

**St. Joseph County Grange Fair
Special Board Meeting Minutes**

February 15, 2023

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 Special 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 Fair Board Directors 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, Christina Yunker, Mindy Timm, Charlie Carpenter, Gary Clark, Bill Lindsley, Tom Miller, Betty Persons, Tricia Ulsh, Barb Weston, and Bill Younts.

Absent Directors: Deborah Davis and Eric VanHeukelum

Excuse any absent Directors:

MOTION by: Angie Mingus, Second by: Christina Yunker

Motion was made to excuse the absent Fair Board Directors, was made by: Angie Mingus and the second was made by: Christina Yunker.

Motion passed 6-5 (Hand Vote)

Review and Approval of the Agenda:

MOTION by: Tom Miller, Second by: Angie Mingus

Motion was made to approve the meeting agenda, was made by: Tom Miller and the second was made by: Angie Mingus.

Motion passed 11-0

Recognition of Visitors:

Visitors at the meeting were Stacey Bower, Nyla Erhardt, Ella Yunker, Taya Bower, Jim Hart, Shirel Hart, Jim Susemihl, Linda Baker, and Doug Brazo.

Special Meeting Topic:

a. Appointing an Interim Fair Manager from the Board.

Angie Mingus addressed that there is not a lot being done for fair production and we need to start working on the items to have a Fair. A fair board director cannot be the manager, but we can appoint someone to be the lead. The executive committee is taxed, and we cannot take on that duty, we need to appoint someone as a lead person for all of the day-to-day things that need to be done that are not getting done for fair production. Yes, the Executive Committee in the absence of a Fair Manager is the said Manager, but we still need someone in this office

doing the day-to-day things to get ready for a Fair or we will not have a Fair. Things that should have been done in January are, food vendor contracts, commercial vendor contracts (inside and outside), and preparing fair camping contracts to be sent out soon. With coming into the busy season of warmer weather, off-season events, and everything that goes into the production of the Fair we need someone that can head that up, own it, and run with it. In the past, the past Fair Board has decided/set the tone that if you are an “employee” of the Fair you cannot be on the Board and get paid, once you are on the Fair Board you will no longer be paid as the employee you were before the Board. This is not a set rule or in our policy or by-laws, the previous Fair Boards made those decisions at that time. Christina would not be making decisions if there is/was a conflict of interest. Christina is only being compensated for her work as project lead, she will still perform her duties as Fair Board Treasure, and a member of the Executive Committee. In the past when we did not have a Fair Manager, we did run everything by committees, but we also had a full-time secretary in the fair office, who knew all of the deadlines and when everything needed to be done and sent out for the production of the fair. Once we do find a manager, having someone already in place that knows the timelines, procedures, and the flow of everything, will make the transition easier and we will have someone to train the Fair Manager. The Fair Board had more discussions on this topic.

Public Comments during discussion of the Motion:

The following people stood up and spoke during Public Comments.

- Nyla Erhardt
- Stacey Bower
- Jim Susemihl
- Shirel Hart

MOTION by: Angie Mingus, Second by: Tricia Ulsh

Motion, I move to have Christina Yunker as project lead to do fair production effective immediately, under the supervision of the manager (Executive Committee) as a contract labor for \$900.00/week until a full-time manager is hired, was made by: Angie Mingus, and the second was made by: Tricia Ulsh.

Motion PASSED – Roll Call Vote.

7 - Yes

3 – No

1 – Abstained

Adjournment of Meeting:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

MOTION by: Mindy Timm, Second by: Charlie Carpenter

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by: Mindy Timm and the second was made by: Charlie Carpenter.

Motion passed 11-0

Meeting Minutes taken and prepared by: Mindy Timm – Fair Board Secretary.