

Morton County Fair Board Minutes

August 17, 2021

Call the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. central time by board President Shawn Feiring.

**Directors present:** Tracy Boehm, Nathan Boehm, Peggy Brandt, Shawn Feiring, Melanie Gaebe, Annie Gartner, Kristine Koeplin, Barry Schulz, and Wayne Seeman

**Associate Members present:** Wendy Boehm, and Mark Isaacs

**Guests present:** Cole, Renee Gress and Mark Fleck

**Additions/ Approval of Agenda:** Wayne made the motion to approve the agenda, Peggy second, motion passed.

**Secretary's Report:** Melanie made the motion to approve the minutes as presented, Kristine 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed.

**Treasurer Report:** no report

**Bills to pays:** none

**Custodial Report:** Waiting for Brock Hager to come and clean the stove.

**Old Business:**

**Committee Reports:**

**Amusement & Youth Activities:** Good turnout at the power wheels derby, people would like to see it for the 2022 Fair. Corn Hole tournament had 18 teams, participants would like money as prizes, be willing to pay \$20.00 to play. Sand volleyball had 3 teams signed up, only 2 teams showed up. Left over sand can be used as it needed on the grounds.

**Beer Garden:** Made about \$10,000.00 in alcohol sales

**Camping:** Had a lot of good responses over making the camping spots wider, went from 15' to 18', and had to shut down 3 spots to make this work. Next year maybe shorten them up a little to gain some spots back. Wayne will bring a plan back for changes to camping area next meeting.

**Capital Improvements:** Barry will look at getting hydrants to all barns, need to fix the drain tile around the wash rack. Everyone should make a list of capital improvements, e-mail your suggestions to the secretary, a list will be put together and brought to the next meeting.

**Country Fest:** Filled 4 roll off dumpsters up. Any hours that were accrued during clean-up of Country Fest by any Board Member needs to submit those hours to Karla so she can put the invoice together. The 4 roll offs will be included in the invoice. Karla will get together with Peggy and Tracy and finalize the invoice and put together recommendations for the next contract with Country Fest and then bring the contract before the fair board at the next meeting.

**Facility Maintenance:** Rick Rhone will get quotes for a different stove and a bigger deep fryer. Hood needs to be bigger. Had an incident on Sunday morning, the oven doors blew open, gas was leaking into the building. Stove is out of service till it is fixed. Barry made the motion to form a committee of three, Melanie made an amendment to the motion to give the committee the power to act on ordering the stove and to get quotes for the rest of the upgrades and bring them back to the fair board. Wayne 2<sup>nd</sup>, amendment to the motion passed. Original motion made by Barry to form a committee of three with the power to act on the ordering of the stove and to bring the rest of the upgrades back to the Board. Nathan 2<sup>nd</sup> motion passed.

**Fair Dinner:** 510 burgers were served in an hour, packaged the meals into Styrofoam boxes, and went well.

**Gate & Parking:** People stated great people working the gate, felt welcomed from the start. Shuttle bus went well. POS system worked well. Josh Eggers rents the land to the north, will work with him for next year parking. Use of the field south of vet clinic worked well for the over flow of stock trailers.

**Music & Small Acts Entertainment:** Bands sounded good, look at bringing small acts and the gospel hour back for the 2022 fair.

**Public Relations:** Need to cut back on the fair books and posters. Had a good turn out with IHEART Radio, several directors spoke on air Townshead Media only advertised from August 1-4, went off 2019 dates, will credit us back the amount we paid and will start fresh next year.

**Rodeo:** Went well, had two good nights of rodeo. Draft horse competition went well, competitors were really appreciative. There was 7 teams, budgeted \$2000.00 for the event, that money was split between the teams.

Power pull: Had 50 hooks on Saturday night, had two classes the mini modified and 7800 lb. modified tractor no entries. Crowd was good, track was excellent and was 3 hour show. Antique Tractor Pull had 35 hooks in 5 weight classes, 2 hour show. Like to bring the smaller tractors back to the pull.

Competitive Exhibits: Still working on getting some of the places entered, once that is wrapped up, run reports and get pay outs sent. Lot of entries for the shows, went well. Had a little issue with stalling, Oliver County Fair let us use 17 pens of theirs, need to maybe look at buying more pens. Fair entry took a little time to get set up, but went well. Static had over 200 exhibits brought in for the open show, people liked the system for checking in. Have a few names for the People's Choice Awards, need to decide on a prize.

Commercial Exhibits & Concessions: Need to start now on getting food vendors for the 2022 fair, look at least having 5 vendors, some will need to stay open later. Peggy has been in contact with Big Boy, not willing to commit now, they book 4-6 months out, very interested. Hearty Heifer would like to get in, Farm to Flame would like to return, and the Oven roasted pizza guy is interested. E-mail suggestions to Melanie so we can get them booked for 2022 Fair. Need to have early food vendors on Wednesday and Thursday, maybe look at having beer garden open Thursday evening.

Buckles/ Awards: Need to order more ribbons, lots of good compliments on the buckles. Have 3 new people who would like to sponsor a buckle next year.

Security: Went well, will get next year's fair dates to Jon, we will be getting a security assessment for the fair. This gives us some ideas and input going forward with events on the grounds, There was one incident at the end of the shift on Saturday night, they handled the incident professionally and no further action was needed on their end or from Morton County Law Enforcement.

### **New Business:**

**Secretary will send thank you's to the following:** Northern Plains Equipment- pull back tractor and the little Kubota tractor, Bobcat of Mandan- loader, skid-steers with attachments, and side by side, Action Motor Sports- side by sides, Morton County Farm Bureau- tent, Morton County Highway Department- blade and operator, Rud Oil- fuel truck.

**Donations to be paid are as follows:** Garyl Gartner- \$500.00, New Salem Ambulance- \$500.00, New Salem Fire Department- \$300.00, Rocky Bateman-\$200.00, New Salem Saddle

Club- \$1,000.00, No-Dak Plumbing & Heating- \$200.00, New Salem Weigh Station- \$100.00, Madan FFA- \$500.00, New Salem FFA-\$ 2,500.00, Tyrel Schulz- \$200.00, 4-H Council-\$1,500.00

Barry made the motion to pay the 2021 donations, Nathan 2<sup>nd</sup> Roll Call vote was taken, Tracy-yes, Nathan-yes, Peggy-yes, Melanie-yes, Annie-yes, Kristine-yes, Barry-yes, and Wayne-yes. Motion passed unanimously.

**Renting of Chairs:** Almont would like to rent the steel chairs that are in the entertainment building for their Labor Day Celebration, Melanie made the motion to allow Almont to rent the chairs, Wayne 2<sup>nd</sup> motion passed.

**Storage of trailer from Saddle Club:** Barry will talk to Mary about storing their trailer in the corner of the horse barn.

**4-H Achievement Day Update from Renae Gress:** Wednesday- static was down a little, Thursday- 38 entries for horse show, 31 entries for rabbit and 12 entries for poultry. Friday- 68 animal entries for all the shows, had 93 kids in the Premium Sale, picnic feed about 300 4-Her's and buyers.

Next meeting is September 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Morton County Fair Grounds, New Salem

Wayne made the motion to adjourn, Melanie 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed. Adjourned at 8:45p.m. Central time.

Annie Gress  
MCFA Secretary  
9-21-2021