

Northwestern Michigan Fair

Board of Directors Meeting

September 12, 2024

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Joe Hubbell at 7:01 pm.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by Frank Guerin.
3. **Roll Call:** By Tom Looks
 - a. **Board Members Present:** Al Henning, Clarissa Johnston (7:05pm), Cody Foster, Erika Sprenger, Frank Guerin, Jill Duell, Joe Hubbell, Laurie Ashley, Milt Lewis, Molly Caminata, Sonya Youker, Tammara Sanchez, Tom Looks
 - b. **Board Members Absent:** Karen Zenner, Carolyne Woodhams
 - c. **Visitors Present:** Amanda Wilkins, Sherri Forton, Ben Walker, Laura Guerin, Keri Bancroft, Kathy Easter, Ashley Folkersma, Julie Brown
4. **Review Agenda**
 - a. **Motion 9.12.24.1:** A. Henning/T. Sanchez made a motion to approve September 12, 2024 Agenda as amended. **Motion passed unanimously.**
5. **Correspondence:** There have been a few voicemails for lost and found items and winter storage.
6. **President's Report:** 325 days until fair.
7. **Treasurer's Report:** Tammara shared the treasurer's report. Tammara made a motion that we pay off our smaller loan. The motion will be tabled until next month.
8. **Presentation & Approval of Meeting Minutes:**
 - a. **Motion 9.12.24.2:** E. Sprenger/J. Duell made a motion to approve minutes from August 15, 2024 meeting as written. **Motion passed unanimously.**
9. **Public Comment:** No Public Comment.
10. **New Business:**
 - a. Tammara Sanchez – Held a tickets and gates meeting with Tom, Jill, Karen and Tammara. Tom and Tammara have both talked to Cherry Festival and would like to propose that for the 2025 fair, we hire a box office manager that would answer all of the calls regarding the iPads and Scanners, and run cash up to a certain amount. The person would be given \$6,000 in a separate safe to use throughout the day. They would deal with any issues with volunteers from the front gates. We would like \$6,000 budgeted to be able to hire this person and they can also hire an assistant. This person would need to be added to our insurance and must have a background check.
 - b. Julie Brown – Currently Secretary of the Bayside Traditional Dance Society. Coming to us to see if we would be interested in square dancing at the 2025 fair. They thought they had a really good interaction at the 2023 fair. They do only dance 9 months out of the year. They enjoy the fair environment, have \$3,000 in the bank, and normally pay \$300-325 for the band and \$125 for the caller. Their money comes from donations. They have almost 100 members. They would like us to consider putting on a dance during the 2025 fair.
 - i. Cody added that for our budget last year the funds were used elsewhere. He asked a good ballpark amount for our 2024-2025 budget, the amount would be \$500. Cody will follow up with Julie after the October budget meeting.
11. **4H Livestock Council:**
 - a. Keri Bancroft – Elections coming up. Deputy treasurer and President are open. Specie chairs and by-law proposals were due on Monday. They will be emailed out tomorrow. The secretary position is also open and is an appointed position. Applications for the secretary position need to be turned in by the 22nd of September. Spoke with Frank about

the TVs and fans hanging in the arenas. Let Keri know when they are coming down and someone will be here to put them away. Working on getting the work bee dates together for next year. Possibly looking at reducing the amount of time required per participant for next year since every work bee this year ended early.

12. Unfinished Business:

- a. No unfinished business

13. Committee Reports:

- a. Al – Held a superintendent meeting. Will be meeting with specie chairs and superintendents individually and doing some teambuilding exercises.
- b. Sonya – Parking lot went well. Campground is open currently, possibly closing in October.
- c. Tammara – Laurie has the premiums from fair. We still have quite a few and we will be calling people to come pick them up.
- d. Erika – September 29th the horse stalls will be taken down starting around 10am. If there are any requests for merchandise let Erika know.
- e. Laurie – Will be emailing the grant report out tomorrow. We committed to renting our grandstands with the grant money so we need to update our rentable item list. Will be looking for grants to help pay for a bathhouse. Picked up our meat from Ebels and distributed to multiple locations. Casters have been added to the display cases.
- f. Clarissa – Ashley is very motivated in representing our fair. We did travel to the Calhoun County fair to watch Wayne Bancroft be inducted into the Michigan Farmer’s Hall of Fame. Also, mentioned that we are running out of space on the wall for the queen photos and would like to move them around the office and are looking for ideas.
- g. Milt shared for Carlyne – there are some cases of sausage in the maintenance barn for board members \$20.
- h. Milt - Museum and website are good. Emails out for winter storage. We do have a waiting list.
- i. Jill – Nothing.
- j. Molly – Bethlehem Lutheran church is ready to take on bingo for next year. Looking into new bingo equipment.
- k. Cody – Received profit and loss statements and would like to hold a committee meeting soon. Just a few small repair items to complete in the off season. Padnos purchased Grandpa’s Garage. Cody will be approaching them for assistance for next year.
- l. Frank – Need to schedule a few committee meetings regarding concessions and rentals and contracts. One topic will be the unlicensed merchandise sale and policies regarding consequences moving forward.
- m. Tom – Almost done updating the lifetime membership edits and then will be getting the list out for printing. Annual Meeting postcard is done. We did receive the communication awards entry form and will be working on those. Will check with Quick Print and Allegra Printing for the annual meeting postcard mailing.
- n. Joe – Next year fair camping will be scheduled by 4H club for behind the Jr. Beef barn. If the camper cannot get there when the club is scheduled, then they will not be with the group. Buildings and Grounds will be getting ready for winter and blowing out the water lines. Al needs a few tubes of caulk to seal up windows in the poultry barn. There is a 2x4 board that is rotted out behind the siding in the poultry barn.

14. Adjournment:

- a. **Motion 9.12.24.3:** S. Youker/A. Henning made a motion to adjourn at 7:48 pm. **Motion passed unanimously.**