

# Calhoun County Agricultural & Industrial Society

## Minutes of Board Meeting

September 18, 2017 – Marshall Middle School - 7:00 PM

### **Call to Order**

The September 18, 2017 Board meeting was called to order by CCAIS Board President, Vic Potter at 7:00 pm at Marshall Middle School.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Nick Collier.

Attendance with Roll Call was conducted by Susan Baldwin.

Present: Vic Potter, Doug Wildt, Jim Olds, Amanda Shreve, Susan Baldwin, Steven Benham, Tom Carr, Nick Collier, Matt Ivey, Art Kale, Erik Myers. Absent/Excused: None.

Approval of Agenda - motion by Susan Baldwin, seconded by Doug Wildt, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed.

Secretary's report of the July 17, 2017 minutes was given by Susan Baldwin. Motion was made by Susan Baldwin, seconded by Art Kale, to file the minutes. Motion passed.

Treasurer and Finance Committee Reports – Amanda Shreve presented the report. She noted the assets, restricted and liquid as well as liabilities. She also noted that the numbers were still coming in for fair week so the reports are not final. Shreve expressed thanks to the Hansens for their hard work in managing the gates and getting volunteers. She also expressed thanks to Vic Potter and Matt Ivey for their assistance with counting receipts, as well as volunteers from the banks. The 2018 budget will be coming up and would like to hold a Board workshop with the October Board meeting. Motion was made by Tom Carr, seconded by Art Kale, to accept and file the financial report. Motion passed.

Executive Director's Report – Megan Harvey reported that yesterday was the Vintage Market and camper rally. From the last September show to this one there was huge growth. Merchants, Boys and Girls, and Belcher buildings all had vendors in them. There were 23 campers total, which doubled from the spring show.

Elise put together the Sportsmen's Expo, which was overall a great event. There was consistent foot traffic, the vendors were happy and offered great feedback on how to continue to grow the event.

Overall the Fair was great! Staff is keeping track of things that went well and ideas that we would like to see changed or improved. The Sunday changes went well, huge thank you to everyone that helped get that worked out. Sponsorships were just over \$110,000. Many thanks to all of the volunteers.

The Farmers Hall of Fame event inducted new members to the Hall. Harry Pratley reported that there was a nice dinner and entertainment. They held a horse pull but attendance was poor. Would like to combine with another event.

Megan reported on events coming up.

The Volunteer Appreciation Dinner is October 5th beginning with appetizers at 6:30 followed by dinner at 7:00. It will be in the Belcher Building.

Something new to the calendar is the Pumpkin Fest October 14th. There will be various craft vendors, games for kids, hay rides, pumpkin carving. It is all free except the games will be \$5 for unlimited games. Staff is still recruiting food vendors and craft vendors.

October 20th weekend will be the Halloween Camping Event. Last year there were 69 campers, we have 75 signed up and paid already. We will have various kid related events for this event as well, so we are looking forward to continue having this event grow for us.

Winter Storage is October 28 and volunteers are needed.

Staff is also working on the MerryMile and have purchased a considerable amount of lights. The tree lighting will be the Wednesday right before Thanksgiving. Santa will make an appearance on Dec 10<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> in Floral Hall.

**Public Comment** - requested for any agenda items.

None.

**New Business:**

**A. None.**

**Discussion Items:**

- A. **Fair Week** – Vic Potter expressed thanks to Matt Ivey for handling the many electrical issues that came up during the week. He also thanked Amanda Shreve for her work handling the money for the week. Vic also thanked Erik Myers for his work around the grounds the week before and the week of fair. Art Kale asked if there was a way to collect input on issues or ideas for fair improvements. Megan noted that she will be meeting with the Hansens and checking with the Superintendents.
- B. **Schedule Board Workshop** – Vic Potter asked to schedule a Board workshop to review the fair and handle Megan Harvey’s review. The Board workshop was scheduled for September 25 at the Church.
- C. **Annual Meeting** – Susan Baldwin reported that the Annual Meeting for CCAIS is scheduled for Thursday, November 16, 2017. There are three seats open for the Board. Nominations are due September 18. Dues must be paid and received at the Fair office no later than October 16 to be able to vote at the Annual Meeting. Vic Potter noted that there will be no regular Board meeting in November due to the Annual Meeting – Board business will be handled at the Annual Meeting. There will be no Board in December due to the holidays.

### **Committee Reports**

- A. **Operations Committee** – Ryan Harvey reported that there was an electrical issue on the fairgrounds today but Matt Ivey was very prompt in responding to the problem. Fair week went very smoothly. There were many volunteers that were qualified to operate the machinery and things went well.
- B. **Marketing Committee** – Megan Harvey expressed thanks to Hope Horton for suggesting that the fair use the Snapchat app and filter. It was successful and fun. There were over 3000 swipes and 93,000 views of posts during the week. Facebook likes have gone up from 4300 to over 6000 – an increase of almost 40%. Twitter and Instagram are doing well. There were some issues with the fair information printed in the Advisor. The Committee is considering doing an insert for next year to correct errors and reach more areas for the same marketing dollars.
- C. **Superintendent Committee** – Margaret Harvey noted that Superintendent reviews will be done shortly – around mid-October. There is one Board position open on the Review Committee.

- D. Animal Auction Committee** – Steven Benham reported the number of animals was down but the money brought in was up.
- E. Livestock Committee** – Tom Carr reported on the verbal feed records pilot program. There were great comments about the process and the kids had no issues.
- F. Master Plan Committee** – Matt Ivey reported that C2AE is doing the plan. They have handled another fairgrounds master plan so they have experience. C2AE representatives were here during fair week to see how things operated during the week.
- G. Policy & Procedure Committee** – Megan Harvey stated there was nothing new to report at this time.
- H. Millionaire Raffle Committee** – Megan Harvey reported that the raffle will be moving to next year – possibly February. Megan will need a co-chair.

### **Superintendent Reports**

**Beef Breeding** – Kim Mowry reported that the kids had a great time and good camaraderie. Many thanks to the volunteers.

**Beef** – Greg Smith reported that there are more participants than last year. The feed records pilot with the younger kids worked well. The age change worked out as well – the 8 year-old showed with the juniors and won showmanship and the verbal feed records. They had great judges – the Bosserds.

**Dairy** – Marilyn Letts reported that they had a great show but smaller numbers of participants. Not many raise dairy anymore.

**Dairy Starter** – no report.

**Youth Draft Horse** – Randy Combs reported that numbers were up. No complaints on how the show went.

**Companion/Dog** – no report

**Goat** – Hope Horton stated that the kids had a great week. There were new events. The kids were judged on verbal feed records. Some parents had concerns but this change went very well. The key was good judges. Hope Horton expressed concerns about delay in reimbursement payment, stating it

took seven weeks to receive a check. She discussed concerns about receiving the cash for show awards when requested. Horton shared issues with pen set-up. A parent was upset and there were issues about proper procedure and line of command to follow and when decisions are final. She suggested that the fair establish policies about Superintendent positions and decisions being final. Hope Horton submitted her resignation as Superintendent.

**Horse** – no report

**Mini-whinnie** – Al Seedorff stated that there were over 50 mini's in the barn. It was noted that Al's father had to patch holes in the roof.

**Poultry** – Kassie Hamaker emailed her report and Megan shared it. "Thanks to Eric Dale Heating & A/C and Just In Time Snow and Lawn, LLC for the building improvements to the Poultry barn for the 2017 fair. Fair week for our department went smoothly. Nothing else to report at this time."

**Rabbit** – no report.

**Sheep** – no report.

**Swine** – no report.

**Draft Horse** – Amy Cobb reported that the show went well. There were no issues about moving up the time.

**Horse Pull** – no report.

### **Non-Livestock Superintendents**

**Youth Ceramics** – Amanda Shreve reported that it was a good show but still need a superintendent.

**Youth Clothing** – no report.

**Youth Clowning** – Sandi Christie stated that there was some interest. They had a clown spend a day in front of the barns and some kids showed interest. Trying to encourage more participation.

**Youth Creative Arts/Crafts** – no report.

**Youth Culinary Arts** – no report.

**Youth Floriculture & Horticulture** – Amanda Shreve reported that they tried a new arrangement on Saturday in the covered arena. There was some confusion and more signs would be helpful. Got good feedback on supplies needed. She noted that there is a need for more help in the leadership for this department. It seems like all non-livestock entries are declining – the fair staff and volunteers need to look into options.

**Youth Leadership/Development** – no report

**Power Safety/Woodworking** – no report

**Youth Photography** – no report.

**General Market Projects** – no report

**Antiques** – Denise Banfield said that the show went well. There were some youth who brought items to show.

**Culinary Arts** – no report

**Floriculture** – Amanda Shreve reported that there need to be more exhibitors. There is a need for more help in several areas for Floral Hall events: Culinary, Floriculture and Needlework. Denise Banfield asked if the fair could advertise for more Superintendents.

**Needlework** – Amanda Shreve reported that the Superintendent had resigned before fair and thanked the volunteers who stepped up to help with this area.

**Antique Tractor Pulls** – Kim Mowry reported that there were only 36 tractors as there were other competing pulls in the area. They had a nice display. She also reported on the Cancer Tractor Drive. They had 96 tractors and made about \$7800. The money stays in Calhoun County.

**Fine/Folk Arts** – Edith Smith reported that the number of exhibits was down but they were good quality. There were a few more young people participating and that was good.

**Photography** – no report

**King & Queen Pageant** – Megan Harvey reported that the event has been moved to August 6 and was well accepted. More people attended the event.

**Truck Pulls** – Tyler Avery stated that there was an issue as the start times had been reported wrong in the paper. He also reported that the rules need to be clarified on Facebook. He will give the information to Megan. The event went smoothly. There was a great crew helping with the event. Spectators were happy.

**Demonstrations** – Donna Zenker reported that not many participated but those that did participate did a good job on the projects.

#### **Events and Community Reports:**

- A.** 4H Council – Marilyn Letts reported that the 4H kids helped take down items after the fair. Upcoming fall events include election of officers and the Leaders Banquet.
- B.** FFA Report – Lora Finch texted her report on the Marshall FFA activities. Marshall FFA is up and running, and rolling along. Getting ready for nationals, fall leadership conference, broiler chickens and helping Olivet FFA with a day at the fairgrounds.
- C.** Floral Hall Building – John Taylor reported events at Floral Hall went very well for fair week. Attendance was down a bit. There is a picture missing which was posted to recognize a memorial donation – Joanne Moe. Would like to locate this picture if anyone knows about this.
- D.** Houston School – JoAnne McKeever reported that Vera Chichester spent several days cleaning the school to get ready for fair and it looked great. There were many volunteers during the week – many thanks to everyone.
- E.** Maple Grove Church – Margaret Taylor reported that they had a great fair week. There will be an auction on September 23 at Rapp's for the School, Museum and Church.
- F.** Fair Museum – JoAnne McKeever stated that they had a good fair week. Lots of tickets were sold for the raffle. There were many new items.
- G.** Cruise the Fountain – Megan Harvey and Vic Potter reported that the City would like folks downtown at night during the Cruise event. While this

helps the downtown merchants, the fair would not receive the gate money. Still being discussed.

- H. Fundraisers/Golf Outing – no report. Vic Potter stated that there is still a need for chairs if this event is going to happen.

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

JoAnne McKeever asked about Marshall Home Tour event. She stated that attendees were looking for food trucks and arts and crafts. The fairgrounds was not listed in the Home Tour brochure.

Al Seedorf would like to reconsider whether the Washington St entrance can be open during fair. Many season pass holders use it.

Hope Horton noted that all of the Superintendents should be attending this meeting to give their reports.

Chris Landis reported on the Show of Champions. The show went well. Liked the feed record change. Thanks to Doug Widlt for providing the bedding. Noted that there was sheet metal missing on the barn and did not have help to install it.

Chris Landis also noted some issues during fair week. There were issues with the Women's restroom - shower curtains were missing, a toilet was continuously running, some of the faucets were not working right, and the facility needed cleaning more often. She noted that there appeared to be a crack along the foundation. She also mentioned that there was a backup at one of the fair entrances one day – hour and a half wait to enter.

Margaret Taylor stated that on Saturday morning at the Washington St entrance, kids were running around the area and someone drove right through the gate.

Annette Stewart asked what the deadline was for changes to the fairbook.

Donna Zenker shared that the corn sandbox play area was a great idea.

Kathy Fischer wanted to extend thanks to Michelle Albrecht for hiring all of the judges. There is also a need for more people to serve as judges.

JoAnne McKeever asked if there was any feedback about not having a paper fairbook. She would like a copy for the fair museum. Megan stated she would print a copy for the museum.



**BOARD COMMENTS –**

Tom Carr expressed his thanks to the many volunteers.

Vic Potter also expressed thanks to the volunteers.

**Adjournment** – Meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm by Vic Potter.

Submitted by Susan Baldwin, Board Secretary