

# 2021 | Morton County Fair Board



**Reference:** Meeting Minutes  
**Date of Meeting:** 02/03/2021 | 6:00 p.m. | MC Commission Room 210 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave NW Mandan  
**Draft Distributed:** 02/04/2021  
**Minutes Approved:** Pending

## Attendees:

Quorum:  Yes  No

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nathan Boehm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kristine Koeplin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wendy Boehm, AM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tracy Boehm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karla Meikle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jackie Buckley, AM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Peggy Brandt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wayne Seeman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Isaacs, AM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shawn Feiring	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barry Schulz	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Melanie Gaebe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Josh Valleroy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Annie Gartner		

## Additional Guests:

1. Wendy Bent, Morton HR
2. Ron Leingaing, Commission Chair
3. Don LaFleur, Tax Director
4. Don Taghon
5. Mark Fleck
- 6.

## Agenda:

No Formal Agenda was built for this meeting as it was the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of this Fair Board.

## Meeting Minutes:

- County Commissioner Nathan Boehm opened the meeting at 6:05 p.m.
- **BOARD MEMBER ELECTION RESULTS** | Commissioner Boehm announced the 2021 MCFA Board Member Election results, which included (listed alphabetically): Tracy Boehm, Peggy Brandt, Shawn Feiring, Melanie Gaebe, Annie Gartner, Kristine Koeplin, Karla Meikle, Wayne Seeman, and Barry Schulz.
- Commissioner Boehm and New Salem Park Board Member Josh Valleroy will also serve in a voting capacity as dictated by Morton County Commission.

- The Morton County Fair Board now has eleven (11) Board Members and three (3) Associate Members.
- **ASSOCIATE MEMBERS** | The three Associate Members (listed alphabetically) Wendy Boehm, Jackie Buckley and Mark Isaacs, were warmly invited to remain part of the MCFA in a non-voting capacity.
- Commissioner Boehm informed the Board that there is no formal agenda due to the new Board's 1st meeting of the season. He asked that the Board address and elect officer positions and begin selecting immediate committee needs.
- **CHAIRMAN ELECTION** | Commissioner Boehm opened nominations for the Chairman position to serve as the President of the Morton County Fair Board. Karla Meikle nominated Shawn Feiring as Board Chairman, and Melanie Gaebe seconded it. Barry Schulz requested to cease nominations and motioned to cast a unanimous ballot to elect Shawn Feiring. The motion passed unanimously.
- **TRANSITION OF POWER** | Commissioner Boehm transitioned the authority powers to the now Chairman Feiring and noted the meeting's recording efforts.
- **VICE PRESIDENT ELECTION** | Chairman Feiring opened nominations for the Vice President position. Karla Meikle nominated Tracy Boehm. Kristine Koeppline requested to cease nominations and motioned to cast a unanimous ballot to elect Tracy Boehm. The motion passed unanimously.
- **SECRETARY ELECTION** | Chairman Feiring opened nominations for the Secretary position. Tracy Boehm nominated Annie Gartner. Karla Meikle requested to cease nominations and motioned to cast a unanimous ballot to elect Annie Gartner. The motion passed unanimously.
- **TREASURER ELECTION** | Chairman Feiring opened nominations for the Treasurer position. Tracy Boehm nominated Karla Meikle. Melanie Gaebe requested to cease nominations and motioned to cast a unanimous ballot to elect Karla as the Board Treasurer. The motion passed unanimously.
- **ASSISTANT TREASURER ELECTION** | Chairman Feiring opened nominations for the Assistant Treasurer position. Karla Meikle nominated Melanie Gaebe. Tracy Boehm requested to cease nominations and to cast a unanimous ballot to elect Melanie Gaebe. The motion passed unanimously.
- **PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE** | Chairman Feiring asked the Board to consider other Officer Positions.
  - Commissioner Boehm announced the need for a Public Relations Chair. A Board or Associate Member can be elected to this position. Tracy Boehm addressed the need to combine advertising and sponsorships with the Public Relations Chair position.
  - Barry Schulz motioned that the Board forms a Public Relations Committee to address advertising, sponsorships, media, and other public outreach initiatives. Melanie Gaebe seconded the motion. Wayne Seeman, Kristine Koepplin, and Wendy Boehm volunteered to participate in the committee. Jackie Buckley noted the importance of having multiple people have access to the Facebook page for public outreach. Chairman Feiring called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

- **TREASURER REPORT** | Chairman Feiring requested a Treasurer's Report. Karla Meikle will bring a formal report at the following meeting.
- **HONORARY MEMBERSHIPS** | Karla Meikle brought forward the idea of implementing Honorary Memberships, with the first membership going to Kenny Schulz. Jackie Buckley also brought forward the concept of Appreciation Awards for prior fair members. No action was taken.
- **BYLAWS** | Commissioner Boehm requested the Board to form a bylaws committee. This committee would combine the original bylaws with the drafted bylaws and present them to the Board for review, feedback and finalization. Chairman Feiring requested volunteers for the committee. Tracy Boehm, Melanie Gaebe, Nathan Boehm, and Barry Schulz each volunteered to form the committee.
- **FAIR ITEMS** | Chairman Feiring requested the group to begin drafting a To-Do List to start planning and organizing the 2021 Fair.
  - Jackie Buckley provided historical information from past fairs to assist the new fair Board.
  - Barry Schulz brought forward the idea of retiring the chicken supper.
  - Jackie Buckley brought forward information from Meredyth regarding the chicken supper and other fair information.
- **2021 FAIR DATES** | Chairman Feiring informed the Board of the dates for the 2021 fair to be held on August 4 – August 8, 2021.
- **HIGH-PRIORITY ITEMS** | Wayne Seeman asked for the Board to address high priority items. Chairman Feiring requested board feedback on urgent needs.
  - Barry Schulz informed the Board that NDRA is requesting a formal commitment for the rodeo event. He mentioned the addition of a new event to be disclosed later. He also stated that Mutton Bustin would not be added to the rodeo. Wayne Seeman motioned for the 2021 Fair to maintain a similar rodeo as the Fair has in the past to include the new event. Peggy Brandt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
  - Jackie Buckley requested the Board to decide on the plans for the 2021 Point Show. Barry Schulz informed the Board that the Sunday Point Show helped the Fair but discussed the need to rotate departure times due to traffic. Wendy Boehm requested financial data on Sunday events. A discussion then ensued on the departure times for the kids and how it would affect clean up. Karle Meikle discussed the financial challenges with the Sunday Point Show without any incoming revenue for Sunday. Jackie Buckley mentioned that Century Code allows the Mill Levy to be used for premium dollars. Tracy Boehm stated the need to get the Board in a self-sustaining position financially to support Sunday events. Peggy Brandt questioned what could be brought in on Sunday to increase revenue. Brandt suggested the Ranch Rodeo. Barry Schulz explained how the Ranch Rodeo died out, but the Horse Pull may be an option, but advertising is critical. Barry Schulz mentioned the need to review the financial information from the gate. He also stated the need to assure folks are paying for both Saturday and Sunday. Wayne Seeman discussed the challenges of cleaning up and closing stalls while other activities are ongoing. Kristine Koeplin echoed

similar concerns and requested to table the Point Show until the next meeting until more financial data was provided. Commissioner Boehm informed the Board that the Farm Bureau would still host the free meal on the best available date. Commissioner Boehm expressed concern about Dairy Kids sitting around waiting to leave at three. However, he noted that some kids are heavily involved in the Point Show. He suggested shortening the times of the event.

- Annie Gartner mentioned that Joel Gartner was still working with Full Pull to commit to the 2021 Fair.
- Wendy Boehm requested financial data on Sunday events. A discussion then ensued on the departure times for the kids and how it would affect clean up.
- **COUNTRYFEST** | Wendy Boehm requested further discussion on CountryFest and the need to form a committee.
  - Karla Meikle stated that CountryFest wants to extend the contract due to the Hometown Tour. The Board will need to address this request in the future. CountryFest also submitted a grant to North Dakota Tourism for a grant of \$15,000 to aid in the construction of additional camping pedestals. However, they have not sought approval from the Morton County Fair Board and the New Salem Park District. Karla Meikle mentioned the need to address this in the Long-Term Plan. Barry Schulz noted that the current pedestals
  - Chairman Feiring requested the dates of the current CountryFest contract. Karla Meikle stated the contract goes through 2022. Wayne Seeman asked where the pedestals would be placed; however, CountryFest has not provided a map of their intentions. Shawn Feiring and Barry Schulz stated that the current pedestals are on a separate tract of land. Commissioner Boehm noted that 7-8 different entities own the Fair Grounds.
  - Chairman Feiring asked the Board to consider being a part of the CountryFest Committee, and it would be discussed at the next meeting. The dates are scheduled for July 8 & 9, 2021.
- **NEXT FAIR BOARD MEETING** | Chairman Feiring asked the Board to determine a date for the next meeting. Scheduling discussions began. The next meeting was decided for February 16, 2021, Tuesday @ 6 p.m. in the County building. The board discussed the possibility of alternating monthly between the county's western and eastern parts.
- **ADJOURN** | Chairman Feiring calls for a motion to adjourn. Wayne Seeman motions to adjourn. Melanie Gaebe seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously at approximately 7:10 p.m.

Wendy Boehm

Interim 2/4/21

