



PAULDING COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

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The Regular Meeting of the Paulding County Agricultural Society was called to order by President Dan Howell on January 8th, 2025, at 6:30 pm at the Paulding County Fairgrounds Secretary's Office. The following members were present: Dan Howell, Heidi Conlon, Faith Meraz, Austin Conlon, Sarah McCabe, Francis Saxton, Rebecca Kessler, Rhonda Bates, Lori Davis, Gus Davis, and Miranda Leatherman.

The guests present were Kaylie Tressler, Colton Howell, and Michael Schweinsberg.

Guests:

- Nolan Johanns moved to go to guests. Francis Saxton seconded, and the motion carried.
- Colton Howell shared that the junior fairboard advisors decided against taking the members to OFMA due to the travel conditions.
- Kaylie Tressler shared that the junior fairboard will meet next week.
- Michael Schweinsberg shared that he will schedule a time with the volunteers to review the materials for quality assurance. He also shared about interest in having an RC truck and tractor pull on one afternoon.
- Nolan Johanns moved to return to regular business. Rhonda Bates seconded, and the motion carried.

Old Business:

- Austin Conlon moved to approve the secretary's report that was emailed to members before the meeting. Rhonda Bates seconded, and the motion passed.

- Heidi Conlon went over the documents emailed for the treasurer's report and asked for any questions. Lori Davis moved to pay the individuals who served as secretaries and treasurer the past year, paying Jaycie Dotson \$187.50, Faith Meraz \$250, Heather Cooper \$250, and Heidi Conlon \$3000. Nolan Johanns seconded, and the motion carried. The board was informed that Heather Cooper would like to donate the amount of her check back.
- Rhonda Bates moved to approve the treasurer's report. Nolan Johanns seconded, and the motion carried.

New Business:

- Rhonda Bates shared her takeaways from the sessions she attended at OFMA, including increasing cloverbud participation, best-of-show donors, and encouraging cooperation between the junior and senior fairboards.
- Gus Davis shared that he attended the harness sessions and district meeting at OFMA. He also indicated that the boarded horses found neglected are being fed and the issue of continued board and potential surrender is being discussed.
- Lori Davis asked that members of the budget committee set a meeting. She also suggested that the bathroom grant be put into a CD until the board is ready to proceed with the project. Rhonda Bates moved to place the funds from the bathroom grant into a CD. Austin Conlon seconded, and the motion carried.
- Austin Conlon attended OFMA as the delegate. He shared that the district spring meeting will be March 29th at Putnam County and the fall meeting will be scheduled in Montpelier. While at the convention, he looked into entertainment options. He proposed the following plan for entertainment: Monday-Tuesday performance dogs of Ohio with three shows per day, Monday hypnotist, Tuesday magic with Eli with one show for the senior day and two other shows, Wednesday circus group with three shows, Thursday individual with cup tricks, and Thursday the band Wasted Neon with a show in the evening. Miranda Leatherman moved to approve the proposed plan for entertainment with an estimated cost of \$7,900. Nolan Johanns seconded, and the motion carried.

- Austin Conlon also shared that fairs.com has dropped the price to \$1000 to use this program for tickets this year.
- The board discussed that the plan for the grandstand on Thursday night is a rain date for KOI.
- Sarah McCabe shared that she is working on the website and has looked into ideas from other fairs. She asked for any content for specific departments that could be added for the public to see. Sarah also suggested that advertisements and more fair information could be added, such as a section dedicated to the future plans for the fairgrounds and potentially a place to donate. Pictures could also be added of the fairboard members to let the public know who is on the board and who is in charge of what department. A consent form would need to be sent home with junior fairboard members to do this. It was also discussed the junior fairboard will be approving the rulebook soon, allowing it to be uploaded to the website.
- Francis Saxton brought to the board's attention the horse show dates to be cross-referenced with any wedding or other rentals of the fairgrounds.
- The board discussed that for rides this year, a small group is being looked into.
- There have been issues with the restrooms being cleaned and secured after use.
- Dan Howell shared an update on the restroom project. There is a FEMA grant available that would help in developing the project for a storm shelter. Dan also shared that the board should keep work on projects and open shows in mind.
- Lori Davis moved to approve payment to the commissioners for the lease of the fairgrounds. Austin Conlon seconded, and the motion carried.
- Rhonda Bates moved to approve having Rizzo Fireworks back at the same cost of \$4500. Francis Saxton seconded, and the motion passed.
- Discussion on the rodeo addressed working on proper exits by reiterating this at registration.

- An update was provided to the board on the vandalism case. The FFA alumni are looking to take care of the sausage stand, and the insurance claim will be finalized at the close of the court case.
- Heidi Conlon shared that midway contracts need to be going out soon.

Adjournment:

- Nolan Johanns moved to adjourn the meeting, and Francis Saxton seconded. The motion carried.

President: _____ Secretary: _____