

YORK COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Minutes of February 21, 2023

The Board of Directors of the York County Agricultural Society met Tuesday February 21, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. in the York County Extension Office for their regular monthly meeting. The meeting notice was published publicly on or before February 14, 2023 at the York County Extension Office, York County Court House, York State Bank (York Main Office), Cornerstone Bank (Waco Branch) and the York County Fair Website.

Ten (10) Directors were present; Ditloff, Gloystein, Heine, Heskett, Hoffschneider, Quiring, Rathjen, Ziegler, Ziemke and Zoubek. Five (5) Directors were absent; Cast, Chrisman, Hoffman, Jackson and Johnson.

Guests present: Amy Pohl, Eric Eckert, Rachell Staehel and Tanya Crawford

President Gloystein called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Secretary Ziemke announced to all those in attendance that the Open Meeting Act has been placed on the meeting table for one and all to examine.

No additional items to be added to the agenda.

Minutes of the January 17, 2023 York County Agricultural Society meeting were reviewed. There were no additions or corrections to the minutes.

The Board reviewed the January 2023 Financial Reports with discussions on: The Professional Services account line is over budget for the year (Heskett notified the Directors the next day of an error that he had found and emailed each director and updated budget); Electricity has been down approximately \$300.00 a month for the last few months. Motion #1 was duly made by Ziegler to approve the January 17, 2023 minutes and the January 2023 Financial Reports. Seconded by Hoffschneider. No further discussion. Ten (10) votes for, Zero (0) votes against. Motion #1 carried.

Amy Pohl asked permission to have a Quilt of Valor Presentation during the Fair as one of the evening tent activities. We will get them slotted in the schedule.

Amy Pohl representing for several 4H Clubs – The original playground that was purchased and installed 12 years ago by Lively Livestock is in need of repairs. Lively Livestock along with several other 4H Clubs want to have our blessing to remove the old playground and replace it with a new playground. They are talking with Burke out of Wisconsin, a 103 year old company, the same company the City of York used for the playground on the West side of the York Community Center. Project will cost approximately \$20,925.00 for the main structure and another \$3,870.00 for the Toddler Dome. The Hirschfeld family is going to make the trip up to the company and back to save the \$3,000.00 freight expense. The goal is to have it installed by Fair. They are planning to have a pancake feed in the Cornerstone Ag and Event Center for their first fund raiser toward the project. They have our blessing and we asked them to keep us informed on how the project is proceeding.

Eric Eckert of Eric Eckert Digital Theatre Advertising & Web Design – Introduced himself and his

website business that he started two years ago. He lives here in York and has worked for the York News Times for 14 years. He also does drone photography. Eric passed around business cards and asked that we give him a call the next time we take bids for our website work. His contact information is: EricEckert.com, contact@ericeckert.com, (402)366-1657.

Under Old Business

Memorial Donations and Grant money at present date: Heine donation for Antique Tractor Barn \$100.00; High Lopers donation \$2,300.00 and DuPont grant \$5,000.00.

Return of Fairgrounds keys: Still waiting for return of keys from the Bergen family. Burgen has found several of Gene's keys. Heskett will have him bring the keys to the next York County Fair Foundation meeting so we can look through them.

Under the Building Committee Report:

Cornerstone Ag & Event Center Audio & Video Project – The Multi-media Project is now paid for with the Memorials. We need to do a Dedication and a Show of Thanks. Should we incorporate it into one of the evenings under the tent or in front of the Grandstand during the Fair? We should also have a plaque in the Cornerstone Building. Heskett hasn't spoken with the Kaliff Family yet. Jenny Rees has designed and put together a ring binder with instructions on how to use the system properly with a cable that will hook up any common computer to the system. It was discussed and decided that if the cable is not returned with the keys after the rental of the building, the renter will lose all of their deposit.

Crow's Nest – Nothing until the weather gets warmer.

North Furnace in the 4H Building freezing up. Mike Wright has worked on the water drain and it should work properly now.

Air conditioning unit on the South end of the 4H Building has been giving us issues every year and is needing to be replaced. Ziemke will contact J&R Heating & Air Conditioning, they are the HVAC that take care of the 4H Building, and have them give us a bid on the project.

The grille hood in the 4H Building needs to be cleaned before Fair. Gloystein will check with Chances R to see who cleans their grille hoods. The company "Boys in Da Hood" still do this work also.

AED Units – Rathjen will check with NIRMA Insurance to see if they do grants for AED Units.

Under Other Business:

Rathjen asked when the applications for Aksarben Pioneer awards are due in Omaha. April 15th.

Gloystein had Ditloff look into why the York County Fair is not being mentioned in many of the Publications that are sponsored by the York County Visitors Bureau. Ditloff spoke with Bob Sautter and he was sorry that we had been overlooked and the Fair will be included this next years publications.

Coleen Brozek – The potential helper that Ziegler spoke with fell through and we are back to square one. We will keep looking into someone to help her with custodial work before she has cataract and shoulder surgery in March and April.

NAFM Convention Follow Up – Several of us attended the Liquor Commission Noon meeting and found it very informative.

September Demo Derby – via phone with Rob Baker who is out of Des Moines, Iowa

- Trying to finalize so he can start advertising.
- It will be a points series/race/championship.
- He was very happy with our 2022 Fair Demo Derby.
- He will do the Fall Demo for the same flat fee as our Fair.
- He has been getting quite a bit of interest in a fall event.
- There would be four event locations involved with the points event: Council Bluffs, Springfield, Arlington and York.
- It would be up to us for gate prices, most events are \$12-\$15 for adults, \$20-\$25 for pit passes, \$30 for drivers.
- Rob feels that you shouldn't charge the driver because he is your entertainment.
- \$5,000.00 Officiating fee
- \$12,000.00 County Fair Purse with Points.
- Need to check with the York General Hospital for Volunteers associated with their Team Building events.
- People we will need:
 - Checkers at the rear gate.
 - Ticket sellers.
 - Ticket takers at gates.
 - Concessions – 4H Club?
 - Alcohol sales with people to man the I.D. station and beer/alcohol tenders.
- The Mercantile Building would be available if York Fest would want to utilize it to sponsor a dance after/during the Demo Derby.
- Payout would be similar to our County Fair.
- 80's class may be the only points class in the event.
- There would be two or three other classes with one of them possibly being an end of year weld class.
- Looking at September 9, 2023, the Saturday of York Fest.
- Same day as the Colorado football game.
- We will do the Derby if we can wait to set the time at a later date.
- Depending on whether the football game is during the day or evening is when we will be setting the time.

Motion #2 duly made by Rathjen to proceed with the point series Championship Demo Derby pending on the time of the Nebraska/Colorado Football game, September 9, 2023. Seconded by Zoubek. No further discussion. Ten (10) votes for, Zero (0) votes against. Motion #2 carried.

Tanya Crawford – Shooting Sports

- Shooting Sports Club would like to move their Fair Competition Events.
- Their shooting season runs from February through May.
- Their proposed dates for their competition are: June 4, 2023 for Trap Shooting and June 11, 2023 for BB Bun and Air Rifle.
- We also need to look at a change of verbiage in Fairbook for any shooter who is signed up to participate in the York County Fair Shooting Sports but not practicing their shooting with the York County Club: Each person competing in the York County Fair Shooting

events must attend at least two (2) shooting practices, in the events they are registered, with a York County Shooting Club in order to compete at the Fair competition.

- We need to incorporate some type of acknowledgement or award ceremony for the shooters, be it either by posting their targets somewhere in one of the buildings or a ribbon ceremony under the tent during the evening events, or both.
- The Board is fine with the changes and will include them in the changes that will be brought forth in the March meeting.

York County Fair Foundation

- We had the first meeting.
- The next step is to let people know about the Foundation.
- We need to work on a brochure.
- We need to also start working to get the Foundation info out on social media, V2 Graphics could possibly help in this area.
- We need to work on a York County Fair Foundation website and then make sure there is a link from the York County Fair website to the Foundation's website and vice versa.
- March 13, 2023 is the 4H Council's next meeting. Heskett will attend to talk with them about the Foundation.
- We need to decide if we are having a Foundation Banquet before Fair so we can inform the public during the Fair.

Motion #3 was duly made by Ziegler to start a separate checking account for the York County Fair Foundation and to place \$2,000.00 in the account as a start up fund to pay any bills that will be associated as the Foundation gets moving forward. Seconded by Quiring. No Further discussion. Ten (10) votes for, Zero (0) votes against. Motion #3 carried.

150th York County Fair Celebration

Zoubek gave updates:

- There will be special 150th Classes in many Departments.
- There will be special ribbons with the 150th Image printed on them.
- Zoubek will work with Macee' on renumbering classes and adding any new classes.
- Can we purchase "Tall Seed Corn" seed to give out to anyone who wishes to participate in the Tall Corn competition?
- More old type games to look at incorporating: Horse shoe pitching contest, pie eating contest, sweet corn eating contest.
- Old timer 4Her Animal Show - Open class.

2023 Fair Plans (August 3 – 6, 2023) All American Fun

- Logo – Hoffschneider – See additional sheet of Fair Schedule.
- We need to let Dana Hall know before next month if we are going to do plywood cutouts again this year and what we want the cut outs to be.
- Heine has been in contact with V2 Graphics
- The Pioneer band will play from 9 until 12 with the option of playing longer if people are still enjoying the evening.
- Can we move the Cornhole competition up to 6:00 p.m.? Last year people asked if all the cornhole boards could be the same. McCool has several boards made the same and rent them for \$10.00 a day.
- 8:30ish Jordon Schoch Band.
- 4:00ish Saturday Afternoon 150th games?
- Ziegler presented that we hire the Electronic Battery Car Racing Activity (Vendor out of

Kansas) that many of us have enjoyed at the NAFM Convention.

- Two (2) day rental costs: \$2,200 per day, plus \$2.00 per mile, plus hotel and lodging. That get us: Eight (8) hours entertainment per day, two people to run the game.
- The Fair keeps all proceeds.
- Normal charge is \$5.00 for two (2) 1.5-minute races
- We can place the race track on the East end cap of the middle isle in the Mercantile Building.
- Ziegler would like to specify that we get the people who were running the activity at the NAFM Convention. They were very fun and accommodating people to be around.
- Maybe we could get some Body Shops or Auto Parts Stores to donate directly toward the rental of the activity.

2023 NAFM District 1 Spring Meeting

Seward County Fair Directors are holding the 2023 NAFM District 1 Spring Meeting on their Fairgrounds Sunday April 16, 2023, starting at 3:00 p.m. in the Conference Room in their Harvest Hall. Seward will provide more information in the coming weeks.

IAFE Zone 5 Conference

Will be held March 3 – 5, 2023 in Springfield, Illinois. Is anyone interested in attending? Ziemke can still get you registered.

There being no further business to come before the Directors, the meeting was adjourned at 10:17 p.m.

Douglas Ziemke

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Secretary