

Morton County Fair Board Minutes

April 15, 2025

7:00 pm Morton County Fairgrounds

Meeting called to order at 7:00 on pm central time by board President Shawn Feiring.

Directors presented: Peggy Brandt, Mark Isaacs, Shawn Feiring, Thomas Friesz, Barry Schulz, Nathan Boehm, Trina Gress, Luke Dukart, Brooke Kunz, and Annie Gartner

Associate Members presented: Amanda Noel

Guest: Casey & Monica Pletan- Rough Country Pullers Association, Russ Voigt- 4-H Council

Custodial Report: no report

Additions/Approval of Agenda: Trina moved to approve agenda, Brooke 2nd motion passed

Secretary's Report: Peggy made the motion to approve minutes as presented, Luke 2nd, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: In the checking account per bank \$72,951.65, Savings Account per bank \$29,770.90. Loan balance is \$287,605.11, next payment due 12/26/2025 (\$27,498.81).

Mark made the motion to approve the treasurer's report presented, Luke 2nd motion passed.

4-H Report: Russ let the Board know that they have a rabbit and poultry judge lined up.

Bills to pay: none

Old Business:

Committee Reports:

Amusement & Youth Activities: Trina informed the Board that the Safety Council has an Ag Safety Trailer that they will be bringing out to the fair. She also talked to Burleigh and Morton Extension Services about doing a horticulture demo with the kids.

Beer Garden: Committee got two bids back so far, deadline for bids is May 15th.

Camping: Peggy would like permission from the Board to open on-line camping and wristbands on June 1st, the Board was fine with this.

Capital Improvements & Facility Maintenance: The stove for the kitchen was shipped, they will install the new stove and take the old stove with them, clean it up and will try to sell the stove. The current tv's in the concession building are not big enough and are not smart tv's, Barry made the motion to have Shawn buy two smart tv's for less than \$1,000.00, Brooke 2nd

roll call vote; Trina-yes, Shawn-yes, Brooke-yes, Luke-yes, Peggy-yes, Thomas-yes, Mark-yes, Nathan-yes, Barry-yes and Annie-yes, motion passed unanimously.

Shawn had the FFA kids up to the fairgrounds, they painted bleachers, fixed some bleachers and doors.

Peggy talked to Levi Peterson about the guardrail, Barry said MDU does not want anything permanent around their transfer box. Discussion on having Levi build shorter portable panels to go around. She also got a quote from Levi Peterson for renting portable panels for the fair, 400 feet of light weight panels would be \$5,000.00 and 400 feet of heavy duty panels would be \$6,640.00. Discussion followed, Mark made the motion to purchase 5 free standing portable panels 24' long, Nathan 2nd, roll call vote; Brooke-yes, Luke-yes, Trina-yes, Shawn-yes, Nathan-yes, Mark-yes, Barry-yes, Peggy-yes, Thomas-yes, and Annie-yes, motion passed unanimously. Brooke will get quotes from DFC and Levi Peterson and will go with whoever gives the better deal.

Country Fest: no report

Gate & Parking: no report

Music & Small Acts: Annie presented the quote from Wade Stein of Fargo AV for the band production on Saturday night, \$2,000.00 plus \$217.00 mileage total of \$2,217.00

Public Relations & Advertising: Sponsorship for this year is at \$45,000.00 compared to last year of \$33,000.00.

Mark had a discussion with Security First Bank, they would like to know how many years of sponsorship they have in the fair book. Discussion followed, Mark made the motion that the Security First Bank's sponsorship will be for a period of 10 years and will include a full page ad in the fair book, Brooke 2nd, motion passed.

Annie presented quote from Iheart Media for \$2,586.00, same set up as last year. Brooke made the motion to go with Iheart Media for \$2,586.00 Peggy 2nd, roll call vote; Shawn-yes, Trina-yes, Brooke-yes, Luke-yes, Peggy-yes, Thomas-yes, Mark-yes, Nathan-yes, Barry-yes and Annie-yes, motion passed unanimously.

Rodeo/Draft Horse Competition/Ranch Rodeo: working on the contracts for the rodeo.

Power Pull: Casey and Monica Pletan from Rough Country Pullers Association presented the contract for the power pull and the antique tractor pull. Power pull - \$500.00 deposit, ending balance of \$2,500.00 due and the antique - \$500.00 deposit, ending balance of \$800.00 due

Mark made the motion to accept both the power pull and antique tractor pull contracts, Luke 2nd, roll call vote; Shawn-yes, Trina-yes, Brooke-yes, Luke-yes, Peggy-yes, Thomas-yes, Mark-yes, Nathan-yes, Barry-yes, and Annie-yes, motion passed unanimously.

Annie presented the quote from Wade Stein of Fargo AV to do the sound system, for both pulls would be \$1,600.00 plus mileage \$217.00 total of \$1,817.00 and to rent the telehandler from Bobcat from Thursday to Sunday to hoist the speakers in the air will be \$900.00.

Barry made the motion to accept both the Fargo AV and Bobcat contract, Brooke 2nd, roll call vote; Shawn-yes, Trina-yes, Brooke-yes, Luke-yes, Peggy-yes, Thomas-yes, Mark-yes, Nathan-yes, Barry-yes and Annie-yes, motion passed unanimously.

Competitive Events/Awards: Committee meet and went thru the awards and premiums, Thomas is getting the on-line portion on the web page updated. Need some dirt in some of the barns, Thomas will get prices and bring back to the next meeting.

Commercial Exhibits/Concessions/Vendors: no report

Security: Annie presented the security contract with Elite Security from Fargo for \$10,900.00, we will pay for their rooms to keep the price down. Trina made the motion to enter into contract with Elite Security for \$10,900.00, Brooke 2nd, roll call vote; Shawn-yes, Trina-yes, Peggy-yes, Barry-yes, Mark-yes, Thomas-yes, Luke-yes, Brooke-yes, Nathan-yes, and Annie – yes, motion passed unanimously.

Free lunch on Sunday by Farm Bureau: Farm Bureau plans on having their free lunch on August 3rd.

Legislative update: The bill passed, signing of the bill will take place on April 17th at 4:00pm at the Memorial Hall. Peggy plans on going and representing Morton County Fair. Thank you for going.

Budget 2025: Annie presented a list of expenses associated with each committee, made some correction, she will get the correct ones sent out.

The following is the 2025 Morton County Fair Association Budget:

Amusement & Youth Activities- \$12,000.00

Beer Garden-\$50.00

Camping-\$500.00

Capital Improvements-\$55,000.00

Commercial Exhibits/Vendors-\$100.00

Competitive Events/Awards-\$80,000.00

Country Fest-\$4,000.00

Facility Maintenance-\$20,000.00

Gate & Parking-\$100.00

Bands & Small Acts-\$30,000.00

Office Expenses/Payroll-\$45,000.00

Public Relations-\$20,000.00

Power Pull/Antique Tractor Pull-\$14,000.00

Rodeo/Ranch Rodeo/Draft Horse Competition-\$23,000.00

Security-\$12,000.00

Donations-\$15,000.00

Utilities-\$20,000.00

Total: \$350,750.00

Brooke made the motion to approve the 2025 budget, Nathan 2nd, discussion was on having a yearly budget and just a fair budget. Roll call vote; Shawn-yes, Trina-yes, Thomas-yes, Barry-yes, Nathan-yes, Peggy-yes, Luke-yes, Brooke-yes, Mark-yes, and Annie-yes, motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

None

Next meeting: May 20, 2025 at 7:00pm at the Morton County Fairgrounds in New Salem.

Brooke made the motion to adjourn, Luke 2nd motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 9:02pm central time.

Submitted by Annie Gartner, MCFB Secretary: Signature Annie Gartner Date 5-20-2025
MCF Secretary