

Calhoun County Agricultural & Industrial Society
Minutes of Board Meeting
May 15, 2019 – Marshall Middle School - 7:00 PM

Call to Order

The May 15, 2019 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 Bruce Rapp.

Attendance with Roll Call was conducted by Susan Baldwin.

Present: Vic Potter, Jim Olds, Bill DeSmet, Susan Baldwin, Steven Benham, Hope Horton, Bruce Rapp, Chip Riddle, Steve Swafford (7:08 pm). Excused: Erik Myers, Doug Wildt.

Approval of Agenda – Motion by Susan Baldwin, seconded by Bruce Rapp, to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor, motion passed.

Secretary's report of the April 17th, 2019 minutes was given by Susan Baldwin. Baldwin thanked Jen Rice for typing up the minutes. Motion was made by Bill DeSmet, seconded by Steve Benham, to file the minutes. All in favor, motion passed.

Treasurer and Finance Committee Reports – Bill DeSmet presented the finance report. DeSmet discussed the Profit and Loss statement. He compared the budgets year to date. He also noted that \$5000 was spent for the fire hydrant repair. CCAIS has \$114,557.13 cash in accounts and \$46,651.13 on the loan balance. Chemical Bank has approved a line of credit for CCAIS. DeSmet is also working on the timing for booking receipts for vendor deposits to better reflect which revenues and expenses fall into which fiscal year. Following discussion by the Board, Bill DeSmet moved that the Treasurer's report be filed. Seconded by Steve Benham. All in favor, motion passed.

Fair Manager Report – Jen Rice provided the Fair Manager report.

Spring Clean-up was held April 20. There were about 40 volunteers. New Horizons brought out a crew and equipment. The afternoon session was rained out, but much was accomplished in the morning.

Vintage Market and Camper Show was April 27. Almost 3000 people attended.

Car Show was May 3-4. Organized by Big Dogg's House of Hot Rods. Extremely low turnout so the decision was made to refund all vendor fees for Friday. Moving forward, starting with the show this July, the fair office will be taking the car shows back.

Watson Diesel Michigan Nationals is set for June 21-22. The prep work for the event has started. Lester Brothers will be building the new clay track.

CCAIS did not receive the MDARD grant for a new dump station. We will be rebuilding the existing one for this year. Will look at moving it to a new location next year.

Fair week grandstand events – so far, 11 tickets have been sold for the Demolition Derby and 288 tickets have been sold for the Billy Ray Cyrus show!

Public Comment - requested for any agenda items.

None.

Discussion Items

- A. **Warren Street Camping** – the Board and staff are still in discussions about the Warren Street camping. More meetings are coming up.

Action Items:

- A. **Livestock Committee Recommendation** – Kyle Thomas from Hillsdale would like to participate in our fair in the Breeding Chickens category. Under our rules, he would not be able to participate in the auction. Motion was made by Hope Horton, seconded by Bruce Rapp to allow Kyle to show in the Breeding Chickens category but he will not be able to participate in the auction. All in favor, motion passed.

Committee Reports

- A. **Operations Committee** – No report.
- B. **Livestock Committee** – Hope Horton reported that there would be a workshop for all livestock supers on May 29 at 7 pm. The Committee will be sorting DNA samples, then locking and sealing them. Need to restructure the Auction Committee. Currently two reps from each species. Committee will write a proposed structure and bring it to the Board.
- C. **Animal Auction Committee** – No additional report.

- D. Non-Livestock Committee** – Jen Rice reported that it is too late to have a robot build entry this year, but there will be a demonstration to build interest for next year.
- E. Non-livestock Auction Committee** – Hope Horton reported that Michelle Albrecht would like to re-structure this process. Work will continue.

Events and Community Reports:

- A.** 4H Council – Marilyn Letts reported that the Leaders banquet will be in September. Awards will be given in October. The Council donated some money to the state. They are still organizing use of the lemonade stand. A work session is coming up for dividers in the Boys & Girls Building.
- B.** FFA Report – Hope Horton shared that three FFA reps had gone to Washington DC. The FFA banquet is Friday.
- C.** Floral Hall Building – No report.
- D.** Houston School – Bruce Rapp reported that there is an auction coming up on Saturday to support the three buildings.
- E.** Maple Grove Church – No additional report.
- F.** Fair Museum – JoAnne McKeever shared that the museum was open during the Vintage event and there were a good number of visitors to the Museum. During the car show, almost no one stopped by the Museum – the volunteers were not needed. There was a special museum tour scheduled and it was well attended and enjoyed by the visitors. Bruce Rapp and JoAnne both mentioned that the Marshall area historic building tour group is going to visit Floral Hall. The event will be open to the public, July 19 from 5 – 7 pm.
- G.** Additional information – Jen Rice reported that the MAFE Zone 1 meeting in the fall will be held at Calhoun County Fairgrounds. We will show off the Farmers Hall of Fame. The pictures will be moved from Floral Hall to the Belcher Building shortly.

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

Chris Landis asked about the cut off date for kids applying from other counties to participate at our fair. Hope Horton indicated that the kids that applied were already members of local clubs in Calhoun County.

Sarah Custer asked about rules to participate in dog shows. Her daughter was in 4H in Indiana but doesn't have papers from there yet. Trying to work through the right people. Hope Horton indicated that there is only one 4H club in Calhoun County that shows dogs.

Techia Lohmann expressed concerns about equipment and repairs. Hope Horton stated that the Board is not putting money into gates this year. Techia should check with Jen Rice about repairs needed in exhibit buildings. A committee is being formed to address equipment and repairs.

BOARD COMMENTS –

Jim Olds stated that he got an estimate for fencing at the 4H campsite. It was very high. CCAIS has a lot of fencing materials so we may be able to put up our own fencing with just a few additional materials, such as poles.

Jim Olds also stated that the Bennett property is being surveyed tomorrow (May 16). The crew will also survey the Warren Street property along the west line. Fencing that area will help keep things contained.

Techia Lohmann and Stacie Coates shared concerns about trees and power lines in the 4H camping area and the issue with large campers. They will discuss this further with Jim Olds.

Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm by Vic Potter.

Submitted by Susan Baldwin, Board Secretary