

The regular meeting of the Ross County Agricultural Society Board of Directors was held January 9, 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 that Bethel, Boggs, Corcoran, Elliott, Hill, Prater, and VanHoose were absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Cosenza.

Guests – Tom McWhorter, Heather Crago, Mary Harp, Darla Cryder, Tom Cryder, Ryan Elliott, Kacey Shaffer, Greg Adkins, Kailee Adkins, Rilee Adkins, Parker Whittington, Kate Wells, Katrina Robinson, and Karl Gearhart.

Shaffer is working to set up Show Works so exhibitors can self-register for the fair. This process will cost a flat rate of \$250.00. This same process can be used for registering the entries in the Home Arts Building in the future. The Sales Committee would like to have two Chrome Books for this year. The next meeting will be Thursday, January 11, 2024, in the Multipurpose Building.

Wells is helping Shaffer with the registration. The Jr Fair Board did very well with their presentations at the OFMA Convention.

Katrina Robinson reported that they are working on a 4-H Family Cookbook. A contest will be held to pick the cover design for the cookbook.

Heather Crago spoke on the new goat fitting rules, how they will be enforced, and the penalty for failure to abide by the rules. Cosenza was concerned on how it would be monitored. Haubeil Jr was concerned on the fact that the exhibitor would be disqualified before the show and still be able to file a grievance. It was agreed to change the wording in the penalty portion.

Rule Enforcement Committee

Beginning 30 minutes before the show until the show is over, the Rule Enforcement Committee, consisting of a Barn Superintendent, SFB representative,

and a Jr Fair volunteer will begin monitoring grooming practices. Any issues before the show should be brought to the Goat Superintendents.

If rule violation is discovered **before the show**, the committee is responsible for following up on immediate concerns, securing documentation, and rule enforcement including informing the family (exhibitors and parents). If the family has concerns, they can file a formal grievance.

If rule violation is discovered during or **after the show**, the committee follows up on immediate concerns, secures documentation, and informs family (exhibitors and parents) that a meeting will be held within 24 hours.

1-1-24: Haubeil Jr moved, Kemper seconded to approve Rule 1: All exhibitors must only use products found on the “approved fitting products list”. Rule 2: All goat exhibitors must fit in designated goat fitting areas, specifically, they must fit in the fitting tents. Penalty for failure to abide by rules 1, 2, and horn and hair length rules; Exhibitors could be subject to an immediate disqualification from the current year’s Jr Fair exhibition and sale, including all market, breeding, and showmanship shows. Disqualified exhibitors will receive packer price for their animals and will not be eligible to participate in the Jr Fair Premium Sale. Placings will advance only if in the Top 5 overall. Motion carried.

1-2-24: Haubeil moved, Wetzel seconded to approve the December 11, 2024, minutes with the correction of the amount of Grandstand tickets in Motion 12-9-23, from 1 to 2. Motion carried.

A letter will be sent to past Fairboard members of 15 years or more of the changes made to Article XVI in the RCAS Constitution.

1-3-24: Haubeil Jr moved, Kemper seconded to approve the payment of December 13-31, 2023, bills totaling \$19,638.76. Motion carried.

1-4-24: Chain moved, Wetzel seconded to approve the December Treasurer Report. Motion carried.

1-5-24: Gearhart moved, Nelson seconded to approve the payment of January 1-9, 2024, bills totaling \$5,126.91. Motion carried.

1-6-24: Clary moved, Clever seconded to approve Keith Diehl to take over Jeep Fest with RCAS to help the first year with insurance, set up, taking the camping, it will be held on July 5-7, 2024, with Jeep Fest using the Grandstand. Motion carried.

There was a discussion on how to control the damages that take place during the motocross races. A meeting will be set up with Scott Plessinger on this matter.

1-7-24: Free moved, that the revenue from booth rentals of the Commercial Building during the fair go into the Commercial Building Event fund. Motion failed due to lack of a seconded.

Wetzel reported on the progress of completing the campground licensing, campsites 511 and 463 were disqualified, they were not large enough. Signage is needed in several areas, the old dump station is not state approved, a letter is needed from Pat Allen with All Win Electric, the water lines going to the dump stations need a back filler on each line.

Haubeil Jr has the line-up for the Grandstand

1st Saturday – Antique tractor pulls in the am – Truck/tractor pulls in the pm

Sunday – Harness Racing – King & Queen Contest

Monday – Bigtime Wrestling

Tuesday – Jr Fair Night

Wednesday – Comedy Night

Thursday – Rodeo

Friday – Auto Cross

Saturday – Demo Derby

Nelson has several campers that stayed plugged into the electric after the Sunday 7pm deadline, invoices have been sent with no response. Nelson is going to send one last invoice with a stipulation that if the extra day or days are not paid, they will lose their campsite for the 2024 fair.

Nelson reported that she learned at OFMA Convention that it is permitted to hold a 50/50 raffle during the fair.

Free is working on restructuring the sponsorship packages.

Gray will be starting on the 2024 Fair Book. She wants the 4-H vouchers to remain being paid with cash.

Free and Clever will be working with Wells on restructuring the vouchers.

1-8-24: Haubeil moved, Haubeil Jr seconded to approve SWCD to use the Show Arena on April 30, 2024 for their fish pickup, free of charge. Motion carried.

1-9-24: Haubeil Jr moved, Wetzel seconded to approve the ODA Financial Report. Motion carried.

Cosenza will call Cindy Bodie over the fair goats that were sold at Producers sale.

1-10-24: Chain moved, Kemper seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:25pm. Motion carried.

WITNESSED BY:

RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTED BY:

BRADFORD COSENZA
RCAS PRESIDENT

MARY LUDWICK
RCAS SECRETARY