with an individual from Pickaway County Fair. Has been instructed to submit a bid.

Kenworth is using lot space from the April 15, 2023 through the end of the April.

Music Festival update: 3 offers are out with a deadline of April 7<sup>th</sup>. Waiting to hear back.

New Business:

Drew Williams Auctioneer Contract:

4-10-23: Gearhart moved, Haubeil Jr., seconded to make date change for Add-Ons to contract from July 10<sup>th</sup> to July 17<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried.

Nelson has asked for grass to be sown on corner lots where traffic is cutting into lots. Lots 113, 463, 1,004 need attention as well.

4-11-23: Boggs moved, Bethel seconded to order replacement parts for existing AED at the cost of \$450.00. Motion carried.

Pickaway Ross Kids are coming out to help power wash and paint the Pickaway Ross building. Fair Board to provide paint.

Nelson requesting to move septic pumping people to a better location.

Discussion took place on whether to remove the three camper lots close to the midway to make room for additional vendors.

4-12-23: Kemper moved, Haubeil seconded to remove the three camper lots close to the midway to make room for additional vendors. Motion carried.

4-13-23: Bethel moved; Kemper seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 pm. Motion carried.

WITNESSED BY:

RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTED BY:

STEVEN CLEVER  
RCAS VICE PRESIDENT

KELLEY R. VANHOOSE  
DIRECTOR/SUB SECRETARY

