

Morton County Fair Board Minutes

June 15, 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 Koepplin, Karla Meikle, Barry Schulz, and Wayne Seeman

Associate Members present: Wendy Boehm, and Mark Isaacs

Guests present: Joel Gartner Marlene Gartner

Additions/ Approval of Agenda: Karla made the motion to approve the agenda, Melanie second, motion passed.

Secretary's Report: Karla made the motion to approve the minutes as presented, Peggy second, motion passed.

Treasurer Report: In the checking account we have \$ 111,601.09 - \$963.47 in outstanding checks for a total of \$110,637.62. On line account balance is \$250.00 and the savings account (2020 sponsorship money) has \$ 14,363.03. Melanie made the motion to approve the treasurer report, Kristine second, motion passed.

Bills to pay: Michaels- vinyl for camping posts- \$19.99 and \$99.75 for AED Defib. Pads

Custodial Report: none

Old Business:

Committee Reports:

Amusement & Youth Activities: Sand Volleyball- need to purchase a net and a ball, registration is ready to go live on the website. Corn hole Boards- standard board is \$105.00 no shipping, comes with bean bags, 100% wood finish, 1 year warranty. Need 12 boards for 24 teams. Barry made the motion to forgo corn hole tourney, motion dies due to no second. Wayne stated should ask for volunteers to bring boards and see how the 1st year goes. Wendy will put it on the website asking people to bring bards for the tourney.

Beer Garden: Karla got confirmation back from The Field, will send memo so both the bar and Morton County Fair understand what to expect from each other.

Camping: Registration goes live tomorrow night at 6:00 p.m. Padlocks were ordered and put on all pedestals, need to contact Josh for camping and to unlock the pedestals. Discussion was had on whether or not to keep camping on the rental agreement.

Capital Improvements: Wayne has four UTV secured with Action Motor Sports, bobcat skidders thru Bobcat of Mandan, having hard time finding equipment like loader or telehandler, may have to rent one. Light towers are ordered, waiting on contract for porta-potties and wash stations, need to order dumpsters for barns.

Country Fest: Want to extend the approach in the NW corner, and make it wider with a culvert underneath. Barry made motion to widen approach, with the approval from Park Board. Kristine 2nd, motion passed. Have been using the big lights on the track, do we want to lock the breaker panel or charge them? Tracy made the motion to lock the panel till lights are added to the contract so we can receive payment for their use. Melanie 2nd motion passed.

Facility Maintenance: Wayne did a live video chat tonight before the meeting with Rick Rohn on the stove. Parts are getting harder to find, best if we upgrade. Will put options together for board and will give us options for a bigger fryer, Wayne will have Rick come up, fall-winter project. Barry talked to Dustin Fleck about spraying weeds on the grounds. He also contacted Morton County Weed Board about spraying spurge, they do not contract out. Tracy stated Allen Boehm was spraying the spurge.

Fair Dinner: German Guy, Das Mountain will replace the chicken dinner, not going to try any cook offs until things settle down with pandemic.

Gate & Parking: State Fair suggested we call All Seasons out of Fargo to rent people movers. Tracy will contact them and will have price quote put together.

Music & Small Acts Entertainment: nothing

Public Relations: Wayne secured I Heart Media for 2800.00 and will bring out dj to do a live interview on Friday Afternoon and it will also be on-line, and Townshead media for 2,000.00 for our advertising, skip the TV ads and go with radio. Discussion was had on giving wristbands to radio stations to give way. Karla made the motion to provide up to 30 wristbands to give away on the radio stations, Melanie 2nd, motion passed.

Rodeo: none

Power pull: Still have to contact county and Northern Plains for pull back tractor. Joel Gartner and Marlene Gartner stated pullers have concerns, do they have to pay to park their pulling rigs on the day of the event and why do they have to pay for camping not using electrical. Barry stated they are the entertainment, anyone working here or volunteers should

not have to pay. Wayne made the motion anyone involved with Full Pull to park and camp as in the past years, Melanie 2nd, motion passed. No garden tractor pull on Sunday and will have a list of wristbands that are needed by next meeting.

Competitive Exhibits: Working on the new fair entry system, hoping to be able to access it next week. Need WIFI across the grounds- West River Telephone over \$3000.00 to install and will charge 65.00 to rent equipment, County has mobile WIFI units, they will charge 10.00 a unit. Consensus was to use the counties. Static – no consistency with ages in the open class, will have four age divisions to level the playing field. Livestock Showmanship will be doing the same. Someone inquired about showing a bull at the fair, Nathan stated to leave the bull policy as is, 8 months or younger, Wayne 2nd motion passed.

Commercial Exhibits & Concessions: Kari has 11 inside vendors, 3 machinery vendors, 4 food vendors, Jacks on the go, snow cone guy, Sugar Monster and Das Mountain. Possibly have one coffee shop coming.

Buckles/ Awards: Buckles have been ordered, have to order more blue ribbons.

Security: Security Specialists from MN is unavailable for the weekend of the fair, WE Fest is the same weekend and all their employees are needed that directions. Contacted Jon Pumphrey from Harvest Security Solutions out of Fargo. Will have security on Friday starting at 3:00 p.m. till 1:00 a.m., two in the beer garden and two roaming, same set up for Saturday.

Fair book/Website: Website goes live tomorrow night, no livestock or static registration till fair entry gets set up. Should have the book done next week, committee will meet to proofread the book, and then has to go to print next week. With fair entry not sure if pages will increase, will not know till last minute.

Fair Poster: Went thru the poster and made corrections, take the @ out and use the word at, underline the website.

Tents: Volunteer will put up the Farm Burea Tent and the one on the east side of concession building. Wants a liability waiver signed and 811 called before they start. Same price as last year, Nathan and Shawn will take care of it.

New Business:

Rodeo Sheets: Need 350, Barry will get the info to Robyn at the New Salem Journal.

Mill Levy Authorization: Nathan stated next County Commissioners meeting is June 22 and they would like an update on the fair board. Also stated we can request the other ½ of the mill levy money. Shawn will attend.

Dawn Rohn stated as long as we spend the money for what it is intended for, we do not need to ask, they would just like a update on the money that is spent, use mill levy for items that bring people into the fair and for improvements.

Rental Contracts: Peggy will get the corrections made on the Facility rental Agreement and will e-mail back out. Use the Morton County Courthouse as our mailing address. There is two winter storage contracts one is for linear foot cost and other list the vehicles and equipment and their cost. Review both in fall.

Next meeting is August 17, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Morton County Fair Grounds, New Salem

Melanie made the motion to adjourn, Kristine 2nd motion passed. Adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Annie Karher secretary
7-20-21