

# YORK COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Minutes of April 18, 2023

The Board of Directors of the York County Agricultural Society met Tuesday April 18, 2023 at 8:00 p.m. in the York County Extension Office for their regular monthly meeting. The meeting notice was published publicly on or before April 11, 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.

Nine (9) Directors were present; Cast, Gloystein, Heskett, Holtmeier, Jackson, Quiring, Rathjen, Ziegler (9:05), Ziemke. Six (6) Directors were absent; Chrisman, Ditloff, Heine, Hoffman, Hoffschneider and Zoubek.

Guests present: McCool Junction FFA Advisor Dana Hall and UNL York County Extension Educator Jenney Rees.

President Gloystein called the meeting to order at 8:03 p.m.

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

Items to be added to the agenda: Soccer Complex contract.

Minutes of the March 21, 2023 York County Agricultural Society meeting were reviewed. There were no additions or corrections to the minutes.

The Board reviewed the March 2023 Financial Reports with discussions on: Repairs & Maintenance; Equipment Rental (Main tent for the Fair); Bank balance; Lincoln Creek Electric (billing was for the video & audio work in the Cornerstone Ag & Event Center). Motion #1 was duly made by Rathjen to approve the March 21, 2023 minutes and the March 2023 Financial Reports. Seconded by Jackson. No further discussion. Eight (8) votes for, Zero (0) votes against. Motion #1 Carried.

## **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 (Ron Harmon).

## **Under the Building Committee Report:**

Cornerstone Ag & Event Center – The contract for the updated fire alarm Voice Evac Panel has been signed and returned to Protex Central. The panel will be installed as soon as the equipment arrives.

Crow's Nest – Ziegler, Rathjen and Ziemke met with Mike Wright to discuss and get Mike's ideas on moving the Crow's Nest into the Southwest corner of the horse arena along with repairs to the rotted siding and roof repairs. The process will start as soon as the weather cooperates.

Grandstand Ticket Office – Ziegler, Rathjen and Ziemke talked with Mike Wright on ideas on building a new ticket sales office to replace the rotting old structure. The process will start as

soon as we are done with the Crow's Nest or as time allows.

4H Building – The new outside air conditioning unit and inside A-coil have been installed. Gloystein obtained a phone number of a business that does grill hood cleaning but their number has been disconnected. Gloystein will keep trying to find a business that cleans grill hoods.

AED Units – Rathjen shared that NIRMA has grants for items such as AED units. Grant applications are due by November 1, 2023. The soonest that we would have an AED unit, if we received a grant, would be sometime in 2024. They also have assistance for AED Training. The question of where and who we could contact for training was discussed and Preston Bolte's name was mentioned.

Insurance Policy – It was discussed and decided that we have enough coverage on the contents of the Cornerstone Ag & Event Center to cover the new audio and video system.

### **Under Other Business:**

Coleen Brozak had her shoulder surgery March 30<sup>th</sup> and it was more extensive than expected with rotator cuff repairs. She will be out four to five months. Amy Pohl is filling in for Coleen temporarily until Coleen recovers. We still need to find some help for Amy and Coleen. It was mentioned that Bob Pavel's daughter is looking for some summer work. We will contact Bob to see if his daughter would be interested.

Fall Championship Point Demo Derby – Waiting to set our start time. We are still looking at an evening start time but for now we are waiting for Nebraska to announce the start time of the Nebraska vs Colorado football game.

### **York County Fair Foundation**

- A contract with V2 Graphics has been signed. They will be helping us with our advertising.
- V2 Graphics has come up with 4 preliminary logos for us to discuss. See additional sheet.
- Doing a Calendar raffle
  - 400 tickets will be sold, \$50.00 each.
  - Every week there will be a ticket drawn for a \$150.00 winner.
  - Possibly do a ticket drawing every day of the Fair for a \$150.00 winner.
- There is \$2,050.00 in the Foundation account.
- The Foundation will have a booth in the Mercantile Building during the Fair.
- Looking at hosting a Banquet event either this fall or winter.
- Will be introducing the Fair Foundation to Attorneys and Bankers this summer so they can let their clients know about the Foundation.

### **150<sup>th</sup> York County Fair Celebration**

Jenny Rees gave updates:

- Can the County give out either a 150<sup>th</sup> ribbon or pin to each exhibitor in 4H, FFA and Open class?
- Can we have best in class rosettes that have the 150<sup>th</sup> designation on them? It would take approximately 25 special rosettes.

## **Fair Books**

The Fair Book has been sent to the printer. Gloystein will check with Tanya Crawford to see how many Fair Books were ordered and if we need to order additional books.

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

- Mercantile Building Report – Director Holtmeier
  - Discussed open hours for the Mercantile Building. The vendors have no issues with the opening time but would like to close earlier so that those who have a distance to travel could get home earlier.
  - The Race Car Vendor will be located on the east end of the middle booths. Their race track and driving modules will take up the two end booth locations.
  - Will the Veterans Display be here again this year? Jackson texted Nick Wallenberg to check about the display.
  - The Hospital wants a booth to do a blood pressure clinic in the Mercantile building
  - Tables and chair rental for the Mercantile vendors will be \$10.00/table for the whole Fair with a \$20.00 damage deposit.
  - So far, we have four outside food vendors: Paradise Easts out of Kansas; A1 Southern from Utica; Anna Street Trolley out of Grand Island and Winfeld Sweets & Eats out of Aurora. A1 Southern and Winfeld Sweets and Eats both will need a 50amp electric hook-up.
  - Still working to get a Mexican food truck. Dana Hall says she has a contact number for a good Mexican Food Truck and will pass it along to Holtmeier.
  - What about a Coffee Truck. Holtmeier will contact the Hospital to get the contact information of the Coffee Truck that stops at their location.
- Still looking for ticket takers for Thursday and Saturday evening Grandstand events. Ziemke will contact the State Fair Office to see if any of their personnel have either of the evenings open.
- 150<sup>th</sup> Ice Cream Celebration will be Friday August 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.
- Discussed open hours of Ag Hall with Jenny Rees.
- Pioneer Awards – There is one award for sure and possibly one or two more.
- Antique Tractors – Heskett will contact them to see if they have any special plans and if they will continue to do the evening tractor parades through the Fairgrounds.
- Rathjen is going to check into an old time Steamer Show.
- Dana Hall announce that the 4H groups that are raising money for the new playground equipment have received a \$15,000.00 grant from the York County Commissioners/York Visitors Bureau to help them in reaching the goal of over \$32,000.00. The 4H groups may still need help with funding for mulch and timbers for the playground.
- Dana's McCool Junction FFA members will be finishing up the Fair's plywood star cut-outs.
- We need more picnic tables on the Fairgrounds.
- Camper rent for 4H/FFA families – Staying at the same rate as last year, \$125.00 for the entire week. There are 16 camper sites (possible 18 if packed in tight) out east of the cattle tie out area.

## **2023 NAFM District 1 Spring Meeting Seward Nebraska Fairgrounds**

- Gloystein and Ziemke attended.
- One main point made by the NAFM Secretary was that all Agricultural Societies should get ownership of their property. Activists across the United States are working to get

onto state, city and county boards with the agenda of stopping Fairs and Animal Shows. Once they gain access to the seats on these boards, they ask for the Agricultural Society to be dissolved, which is done by the vote of the people. Once the Agricultural Society is dissolved, they force the sale of the land on which the Fair was held. By the Agricultural Society owning the property it adds a level of protection against these activists. This brought up a scare that Gloystein was notified about earlier this year when the City of York approached the York County Commissioners about selling the Fairgrounds West parking lot to the City of York so a new Fire Station could be built on our location. Thank you, York County Commissioners for being our friends!

### **Soccer Complex Contract**

- The City of York has taken over the Soccer Complex.
- The Soccer complex is located on our property.
- In the past we have had a contract with the York Sports Authority, who previously operated the Soccer Complex.
- We need to get a contract with the City of York.
- The City of York has already added a sprinkler system to the soccer fields without our permission.
- Gloystein will contact the York County Commissioners, Brian Tonniges and the City of York.

There being no further business to come before the Directors, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

*Douglas Ziemke*

Douglas Ziemke  
Secretary