

Morton County Fair Board Minutes

June 21, 2022

7:00 PM Morton County Fairgrounds, New Salem

Call the meeting to order: 7:01 PM

Roll Call of Directors

- Kristine Koeplin
- Annie Gartner
- Mark Issacs
- Melanie Gaebe
- Nathan Boehm
- Shawn Feiring
- Barry Schulz
- Peggy Brandt

Associate Members

Guests: Don Lafleur

Custodial Report: Nothing to report

Additions/Approval of Agenda: Moved by Nathan, Seconded by Peggy, Motion carries

Secretary's Report: Moved by Mark, Seconded by Peggy, Motion carries

Treasurer's Report: see attached report – Mark moves approval, Barry seconds, motion carries

- Trying to get passwords and information – Stripe and paypal have been disconnected, using Square only, need to find out balance and account information but don't have access
- MDU and West River accounts cannot be accessed online
- There is a supposed email with all of the passwords but we haven't gotten a response
- We do have access to QuickBooks
- Accountant Hiring
 - Kristine moves we hire Don Lafleur at \$40/hour to be the accountant for MCFB with access to both checking accounts, the savings account, debit card, online access, potential payroll services, any online revenue accounts, website and email access if needed, and keys to the concession building and the office, online payment accounts (MDU, West River)
 - Barry seconds
 - Don requested status as employee instead of contractor for tax purposes

- Peggy – yes, Mark – yes, Annie – yes, Melanie – yes, Kristine – yes, Barry – yes
- Passes unanimously

4H Report

- HPAI is canceling the poultry show, no egg exhibits
- 4-H Fair Entry will be open July 1 and closed July 15

Bills to Pay

Old Business

Committee Reports:

Amusement & Youth Activities

- Capital Cornhole will be running a cornhole tournament on Friday night
- Special visitors day – daycare day – need to send letters to participants
- Power wheels on north side

Beer garden/Liquor

- Did we send a contract? No need to send
- Tickets – need to order
- Wrist bands – need to order
- Where will the ticket booth go?

Camping

- Camping opened on Sunday night
- Still have a few spots open – 10 available
- Can we rent the new spots to the vendors?
- More pedestals going in

Capital Improvements

- Some of the electrical is going in
- Jesse has done outlets in/on buildings – Barry had them check every barn
- Put the lights and poles in
- Yard light is in
- Need to label switches
- Nothing determined with hoop barns or concession building
- Water project - need a meeting with the city and the park board
 - Did we order any of the supplies?
 - Should have a line on supplies being easier to get
- Land – will determine how the water project goes in
 - Got a price on the land to the north - \$1 per square foot – 10.35 acres

- Around \$450,000 for the land – contract for deed is on the table but terms have not been discussed
- 5 to 10 year contract for deed with balloon payment
- \$3500 determination to do a wetland determination on the slough – Golden West has been purchased – maybe talk to them about the cost
- Possibility of finding sponsors or donations
- Annual v. monthly payments – probably around \$20-30,000 per year
- Staked out for path – need to fix fence and gate the entrance

Country Fest

- Contract – Luke signed, Nathan moves signature, Kristine seconds, Motion passes – Shawn signs
- Electrical – generator company fell through, all generators United Rentals got in were faulty – Country Fest is paying for everything that is going in – Jesse will draw a map of everything with amperage – putting in another panel, water jet instead of digging to go from the north corner to right in front of old sheep barn, putting in another panel on posts, trenching in the middle for cement pedestal, flush with the ground, can get a sub panel and everything plugs into it – could use it for inflatables instead of generators – going to go alongside old sheep barn for a couple 30 amp boxes on the top edge of the roof – going to trench across through the beer garden and put new panel behind our panel in the beer garden – then going west and putting three pedestals on the north side of the trees – our vendors could use those – then goes up to the power pull area for another box up there – down in the corner, three phase power is going in – MDU is going to bring in three phase from across the road – will trench in up to the other light along the north side of the fence with another junction
 - Locate it and add it to map so we know where everything is for water project
 - Can go look at the flags to see where things will go
 - Need things marked for the tents going in for the fair
 - Communication lacking in the process – was not supposed to be dirt moved until the board saw a plan
 - Country Fest is covering the bill
 - Barry moves to approve the project provided that Country Fest paying the bill, Peggy seconds, motion carries
- Mowing – mowing will be done this week weather permitting – 4 mowers, 4 guys
- Internet – typically pay for three months of boosted internet – asked if they could trench in the line – Peggy said not this year because we don't want to interfere with the water project

Facility Maintenance – Barry called about port-a-potties for the fourth time, start 4 PM Wednesday, Peggy ordered dumpsters, Wayne has a couple skid steers and a

payloader coming and is looking for light plants – HREC in Bismarck, Shawn checking into side-by-sides

Fair Dinner – stuff is ordered

Gate & Parking – need to meet in the next 10 days

Music & Small Acts – Rob will do the sound system for entertainment – need to secure the entertainment building

Public Relations/Advertising – last year's books were 3700 books for under \$3100, now looking at over \$4000 for fewer copies – if the book is to United by June 22, it will be printed by the end of the month – goes to the county newspapers to go out with the papers – still have a case or two leftover after the fair – need to do better about having the books out around the fairgrounds during – Barry moves that we get 3000 books at \$4262.03, Peggy seconds

Peggy – yes, Nathan – yes, Mark – yes, Annie – yes, Melanie – yes, Kristine – yes, Barry - yes

Rodeo – firetruck has times to be here, has a time event contract, water truck – need a CDL to drive the water truck, Barry will check on a water truck

Power Pull – nothing to report

Competitive Exhibits – couple extra sponsors, ordered pen dividers, waiting on some quotes for panels

Commercial Exhibits & Concessions – have two more food vendors

Buckle/Awards – buckles ordered and paid, poultry buckles were already in production but they took the year off so they can be used another year, ribbons were ordered

Security – nothing to report

Hotels – Annie – judge or anyone who needs rooms – get information to Annie by July 19 – need name, check-in and check-out days – look into direct billing – judges for livestock will need hotel rooms

New Business:

Virtual meeting platform – fair board does not have a zoom account, Nathan moves to have Melanie set up Google Workspace for non-profits for future meetings, Annie seconds, motion carries

Contracts – Annie – taken care of earlier

Civic Club – beer trailer for Hoedown – Barry moves, Peggy seconds, the Civic Club does the maintenance for it and makes a donation, motion carries

Key for side door of beer trailer – don't have the trailer key – no one can use the side door – where did the keys from former board members go? – Shawn will make a full set of all keys for the buildings for all members

Mosquito spraying for country fest – we are responsible per the contract – need to wait until closer to country fest

Picnic tables – rental – Barry – wedding this fall – not sure we have done as rental before – Kristine moves that Barry can use picnic tables for a wedding this fall, Peggy seconds – there are supposed to be 11 tables, we inventoried 9, one table is up at the archery area – motion carries

Miss National Agriculture USA – Will be here to help with ribbon handing and other things on Friday – willing to come back Sat/Sun to help if we want – do we have space for a table to promote her and the title? – from Mott – of course

Spray for weeds – Dustin has product, Nathan will check on spraying – try to spray before mowing

Next Meeting: July 19, 2022, 7:00 PM Morton County Fair Grounds, New Salem

Adjournment: Mark moves, Peggy seconds, meeting adjourned

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melanie Gaebel". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned in the lower-left quadrant of the page.

August 16, 2022