



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 April 9th, 2025, at 6:30 pm at the Paulding County Fairgrounds Secretary's Office. The following members were present: Shawn Hurd, Nolan Johanns, Bruce Farquhar, Austin Conlon, Sarah McCabe, Francis Saxton, Faith Meraz, Gus Davis, Lori Davis, Rebecca Kessler, Jonathan Rose, Brandon Wobler, Rhonda Bates, Heidi Conlon, Dan Howell, Miranda Leatherman.

Randy Slattman and Chad Manz were excused. Shawn Hurd is excused to leave by 7:30.

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

Guests:

- Austin Conlon moved to go to guests, and Jonathon Rose seconded. The motion carried.
- Tony Miller shared that the show arena is about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way prepared for the fair. The lock-in went well. Livestock tag-in went well. The goat entry numbers are up, and the junior fairboard will use the poultry barn to accommodate this fluctuation.
- Michael Schweinsberg shared that quality assurance trainings for our county have finished up. Emails have been sent out to those exhibitors who need to attend another county's quality assurance training in order to complete it before the deadline.
- Nolan Johanns moved to return to regular business. Miranda Leatherman seconded, and the motion carried.

Old Business:

- Brandon Wobler moved to approve the previous meeting minutes as sent out via email before the meeting. Nolan Johanns seconded, and the motion carried.
- The treasurer's report was recently delivered via email for the past two months. Heidi Conlon shared deposits of \$23,000 into the general fund, with a \$163,000 balance. A copy of the current sponsorship amounts was also sent out. The board determined to assemble a committee to call sponsors who have not sent in funds. Faith Meraz, Bruce Farquhar, Brandon Wobler, and Lori Davis will receive a list from Heidi to begin calling. Nolan Johanns moved to approve the treasurer's report. Jonathan Rose seconded, and the motion carried.

New Business:

- Shawn Hurd to accept a donation from the Village of Haviland for a computer and a printer for the Black Swamp Horse shows. Sponsorships for belt buckles are rolling in, separately from fair sponsorship, for these shows. He would like a flexible gate up, costing around \$74. Miranda Leatherman moved to allow the purchase and assembly of the gate. Rhonda Bates seconded, and the motion carried.
- Jonathon Rose offered suggestions from the OFMA meeting. The board should consider instituting a no marijuana policy for the fairgrounds since legalization. Signs would have to be made to enforce this. Nolan Johanns moved to have a policy against marijuana use on fairgrounds. Jonathan Rose seconded, and the motion carried.
- Ohio passed a law allowing virtual meetings for public forums. It would be appreciated in consideration of the travel schedules of board members. Nolan Johanns moved to set up for virtual meetings for the fairboard. Jonathan Rose seconded, and the motion carried.
- The open beef show that the board agreed to participate in is adding additional classes. They are only allowing points for beef animals at this time, and the Paulding youth participants do not have to participate for points if they do not want to. The board has only agreed to participate for one year, and there was discussion of wanting to keep it fair for the Paulding exhibitors. The show circuit is seeking to have banners made for awards.
- The board is looking into electrical updates for the office. It could cause the office to be without power for a few weeks.

- Nolan Johanns shared about his attendance at the District 1-2 meeting. He received the agricultural society passes and a copy of the Redbook. Nolan also shared that all the needed donors have been obtained for the open hog show.
- Bruce Farquhar shared about the sponsorship dinner on April 26th. The committee is planning to call sponsors who have not sent in their RSVP. Each board member is instructed to bring in a basket for the raffle.
- Gus Davis shared about race dates for harness racing for all fairs. He brought to the board's attention that racing donations are down, similar to main fair sponsorship. There was discussion of the process for breeders tagging hogs before they leave the farm. Hogs are permitted to be tagged by the breeder ahead of time, but must come to tagging if they are not tagged with fair tags by the breeder. It was indicated that all animals will come to the fairgrounds next year.
- Rebecca Kessler shared the suggestion to do something for Veterans Day next year, such as having a replica of the memorial.
- Miranda Leatherman indicated that a rabbit breeder shared that tags, like the ones planned for use with the market rabbits this year, are banned by ARBA. Breeding animals that come in can be tattooed.
- Brandon Wobler had a quote for the port-a-pots, \$3480, 9 port-a-johns, 2 handicap accessible, and cleaning daily. Jonathan Rose moved to approve the Brinkman's quote for port-a-pots of \$3480. Austin Conlon seconded, and the motion carried. Austin Conlon moved to offer the service of pumping for campers. Nolan Johanns seconded, and the motion carried.
- Sarah McCabe shared the LEGO contest flyer. It will be held on June 11th with a 6:00 p.m. judging time. The flyer will be sent out. She needs volunteers for LEGO contest entries on Sunday for arrival and volunteers for judges on Wednesday: Austin, Lori, and Dan. The prizes will include two rodeo passes, homemade ice cream, and a sausage sandwich. The entries will just have numbers for entries until after judging, and then names will be put on them.
- The board discussed having a photo contest through FairEntry. Fairgoers could submit photos through a QR code. Winners could be selected each day and featured on the

website and Facebook page. These photos could then be used for future board use. They could consider offering homemade ice cream as a prize.

- Board members are advised that pictures may be taken for the website at the next meeting.
- Paulding After Prom would like two demo derby pit passes to be given away as a prize. Bruce Faruqhar moved to donate two demo derby pit passes to the Paulding After Prom. Jonathan Rose seconded, and the motion carried.
- Francis Saxton shared that Eric Priest is planning to bring an assistant on April 26th. Nolan Johanns moved to approve \$250 more for payment, for a total of \$500. Jonathon seconded, and the motion carried.
- Rhonda Bates is working to grow the domestic arts department and grange. She is working out details for Misti Klopfenstein for a flower arranging demonstration. The board would provide space and tables. The board also discussed a scavenger hunt where businesses paint rocks and participants go to businesses to get their prize.
- Faith Meraz is working on updating the fair schedule to be able to reach out to West Bend for print-outs.
- The board discussed that Hometown Ticketing may not be a good idea if only for grandstand events.
- Dan Howell shared the ACE quote of \$40 a gallon for paint. Jonathon Rose moved to buy 5 gallon-pails. Francis Saxton seconded, and the motion passed.
- The board needs to order cleaning supplies. Nolan Johanns moved to order cleaning supplies. Jonathon Rose seconded, and the motion carried.
- The board stored the Paulding Township tractor/mower and Kauser trucking semi beds, so they are planning to donate three or four loads of stone to the fairgrounds.
- Jaden Yoder will be coming in to work on sausage stand. He will check the barns for leaks and fix the hole where the bullet went through the side of the poultry barn.
- Last year, the concession stand popcorn machine died. The board borrowed the one from the extension hall last year. A 16oz machine is around \$400. In the off-season, it would

need to be kept up. It is an expensive investment, so the board will continue to consider options.

- John Kennedy has asked permission to use the oval to set up inflatables. He is renting the extension hall on May 17th, and all proceeds go to the dog kennel in memoriam. He will need to sign a waiver for the fairgrounds use. Nolan Johanns moved to allow the use of the inflatables by John Kennedy for the event. Austin Conlon seconded, and the motion carried.
- Jack Fetter reached out about doing the Christ for Kids on Friday of fair at 12:00 p.m., and he is requesting volunteers. Austin Conlon moved to allow the Christ for Kids event. Nolan Johanns seconded, and the motion carried.
- The board would like to free up shelving in the office, getting heavy duty storage tubs for records and put them in the chair room in the show arena. There was a question of when the retention schedule is. A copy of this schedule will be reviewed at the next meeting.
- Board members are encouraged to attend work meetings.
- The Senior Center is willing to do the golf cart shuttle again this year. The center would like it in writing about what is expected of the service, and the board would like to have a designated route for them to follow.
- Austin Conlon moved to close the executive session. Nolan Johanns seconded, and the motion carried.

Adjournment:

- Miranda Leatherman moved to adjourn the meeting, and Nolan Johanns seconded. The motion carried.

President: _____ Secretary: _____