

Calhoun County Agricultural & Industrial Society

Minutes of Board Meeting

October 20th, 2014 – Marshall Middle School - 7:00 PM

Call to Order

The October 20th, 2014 Board meeting was called to order by CCAIS Board President, Doug Wildt at 7:00 pm at Marshall Middle School.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vic Potter.

Attendance with Roll Call was conducted by Megan Harvey.

Present: Doug Wildt, Susan Baldwin, Bill DeSmet, Steven Benham, Bruce Bosserd, Hope Horton, Jim Olds, Vic Parker, Vic Potter, Shirland Redfield Excused: Nick Collier

Secretary's report of the September 15th, 2014 minutes was given by Susan Baldwin. Having no changes requested, motion was made by Vic Potter, supported by Hope Horton to file the minutes as presented, vote was all in favor to file the Secretary's report.

Treasurer's Report – Bill DeSmet provided the treasurer's report. He provided updated statements through September 30. DeSmet reviewed the actual versus budget numbers, the balance sheet, and profit and loss statements. He noted that the budget was built on only one year of actual numbers, the financials will be more accurate as we have more years of data. He discussed the variances in front office and temp staff. The golf outing expenses were higher this year but there was an increase in revenue for an overall substantial profit. There were increased expenses for golf cart rentals and radios for fair week. Also looking into capital expenses, website changes, and track preparation costs for a new event. The Board discussed and agreed to hold approval of the August and September financials until the November meeting, pending additional information.

Public Comment - requested for any agenda items. None.

Old Business:

- 1. Youth Organization** – Hope Horton shared a revised youth Organization Application form. The revised form includes information on weigh-in dates.

It also sets out guidelines that participants must follow. Horton also shared the new ages that the Committee proposes for showing animals. MDA has lower ages than 4-H. The Committee kept some ages higher than MDA guidelines. February 1 is the deadline to enroll a youth organization. After discussion of the form, Bill DeSmet moved and Jim Olds seconded a motion to table the approval until the next meeting to allow the information to be posted as a draft to the website for any member comments. Board approved the motion.

New Business:

- 1. Superintendent Updates** – Hope Horton reported that the Superintendents have been holding meetings and discussing concerns, complaints and ways to get more people involved. Horton also presented new Superintendents for some of the categories – Open Class Culinary Arts - Shelly Densmore, Photography - Karen Dean and Antiques - Pam Woods. There are still openings and Horton is looking for applicants. Superintendent positions are available for Open Class Floriculture and Ages 3-7. Youth openings are Ceramics, Floriculture, Educational, Creative Writing and Conservation/Safety/Natural Resources/Entomology, and Dogs. The Committee would also like to add a Floral Hall Building Superintendent. This position would see that the building is kept in good condition and that any problems are brought to the attention of the Board operations chairman. They would work with the Superintendents in Floral hall and the Fair Manager. Letters of interest must be received at least 5 days prior to the next board meeting.
- 2. Property – Lot NW corner of Fairgrounds** – Vic Parker reported that a lot adjoining the current horse camping area has been offered to the Fair for the cost of the transfer. The property owner is Jeff Begg. Research shows that the costs to transfer will be approximately \$700 to 750. Parker will research the size of the lot and the lot number for the next board meeting.
- 3. Website Update** – Megan Harvey reported that she met with Eric Cook on the website status. She shared a draft of the web pages on the overhead projector, and explained where documents would be attached to the pages. Some of the fair information has been loaded. The site is about a week from going live. Cook is still working on setting up online payment programming. Bill DeSmet suggested posting fair results and auction information. There was discussion about the dates for the fair in 2015 – the fair will open on August 16th. There

were also requests to put Board member and Superintendent phone numbers and emails on the website.

Events and Committee Reports:

- a. 4H Council – Marilyn Letts – reported that the Annual Meeting was held on Oct 7. Many awards were presented. The Leaders banquet is scheduled for Dec 4 at the High School. There is a new group – entrepreneurs. Some students have been very successful. The new theme selected by the students for next year is Youth – the Future Force.
- b. FFA Report – Megan Harvey reported for Marshall FFA. The chapter is selling fruit for delivery Dec 8 and is working on district competitions. Megan reported that Homer FFA has 15 people going to Louisville for national convention. Several youth are going for the chicken/broiler event.
- c. Floral Hall Building – John Taylor reported that the volunteer dinner was a great event.
- d. Houston School – Bonnie Rocco - no report.
- e. Maple Grove Church – Margaret Taylor reported that where will be a wedding on Nov 1. Duncans and Taylors will prepare the Church.
- f. Electrical – Phil Smith – stated that there is nothing new to report.
- g. Marketing Committee – Hope Horton stated that the committee is working on a replacement for the trifold brochure. The Fair information has outgrown the current document. Supers are working on any changes that need to be made for 2015. Susan Baldwin suggested that an app be created for the fair. Hope/Megan stated that there is a mobile version of the website in draft.
- h. Sponsorships – Megan Harvey has prepared a complete sponsor list – it is available. Working number of sponsorship dollars for the Cruise event is \$16,085. Sponsorship amount for the Fair is \$84,787. Megan and Bill DeSmet are finalizing the report.
- i. Operation Committee – Vic Parker reported on an opportunity for chain link fence. Several rolls of different heights are available – it could be as

much as 1000 feet. There is some top rail also. The Fairgrounds can buy the rolls for about \$1500. There are no posts so the fair would have to buy those. The Board and members discussed various costs. Retail costs might be as much as \$9000. Jim Olds moved that the Fair purchase the fence for \$1500 – Steven Benham seconded. Motion carried. Shirland Redfield asked if there is a plan to store the fencing inside. Phil Smith stated that the material could be stored in the 4-H barn.

- j. Cruise the Fountain – Leslie Parker reported that the next planning meeting for the 2015 cruise event is coming up on Nov 5.
- k. Fundraisers – Cindy Thomas - no report.
- l. Fair Museum – JoAnne McKeever – no report.

PUBLIC COMMENT – three minute time limit and one opportunity to speak

Kim Mowery shared information about the cancer drive put on with the antique tractors group. The group raised \$6300 for the Fountain Clinic in Marshall and the Bronson Battle Creek services in Marshall.

Bud Moe expressed thanks to Megan Harvey and Phil Smith for the great work on the volunteer dinner.

Maureen Marshall asked with the report will be out on the large animal auction. Hope Horton reported that not all of the money has been collected. Vic Parker reported that he has met with Kori Albrecht about getting the auction results finalized.

Pat McCann discussed the provisions under the Fair Bylaws that address removal of Board members. He requested a vote at the Annual Meeting on the possible removal of Hope Horton and Vic Parker.

BOARD COMMENTS –

Susan Baldwin shared copies of the Five Year Plan Committee minutes from September 18 and October 9. Vic Potter announced that the next Five year Plan Committee meeting will be December 4.

Adjournment – Motion was made by Bill DeSmet, seconded by Hope Horton, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 pm.