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 September 10th, 2025, at 6:30 pm at the Paulding County Fairgrounds Secretary's Office. The following members were present: Faith Meraz, Dan Howell, Rebecca Kessler, Sarah McCabe, Miranda Leatherman, Jonathon Rose, Gus Davis, Austin Conlon, Rhonda Bates, and Francis Saxton.

Brandon Wobler, Randy Slattman, Heidi Conlon, Shawn Hurd, and Bruce Farquhar were excused.

Guests present were Kaylie Tressler and Colton Howell.

Guests:

- Miranda Leatherman moved to go to guests. Austin Conlon seconded, and the motion carried.
- Colton Howell shared that applications for the junior fairboard were not due until yesterday, so they are planning to interview and meet next week.
- Austin Conlon moved to return to regular business. Rhonda Bates seconded, and the motion carried.

Old Business:

- Austin Conlon moved to approve the previous meeting minutes as sent out via email before the meeting. Jonathon Rose seconded, and the motion carried.
- The treasurer's report was sent out via email for July and August.
- Jonathon Rose moved to approve the July treasurer's report. Sarah McCabe seconded, and the motion carried.

- Jonathon Rose moved to approve the August treasurer's report. Rhonda Bates seconded, and the motion carried.

New Business:

- Rebecca Kessler suggested having a fair logo designed by the schools.
- Sarah McCabe shared about continued work on the website, including having the fair theme up for November, including tabs for the junior fair departments, royalty court, and different livestock species to list winners each year.
- It was suggested to have a mini cheer clinic during fair week and have a showcase the next day at a fair grandstand event. This would serve as a fundraiser for the different schools' cheer teams. The board discussed having the showcase on the night of the mini horse pulls to increase interest in that newer event. It was suggested to charge $30 per participant, which would include admission, t-shirt, and bow. The board discussed setting Wednesday evening for practice from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Jacob's Building and to have the showcase on Thursday in the track/grandstand area before the mini horse pulling at 7:00 p.m.
- Jonathon Rose shared about seeing new guidelines for selling tickets to raffles, and the board discussed reviewing new guidelines before holding any fundraisers. It was also mentioned to look into Paulding Putnam as an internet service provider for the grounds.
- Gus Davis shared that there was a positive test from the horse racing, so checks for the second, third, and other places will be updated.
- Austin Conlon asked to have the demonstration from Paulding Putnam on the fair schedule in the future. He also brought into discussion a budget for 2026 fair entertainment. For the 2025 fair, a budget of $8,000 covered Monday through Thursday, and prices have gone up. Many acts would prefer weekends and multiple days, but this is often not feasible. Sky Circus to come back with a bigger show and the performance dogs. Jonathon Rose moved to approve a $9,000 budget for entertainment at the 2026 fair, running from Monday through Thursday. Miranda Leatherman seconded, and the motion carried.
- Rhonda Bates moved to have singo bingo at the fair next year with simple prizes such as gift certificates. Miranda Leatherman seconded, and the motion carried.

- The question was raised of whether livestock entries could be switched because of a tag mix-up. It was discussed that the fair's current tags should prevent this, as well as the pictures required to submit to FairEntry.
- The board discussed having themed days throughout fair week, including Conservation Day on Sunday, Community Involvement Day on Monday, Senior Day on Tuesday, Artisan Day on Wednesday, Kids Day on Thursday, and Safety Day on Friday.
- Francis Saxton shared that the Black Swamp Horse Show had a cost of $590 to ship the arena drag that was purchased.
- Faith Meraz shared that the Oakwood Boy Scouts are interested in doing the grandstand concessions all week. Miranda Leatherman moved to allow the Oakwood Boy Scouts to run the grandstand concessions during fair week. Sarah McCabe seconded, and the motion carried.
- Dan Howell shared about the possibility of having a tent for use during fair week because prices for this have gone down. The board may be looking to have craft vendors.
- It was discussed that the Jacob's Building will be utilized for livestock shows, Monday through Wednesday, and then cleared out for the mini cheer event.
- It was discussed that a driving test zone may be put on the fairgrounds.
- It was shared that the lights are on the grounds for the racetrack. The board deliberated on which company that put a bid in would complete labor. It was shared that Paulding Putnam would set poles for $230 each. The board also applied for a roundup grant from Paulding Putnam to offset the cost after the lighting grant.
- Jonathon Rose moved to move forward with the quote from Frankart Power Line Services for $25,000 to complete the lighting project. Austin Conlon seconded, and the motion carried.
- The board discussed the restroom project and is expecting a quote back. A new plan for the restroom has been proposed that would be similar to the west end restrooms, including 5 stalls in the women's side, 2 stalls and 3 urinals in the men's side, and 2 shower stalls on each side.
- Miranda Leatherman shared that an individual would like to obtain use of the fairgrounds and put up a tent for an event in the spring.
- On September 26th and 27th, Paulding Soil and Water will be using three barns.

- It was shared that Lippert Glass put new windows in the ice cream pavilion.
- The planned maintenance building work is planned to be done after the fall festival is over later this month.

Adjournment:

- Jonathon Rose moved to adjourn the meeting, and Rhonda Bates seconded. The motion carried.

President: _____ Secretary: _____