

St. Joseph County Grange Fair

Board Meeting Minutes

August 22nd, 2022

Fair Office

St. Joseph County Grange Fair

316 East Charlotte Street

Centreville, MI 49032

President Keith Bower called the St. Joseph County Grange Fair Association Fair Board Meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. in the Fair Office located on the Fairgrounds of the St. Joseph County Grange Fair in Centreville Michigan.

Pledge of Allegiance: The St. Joseph County Grange Fair Association Members stated the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:01 p.m.

Present: The St. Joseph County Grange Fair Board Members that were present; Keith Bower, Angie Mingus, Bill Younts, Mindy Timm, Charlie Carpenter, Gary Clark, Deborah Davis, Kevin Eby, Tony Hochstetler, Bill Lindsley, Tom Miller, Betty Persons, Tricia Ulsh, Eric VanHeukelum, and Barb Weston.

Absent Directors: There were no directors absent.

Excuse any absent Directors:

There were no absent Directors. Everyone was present at the meeting.

Review and Approval of the Agenda:

Four items were added to the agenda under new business.

E.) The Waltke Family

F.) Race Horse Barn for Fair Week

G.) Display/demonstration equipment for Educational Area

H.) Maintenance

MOTION by: Tom Miller, Second by: Kevin Eby

Motion was made to approve the meeting agenda with adding four items under new business, was made by: Tom Miller and second was made by: Kevin Eby. **Motion passed 13-1**

Adopting of the Minutes:

Tricia stated that under her director report we need to add that she was asked to get sponsors to cover the help in the grange building.

MOTION by: Tricia Ulsh, Second by: Angie Mingus

Motion to approve and adopt the Meeting Minutes from the August 1, 2022 Board Meeting with the stated correction from Tricia was made by: Tricia Ulsh and second was made by: Angie Mingus.

Motion passed 14-0

Recognition of Visitors:

Visitors at the meeting were; Ron Weston, Ronnie Bauman, Steve Soule, Mary Shirk, John Steiner, Jim Susemihl, Kyle Sherman, Erin Sherman, and Penny Waltke.

Treasurer's Report:

a. Profit and Loss Report

b. Statement of Activities

MOTION by: Charlie Carpenter, Second by: Tom Miller

Motion to approve the treasurer's report was made by: Charlie Carpenter and second was made by: Tom Miller. **Motion passed 14-0**

Correspondences:

There were no correspondences.

Fair Office Report:

- a. The Merchant Barns have about 48 spaces left to be sold. We still need vendors for this year. We received 3 new vendors today and some backout so now we have 49 open spots.
- b. Sawdust is on order for the Show Barn. \$700 for a semi load and \$500 for a straight truck load.
- c. Fair maintenance supplies have been delivered.
- d. Barn damage to #42 and calling the Marina.
 - I. Bill Younts, Charlie Carpenter, and Bill Lindsley assessed the damage and determined that there was not any major damage. Bill Lindsley has stated that he will repair the damage and we will add it to The Edges building rental in October.
- e. The retention pond needs to be widened and deeper.
- f. Storm Damage Saturday, July 30, 2022 on the Fairgrounds. TJ Baker contacted Missi that our car port ended up in the jail yard and did some damage. We also had damage to a few barns and barn #16, #17, #44, #43.

It was brought up that we need to pause our meeting to spread Larry Ruff's ashes on the Fairgrounds per his and his families wishes.

MOTION by: Betty Persons, Second by: Debbie Davis

Motion to pause the meeting and as a board go outside on the Fairgrounds and spread Larry Ruff's ashes was made by: Betty Persons and second was made by: Debbie Davis at 6:40 p.m. **Motion passed 14-0**

6:55 p.m. All Directors returned to the board room and the meeting resumed.

Director Reports & Updates for the Committee's each Director Heads-up:

- ***Bill Younts***
 - *Finance, Wages, and Budget Committee-* Report was given during the treasurer's report.
 - *Grants/Legacy Committee-* No report to give
 - *Birthing Tent Committee-* Committee Meeting tomorrow evening, Tuesday, August 23, 2022 at 7 p.m.

- ***Debbie Davis***
 - *Policy and By-Laws Committee-* Saw the new sign that was put up regarding no open carry, it looks great. Jim Susemihl gave Debbie a change for the by-laws regarding the Treasurers duties amendment request at our past Fair Association Meeting. Debbie read the treasurers duties as given to her from Jim Susemihl for the proposed change. Debbie also read our current treasure duties as stated in our by-laws. The Fair Board Directors had discussion regarding this.
MOTION by: Angie Mingus
Motion to change the policy regarding the treasure to give a report of the financial standing at the Annual Meeting and statement of financial balance, and profit and loss statements at the quarterly association meetings.
Angie rescinded her Motion and asked that we table this until our September 6, 2022 meeting.

- ***Keith Bower***
 - *Entertainment Committee-* No report. All entertainment is set for Fair Week.
 - *Ice Committee-* The ice machine is going. 4-H Superintendents Meeting Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at 6 p.m. under the pavilion.

- ***Charlie Carpenter-***
 - *Fair Week Maintenance Committee-* No report.
 - *Harness Racing-* Harness Racing license has been received. Charlie talked about the condition of the track

- ***Gary Clark***
 - *Courtesy Carts and Trams Committee-* Gary has two spots open for driving courtesy carts. Gary is also going to have to get a tent since the carport went flying.

- ***Angie Mingus***
 - *Tents-* Big tents will go up the week before Fair. The big tents will be going up the Monday before Fair.
 - *Machinery Dealers/Tractors Committee-* Angie asked what we were doing with the Hay Bale Contest. Angie said we had spaces available. Mindy will push it on Facebook.
 - *Beer Tent-* The beer pavilion workers is almost all booked and the tent is half booked with workers. The beer will arrive the Thursday before Fair.

- **Bill Lindsley**
 - *Buildings and Grounds Committee*- Bill has concerns regarding getting rid of the big tractor. If we get rid of the big tractor, we are going need to get something to do our heavy lifting.
- **Tom Miller**
 - *Hall of Fame/Awards Committee*- The picture and write-up have been sent to the Golden Finch to be put together for Fair.
 - *4-H Extension and Liaison Committee*- Tom mentioned that he will need the volunteer forms for the 4-H Superintendents Meeting.
- **Tricia Ulsh**
 - *Grange Building Superintendent*- Tricia has been working with Wendy on the Grange Building. The milking parlor will be getting a look over and some updates around Labor Day.
- **Betty Persons**
 - *Superintendent of the Home Arts Building*- Betty said that they will be having live sewing demonstrations in her barn during Fair Week.
- **Barb Weston**
 - *Community Tent Committee*- The schedule is set and everything is good to go.
 - *Free-Stage Committee*- The schedule is set and everything is good to go.
 - *T-Shirt*- We should have the first batch of shirts by the end of August.
- **Eric VanHeukelum-**
 - *Open Class Horses*- Stall fronts will be done this week. The show bills are done, and we just need final stall counts to see if we need to rent any stalls.
- **Kevin Eby –**
 - *Trash and Bathrooms*- No report.
- **Tony Hostetler-**
 - *Trash and Bathrooms*- Tony would like to offer \$50 tip to the cleanest bathroom at 10 p.m. on Saturday night, the last night of Fair.
 - **MOTION** by: Tricia Ulsh, Second by: Angie Mingus
Motion to give the porters a \$50 tip at 10 p.m. on the last Saturday of Fair for the cleanest bathroom was made by: Tricia Ulsh and second was made by Angie Mingus. **Motion passed 13-1**
- **Mindy Timm-**
 - *2022 Fair Brochure* – We have 20,000 brochures left.
 - *Fair Advertising and Marketing*- All advertising is set and working on creating ads and scripts.
 - Next meeting, September 6th Director pictures will be taken for badges.

Old Business:

- a. *Entire Barn rental for winter storage prices- Current price is either \$1,200 or \$1,500 for the livestock barns and \$4,500 for a commercial barn.*
 - a. Fair Board Directors decided to table for the Tuesday, September 6, 2022 meeting.

- b. *I have three Marinas that are interested in renting entire barns for boat storage this year*
 - a. Do we want to rent to these marinas?
 - b. If so, for what cost?
 - i. Fair Board Directors decided to table for the Tuesday, September 6, 2022 meeting.

- c. *Audit Approval*

-**MOTION** by: Tom Miller, Second by: Angie Mingus
Motion to approve the audit was made by: Tom Miller and second was made by: Angie Mingus. **Motion Passed 14-0.**

- d. *Bench request by the Ruff family in memory of Larry Ruff. Bill Younts was obtaining prices.*
 - i. Bill Younts has talked to Larry's daughter and she stated that they really like the benches we have and would like a bench just like that. The bench is \$515.00. The Ruff Family would like the bench to be by the swine barn facing the Kiwanis building.
 - **MOTION** by: Tom Miller, Second by: Angie Mingus
Motion to purchase the bench in memory of Larry Ruff was made by: Tom Miller and second was made by: Angie Mingus. **Motion Passed 14-0.**

New Business:

- a. *The John Deere 5320.*

- The Fair Board Directors had discussions regarding selling the John Deere 5320. The directors gave their opinions on selling the tractor and no selling the tractor. Angie stated if we sell the 5320, we are going to have to purchase something to move our bigger heavy items. Angie gave the board pricing for new equipment because getting used equipment is hard to come by.

 - **MOTION** by: Tom Miller, Second by: Eric VanHeukelum
Motion to take the John Deere 5320 off of the market and wait until after Fair to discuss further by: Tom Miller second was made by: Eric VanHeukelum. **Motion passed 13-1.**

- b. *The pulling pad needs a little work done to keep the water from pooling in the center of the pad. Keith received a verbal estimate from Kelly Excavating for \$2,500 for the work.***

-The Fair Board Directors had discussion regarding this.

- **MOTION** by: Angie Mingus, Second by: Mindy Timm
Motion to approve the \$2,500 to have the pulling pad work to be done before Fair with expectations and what will be done was made by: Angie Mingus and second was made by: Mindy Timm. **Motion passed 10-4**
- **MOTION** by: Debbie Davis, Second by: Angie Mingus
Motion to get in writing and the expectations of what Kelly's Excavating price of \$30,000 will include during fair week on the grounds was made by: Debbie Davis and second was made by: Angie Mingus. **Motion passed 12-2**

- c. *Review the estimate from the County Sheriff's Office for Fair Week Security.***

-Fair Board Directors decided to table for the Tuesday, September 6, 2022 meeting.

- d. *Review the estimate from IPM for sound and lights fair week.***

-The Fair Board Directors had discussion regarding this.

- **MOTION** by: Bill Younts, Second by: Angie Mingus
Motion to approve the estimate from IPM for the sound and lights for Fair Week was made by: Bill Younts and second was made by: Angie Mingus. **Motion Passed 14-0**

- e. *The Waltke Family***

-Erin Sherman, Jerry Waltke's daughter presented the board with the blue print of the structure that will be built in Jerry's honor. The Waltke Family is funding this structure. This structure will go between the 4-H Beef Barn and the Open Class Barn, where the current wash area is.

- **MOTION** by: Debbie Davis, Second by: Angie Mingus
Motion to proceed with the blue print of the structure that has been presented was made by: Debbie Davis and second was made by: Angie Mingus. **Motion Passed 14-0**

- f. *Race Horse Barn for Fair Week.***

-Tricia brought up that the race horse guys told her that they had to be out fair week. In May, Missi brought it up to the board at our meeting and we made a decision it was okay that they stay in the barn for Fair Week.

g. Display/Demonstration Equipment for the Educational Area.

-Tricia asked about the demonstration equipment during Fair Week. She asked why are we paying people since our tractor club can do the same thing. Angie mentioned that she had been in discussion with Barb and Ron Weston regarding the area down by the antique tractors. Barb mentioned that they would not go for free and Angie said that she has sponsorship money available. More discussion was had with the Fair Board Directors.

h. Maintenance

-This was already discussed during the discussion of the John Deere 5320 tractor.

Adjournment of Meeting:

Meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

MOTION by: Debbie Davis, Second by: Tricia Ulsh

Motion to adjourn meeting was made by: Debbie Davis and second was made by: Tricia Ulsh. **Motion passed 14-0**