

Morton County Fair Board Minutes

March 18, 2025

7:00 pm Morton County Fairgrounds

Meeting called to order at 7:02 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, Mark Isaacs and Annie Gartner

Associate Members presented: none

Guest: Don Lafleur- MCFA accountant and Margo Kunz- 4-H Council

Custodial Report:

Mary said the floor scrubber needs new batteries, ones in the scrubber are 8 years old. Takes two batteries about \$200.00 each. Barry moved to purchase 2 batteries for the floor scrubber, Luke 2nd, roll call vote; Peggy-yes, Trina-yes, Shawn-yes, Brooke-yes, Thomas-yes, Luke-yes, Barry-yes, Mark-yes, and Annie-yes, motion passed unanimously

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

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

Treasurer's Report: In the checking account per bank \$86,499.71, Savings Account per bank \$7,768.99. Don said he transferred \$22,000.00 to hold for the loan payment, bringing savings to \$29,768.99. Loan balance is \$287,605.11, next payment due 12/26/2025 (\$27,498.81).

We will receive the rest of our money from the county in June. Brooke made the motion to approve the treasurer's report presented, Barry 2nd motion passed.

4-H Report: Margo told the Board that the 4-H council made a 4-H policy that states helmets need to be worn while riding horse on the grounds. Discussion followed.

Bills to pay: Trina presented bills for postage and for supplies for the sponsorship letters, total bill was \$1606.84, Luke made the motion to reimburse Trina \$1606.84, Peggy 2nd, roll call vote, Mark-yes, Barry-yes, Luke-yes, Thomas-yes, Shawn-yes, Trina-yes, Brooke-yes, Peggy-yes, and Annie-yes, motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

Committee Reports:

Amusement & Youth Activities: Church has 3 inflatables, they will come out, and set them up, may not have help to watch the inflatables. Margo says she has some 4-H clubs that will need to make some money, she will check with them. Board figured \$10.00 an hour, 4-5 people need to have one adult.

Shawn talked to Al Weiss excited to do our corn hole tourney. He said will need help finding enough boards for the tourney. He also got a contract from Flatbed Ax Throwing, will do Friday and Saturday, 4 hours each day total cost \$1,875.00. Luke made the motion to approve Flatbed Ax Throwing contract for \$1,875.00, Brooke 2nd roll call vote; Thomas-yes, Barry-yes, Mark-yes, Peggy-yes, Shawn-yes, Trina-yes, Luke-yes, Brooke-yes, and Annie-yes, motion passed unanimously.

Beer Garden: Shawn presented the letter for the beer garden bids, made one change to letter, went thru list of businesses to receive the letter, added and deleted some. Shawn will make the changes and get them mailed out.

Camping: no report

Capital Improvements & Facility Maintenance: Barry presented a quote for a new stove, American Range Pilotless- 4 burners, griddle, and oven from Capital City Restaurant and Supply- Rick Rhone for \$12,250.00. Barry made the motion to purchase the range from Capital City Restaurant and Supply for \$12,250.00 using the grant money from the Community Foundation Grant. Mark 2nd, roll call vote; Shawn-yes, Thomas-yes, Luke-yes, Brooke-yes, Peggy-yes, Mark-yes, Trina-yes, Barry-yes, and Annie-yes, motion passed unanimously. They will take the old stove and put it on consignment.

Peggy booked the porta potties and dumpsters, she will reserve the light plants from Acme Tool Crib in Bismarck same number as last year. Mark will check with West River Equipment and Bobcat for equipment to be used during the fair. Shawn will talk to Casey Pletan about UTV's from Action Motor Sports.

Country Fest: no report

Gate & Parking: Trina would like to know if Nathan wants a map of the parking in the fair book.

Music & Small Acts: no report

Public Relations & Advertising: Here is the update from Trina, sponsorship letters were sent out, due back April 1st, looking at doing a direct mail for next year, we will save time and money, no one will be left out. Everything for the nook needs to be to the committee by April 30th no later. Trina asked if the Lions can sponsor the livestock banners for the open shows, Board agreed yes. She gave a quote for a postcard with the fair schedule on it that gets sent to

each household in Morton County about \$5,000.00. Brooke and Trina will work on the buckle sponsors.

Dakota Community Bank gave \$3,000.00 sponsorship towards the Saturday night band and \$1,000.00 for jackets for the winners of the rodeo events, ten events total. New Salem Civic Club gave \$5,000.00 sponsorship for the ranch rodeo. Trina wrote grants to Northern Border Pipeline for \$10,000.00 and to BNSF for \$10,000.00 both to be used for youth activities.

Annie presented quotes from Townsquare and KDKT Beulah.

1. Townsquare \$2,205-30 second ad 6ads/day July 27th to August 2nd, and \$1,500.00 for 30 second ad 6 ads/ day July 22nd to July 26th.
2. KDKT- \$225.00 for 120 ads June 20th to July 30th and \$100.00 for 32 ads July 30th to August 3rd.

Trina made the motion to go with KDKT's both contract for \$325.00 and Townsquare contract for \$2,205.00, will have Townsquare start 2 days early and end 2 days later, Luke 2nd, roll call; Peggy-yes, Trina-yes, Shawn-yes, Brooke-yes, Thomas-yes, Luke-yes, Barry-yes, Mark-yes, and Annie-yes, motion passed unanimously.

Rodeo/Draft Horse Competition/Ranch Rodeo: Saddle Club will help with the rodeo.

Power Pull: Shawn and Luke meet with Casey and Monica Pletan about the power pulls, they have a few suggestion, hook fees, Shawn explained there is no hook fee because they pay at the gate, classes will remain the same as last year, like to move the antique pull to Friday night start at 7:00pm weigh in would be 4-6, power pull will be Saturday night start 6:00pm weigh in 2-5, instead of trophies like to do banners 2x3 vinyl. They will provide the announcer, do not need a pullback tractor. They talked to Tyrel Schulz about track prep with the blade and water truck.

Annie made the motion to move the Antique Power Pull to Friday night, Brooke 2nd motion passed.

Competitive Events/Awards: Committee will meet

Commercial Exhibits/Concessions/Vendors: Food vendor applications where mailed on March 7th, and due back by April 15th. Indoor and outdoor vendor applications went out a few days later. Peggy put them on our Facebook page and on vendor face book pages that she is a part of. Due back on April 15th, prices did go up to be more comparable to other fairs, no payment is needed till the vendor is notified that they have been accepted.

Security: no report

Free lunch on Sunday by Farm Bureau- Nathan was gone, tabled

Legislative update: Peggy said everyone did a do pass, moving into apportions, looking at the dollar match, some counties would be tough for them, looking at other options. Need more testimony from our county.

New Business:

2025 Budget: Don will email everyone an updated 2024 revenue and expenses for fair. Committees should meet and look at their budget before next meeting.

FFA Use of tables and panels: Barry moved to let the FFA use the tables for their banquet on March 27th and the panels for their Ag day on April 23rd, Luke 2nd motion passed.

Next meeting: April 15, 2025 at 7:00pm at the Morton County Fairgrounds in New Salem.

Luke made the motion to adjourn, Peggy 2nd motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm central time.

Submitted by Annie Gartner, MCFB Secretary: Signature Annie Gartner Date 4-15-2025