

The regular meeting of the Ross County Agricultural Society Board of Directors was held on May 1, 2023, at the Ross County Fairgrounds, 344 Fairgrounds Road, Chillicothe, Ohio.

The meeting was called to order by President Bradford Cosenza at 6:02 pm.

Roll Call revealed that Boggs, Clary, Kemper, and Nelson were absent.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Cosenza.

Guests – Bryan Nelson, Tom McCorkle, Joy Cox, Gene Donahue, Dee Hathaway, Shelia Blevins, Debbie Kellough, A.J. Hamburger, Mike Hathaway, J. William Brown, Melinda Stephens, Megan Jean, Paige Congrove, Kacey Shaffer, Marianne Guthrie, Chris Hooks, and Katie Wells.

Megan Jean and Paige Congrove representing the Zane Trace permanent food booth at the fairgrounds asked the Board to reconsider the increase on all permanent food booths. Their argument was that they are a non-profit organization that give scholarships and the price increase would hinder their ability to give as much back to the community. Hill explained that the RCAS expenses have increased also. Bill Brown representing the Lyons permanent food booth was against the increase and complained that the Lyons Club did not receive enough complimentary tickets for his workers.

5-1-23: Free moved, Pickerrell seconded to help the permanent booths by increasing the percentage 2% for 2023, increasing an additional 2% in 2024, and increasing an additional 1% in 2025. 7 affirmative votes, 7 opposed votes, Cosenza affirmative. Motion carried.

Andy Wettersten gave the Board an update on installing the fiber optic Wi-Fi on the grounds. The job should be completed by fair. He also gave options on how this could produce enough capital to cover maintenance fees.

Katie Wells reported that the 4-H Camp is doing great, there is a waiting list for boys and a few spots open for girls, there are 55 Clover Buds enrolled. The Jr Fair Board has been learning how to fill out ear tag forms. Ryan Kline and Johnna Uhrig will be filling in for Wells at the fair, Kline is to handle all situations of conflict.

The Sales Committee will need an area/office to produce the documents during the fair.

5-2-23: Clever moved, Pickerrell seconded to approve the March 29, 2023 minutes. Motion carried.

5-3-23: Chain moved, Clifton seconded to approve the April 3, 2023 minutes. Motion carried.

5-4-23: Pickerrell moved, Free seconded to approve the April 19, 2023 minutes. Motion carried.

Marianne Guthrie was introduced to the Board.

5-5-23: Prater moved, Clever seconded to hire Marianne Guthrie as Assistant Treasurer as of May 1, 2023 for 2 months at the wage of \$1,000.00 then starting July 1, 2023 will move to Treasurer at the wage of \$2,040.00 per month and Jaluv Hoop will move to Assistant Treasurer starting July 1, 2023 till end of her contract at the wage of \$1,000.00 per month. Motion carried.

5-6-23: McCorkle moved, Clever seconded to pay May 1, 2023 bills totaling \$9,868.63. Motion carried.

5-7-23: Corcoran moved, Gray seconded to approve the April Treasurer Report. Motion carried.

5-8-23: Corcoran moved, Hill seconded to pay April 4-30, 2023 bills totaling \$186,674.97. Motion carried.

The balances of the Sales Committee's accounts are operating account \$11,358.28, sales account \$14,440.23 with 34 checks that have not been cashed.

The fair slogan winner for 2023 is The Bubble Gum Gang with "Be the best that you can be at the Ross County Fair of 2023"

5-9-23: Bethel moved, McCorkle seconded to approve to pay the Ross County Sheriff's Department half of the costs of the road signs needed during fair. Motion carried.

Haubeil Jr. will need help with Jeep Fest. Bethel will handle the concessions, Boggs EMS, Nelson camping, Cosenza security, Gearhart trash & porta jons.

The Ohio Department of Health has approved 600 specific campsites to be used for non-fair camping. The dump stations will be built by the racetrack and on the exit road, they can be completed this year.

Wheeler has had encounters with a gentleman that has come to jog on the fairgrounds. He has been asked to leave but won't.

5-10-23: Hill moved, Bethel seconded to have a sign made that states "This facility is not open to the public without permission 740-253-6040". Motion carried.

The ticket booth is being remodeled; it will need an air conditioner.

5-11-23: Haubeil Jr. moved, Clifton seconded to purchase a window air conditioner for the ticket booth. Motion carried.

Free reported that Steven Gary has pledged to donate \$25,000.00 to the Commercial Building Event.

Haubeil Jr reported that the 3 main artists have been booked with deposits and have talked with the lawyers.

5-12-23: Hill moved, VanHoose seconded the following prices for Ro Co Music Festival;

6 years of age free for camping and concert.

\$200.00 for a camping wristband for all weekend.

\$150.00 to camp for all weekend. \$50.00 per extra night Tues, Wed, Thurs. only.

\$175.00 concert tickets all weekend, non-camping.

\$100.00 1-day concert.

\$10.00 parking fee.

\$100.00 golf cart permit.

\$750.00 flat rate Midway concessions.

\$1,000.00 flat rate Infield concessions.

Each Fair Board Member receives 1 campsite and 2 wristbands free. Motion carried.

5-13-23: Hill moved, Clifton seconded not to waive any extra fair camping fees. Motion carried.

5-14-23: Hill moved, Bethel seconded the following prices for the Grandstand entertainment;

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Free Concert in campground starting at 7:30pm.

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Antique Tractor Pull 10:00 am Free.

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday Kenworth Semi, Stock Truck, and Hot Tractors at 7:00pm \$5.00.

Monday Micro Wrestling presale \$12.00, gate \$15.00, ringside \$40.00.

Tuesday Jr. Fair Night \$3.00.  
Wednesday Adult Comedy \$15.00, floor seats \$20.00.  
Thursday Bump & Run \$10.00, pit pass \$15.00.  
Friday Autocross \$10.00, pit pass \$15.00.  
Saturday Demo Derby \$10.00, pit pass \$15.00.  
Motion carried.

Free reported that all sponsorships are full.  
VanHoose would like to have a golf cart parade with prizes for best decorations.  
Hill will need tables for poultry barn, suggests purchasing 20 new tables for RCAS and giving the poultry building 20 old tables from RCAS. The petting zoo will be back this year along with a tinsmith and lumberjack.  
Bethel has sent out 58 contracts for concessions.

5-15-23: Clever moved, Haubeil seconded to accept the quote of \$35,100.00 from A-1 Septic for fair sewage pumping. Motion carried.

5-16-23: Bethel moved, Prater seconded to accept the quote of \$20,000.00 from Brad Silcott for emptying trash cans during the fair. Motion carried.

Pioneer School's wish list is moving forward.  
Haubeil will be pricing lights for the midway.

5-17-23: Hill moved, Bethel seconded to hire Richard Wheeler as of April 4, 2023, at \$12.00 per hour not to exceed 39 hours per week. Motion carried.

5-18-23: Hill moved, Free seconded to adjourn at 8:53 pm. Motion carried.

WITNESSED BY:

RESPECTIVELY SUBMITTED BY:

BRADFORD COSENZA  
RCAS PRESIDENT

MARY LUDWICK  
RCAS SECRETARY

