

Calhoun County Agricultural & Industrial Society
Minutes of Board Meeting
June 19, 2019 – Marshall Middle School - 7:00 PM

Call to Order

The June 19, 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 Erik Myers.

Attendance with Roll Call was conducted by Susan Baldwin.

Present: Vic Potter, Doug Wildt, Jim Olds, Bill DeSmet (excused at 7:07 for an event), Susan Baldwin, Steven Benham, Erik Myers, Bruce Rapp, Chip Riddle, Steve Swafford.
Excused: Hope Horton.

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

Secretary's report of the May 15, 2019 minutes was given by Susan Baldwin. Motion was made by Susan Baldwin, seconded by Jim Olds, 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 and discussed the variances. He also discussed the process to allocate payments to accounts. Adjustments will be made as CCAIS did not receive the grant from MDARD. CCAIS has \$137,174.29 cash in accounts and \$41,933.84 on the loan balance. Following discussion by the Board, Bill DeSmet moved that the Treasurer's report be filed. Seconded by Steve Swafford. All in favor, motion passed.

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

The Sheriff's department held a K9 seminar at the fairgrounds in May. Two horse shows are scheduled. Watson Diesel event is still expected to go on, but the rain has been hampering track progress. They are trying to be optimistic.

Marshall City Council approved shutting down Michigan Ave. for two hours for the cruise event on Friday. Cruise event is July 5 and 6 and expecting a great response. The Battle Creek Kennel Club dog show is the second weekend in July. Relay for Life will be at the fairgrounds next weekend.

An Emergency Management meeting is scheduled for next Wednesday at 9 am at the Fair Office to prep for the fair.

Fair week grandstand events – so far, 38 tickets have been sold for the Demolition Derby and 842 tickets have been sold for the Billy Ray Cyrus show!

Public Comment - requested for any agenda items.

Stacy Coss, one of the horse leaders, would like to work on a wish list for items to be addressed regarding facilities. Would like the Board to set up a committee.

Discussion Items

- A. Calhoun County Horse Leaders Association** – discussion continued regarding the horse association items. The Horse Leaders shared an inventory list and discussed ownership and storage of the items. The Board and attendees talked about the need for future plans.

The Board discussed options for meetings – Bill DeSmet, Jim Olds, Erik Myers and Chip Riddle agreed to serve on the committee.

Action Items:

- A. Establish Committee to Address Horse Association Options** – the Board agreed to establish a committee regarding horse issues. Doug Wildt moved, seconded by Jim Olds, to appoint Erik Myers, Chip Riddle, Bill DeSmet and Jim Olds to the committee. All in favor, motion passed.

Committee Reports

- A. Operations Committee** – Erik Myers reported that they are continuing to work around the grounds to prepare for the fair.
- B. Livestock Committee** – Hope Horton sent a written report. DNA has been turned in, sorted and locked in the fair office. The promotion meeting went well and had a good turn-out. The Committee will be submitting a request to the Board to purchase new digital scales for weighing animals at the fair. Next Committee meeting is second Wednesday in July.
- C. Animal Auction Committee** – No report.

D. Non-Livestock Committee – Jen Rice reported that the judges’ letters have gone out. Met with Nancy Sutherland about state fair scholarships. There are 12 opportunities. The narrowed down eligible departments.

E. Non-livestock Auction Committee – no report.

Events and Community Reports:

A. 4H Council –no report.

B. FFA Report – no report.

C. Floral Hall Building – No report.

D. Houston School – Bruce Rapp reported that the church and school will be scraped to prepare them for painting the trim. At a recent auction, about \$1000 was raised for the three buildings.

E. Maple Grove Church – No additional report.

F. Fair Museum –no additional report.

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

Sara Poole stated to the Board that she was involved in an incident with a Clydesdale horse at the fairgrounds a number of years ago. She claimed that she was to get “lifetime tickets” for her family to get into the fair and grandstand events. She said that she had received them for the last 16 years. She requested tickets this year and was turned down by fair staff. She has no paperwork regarding her claim. Charlie Letts addressed the Board regarding this issue. Mr. Letts was fair manager at the time of the incident. Following the incident, he observed that Ms. Poole did have a limp but walked off the fairgrounds. He recalled that she received a pass for that one week of the fair but has no recollection of giving her any other passes. He stated that the fair board in place at the time of the incident did not make any agreement with Ms. Poole to give away passes. Ms. Poole stated that she received \$3000 from the horse owner’s insurance company. Jen Rice stated that Ms. Poole had contacted the office wanting 28 fair week passes and 28 free tickets to all of the grandstand events, including the Billy Ray Cyrus concert. The Board took no action to offer any tickets to Ms. Poole.

Techia Lohman passed out information about the 4H camping site. She explained the current process for determining camping spots and how this area works for the kids showing horses. Trees on the lot take up a number of spaces. The Horse Association

has a set of rules for people using the camping spots. The cost to rent a spot there is less as there are no amenities. The Board asked questions about the 4H camping. They raised concerns that there is a waiting list for camping in other spots on the fairgrounds. The Board will continue discussions on this with folks from the Horse Association.

BOARD COMMENTS –

None.

Adjournment – On motion by Doug Wildt, seconded by Erik Myers, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm by Vic Potter.

Submitted by Susan Baldwin, Board Secretary