

Agenda

Eau Claire County

Fair Committee

Date: September 23, 2020

Time: 7:00PM

Virtual meeting via Webex Events

Meeting Link:

<https://eauclairecounty.webex.com/eauclairecounty/j.php?MTID=m5014b28e13473ab742f92eae10c6a45a>

Tap to join from a mobile device (attendees only)

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Join by phone

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For those wishing to make public comment, you must e-mail Debbie Kitchen at eauclairefair@gmail.com **at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the meeting.** You will be called on during the public session to make your comments.

1. Call to Order and confirmation of meeting notice
2. Roll Call
3. Introduction of Committee
4. Committee Officers - Discussion/Action
 - A. Chair
 - B. Vice Chair
 - C. Clerk
5. Public Comment
6. Review/Approval of Committee Minutes - Discussion/Action
 - a. September 9, 2020
7. Review of 2020 Eau Claire County Showcase - Discussion/Action

8. Future Meeting Dates and Agenda Items

9. Adjourn

Attachment: 2020 Showcase Survey.

Eau Claire County Fair Committee

September 9, 2020 7:00 p.m.

Meeting by WebEx

Meeting was called to order by Lisa Vetsch at 7:05 p.m.

Confirmation of meeting notice.

Roll Call of Members was done by Lisa Vetsch.

Fair Board Members present: Scot Zimmerman, Letecia Papke, Tammy Schlewitz, Jennifer Haan, Lisa Vetsch, Rachel Hart-Brinson, Josie Syverson, Tyson Flottmeier, Darren Schlewitz

Others Present: Debbie Kitchen, Eau Claire County Fair Coordinator.

Absent: Missy Christopherson.

Public Input: None.

Motion to approve the minutes from the June 24 and July 15, 2020 Fair Committee Meeting by Scot Zimmerman, second by Jenni Haan. Motion carried.

2020 Committee Member Discussion:

Reapplication by the following: Adult: Letecia Papke, Tammy Schlewitz, Darren Schlewitz. Youth: Tyson Flottmeier and Josie Syverson.

New applications: Adults: Wendy Strauch, Kathleen Gehrke. Youth: Bethany Strauch.

Lisa Vetsch will make recommendations to the Eau Claire County Extension Committee for Kathleen Gehrke as Citizen at Large and Bethany Strauch as Youth for the meeting on September 16, 2020.

Next Fair Committee Meeting will be determined after Extension Committee approval of new committee. Meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Letecia Papke

Clerk – Protem.

2020 Summer Showcase Comments

What was your favorite part of the showcase?

- Having the kids be able to display their work they've worked so hard on. Only event that wasn't completely canceled. Liked the online pictures and updates
- The ease of checking in exhibits and the outside show tent.
- Everything we participated in ran smoothly. Great communication
- It felt less stressful, more relaxed
- Being able to have the horse show (1) (2) (3)
- Judges feedback to kids was very appreciative.
- still being to see people
- Getting to see all the photo entries, working with awesome judges, and the yummy chicken dinner!
- How most people followed rules and did what was appropriate to stay safe.
- Just being able to hold the event including auction. The kids have gotten so much taken away from them the last few months, that for them to finally be able to do something they love, priceless. They just needed it. Kudos to everyone involved who were very patient and worked to continue the tradition. I was very happy that things were not canceled prematurely and everyone worked to find a way to make the show go on.
- The swine & dairy show went great! (1) (2) (3) (4)
- The pictures of the projects with ribbons on the fair facebook page (1) (2) (3)
- Exhibits—loved that they were all photographed and that we still were able to view everyone's work. The kids couldn't wait until the various albums were posted!
- Allowing the kiddos to participate
- Poultry Judge was excellent. She gave the kids a lot of great insight. It was nice that it was outside in a tent.
- The Auction (1) (2)

- Listening to my son talk to the judges
- I liked the dedicated time for each type of animal to be shown.
- Swine Show-OBVIOUSLY
- Less stressful than a normal Fair. That said, it sure is nice to let the public see our youth's work.
- Seeing the kids show off their hard work
- The live judging results on Facebook!
- When it felt like almost normal life. Swine show and auction
- That the kids hard work was able to be still judge.
- Seeing what the kids made.
- Easy drop off and pick up. Clear focus on youth.
- That the kids were able to bring their projects.
- All exhibits were brought in all in one day.
- it was so much quieter showing in the tent and not having the mounted cowboy shooting.
- That the kids were so happy to be able to show their animals and make their summer somewhat normal.
- The kids' craft entries.
- It was only a one-day thing
- The rabbit show
- Over all everything.
- Rocket launch and viewing the results of judging on Facebook, was great to see photos of all the projects.
- Picking up our items and finding out how they were placed.
- That the youth were still able to show

Is there something that you would like to carry forward into the future from this year?

- The ease of checking in and picking up exhibits
- Great communication.
- Auction starting early and getting done at a reasonable time
- The way that market animals were checked in and weighed in from trailers a lot more organized than years past.
- Bring back Rachel and Amy to judge photography
- I liked how organized the check in and check out was in the Expo Center
- Keep live shows, photos,
- I did like having the show and auction outside under the tent. It was cooler and I felt less "on top" of everybody like we usually feel in the barn.
- I loved the Livestream of animal shows and all the pictures on Facebook. Having the silent auction virtual was fun!
- Pictures of the projects with ribbons on the fair facebook page (1) (2)
- The show tent (1) (2)
- I really liked the staggered exhibit drop off and pick up times by last name this year. Can we do something like this in the future rather than times by project as I am often making several separate trips to the fairgrounds to deliver different exhibits? Also, I really liked the grab and go and drive thru chicken dinner meal options. Is some type of drive up fair food stand possible? It may help to get people in the community to the fairgrounds (and then maybe they would also stick around afterward to see some more of the fair).
- All the great feedback that was given for the projects
- Show tent outside for the pig show/release some animals to go home
- Maximize attention to the 4h kids and their projects.

- We loved the idea of livestock shows being done outside in a tent. Also as a parent, the idea of an “on deck” ring for the show was awesome! It gave me enough time to help get my daughter in the ring, and ready, but make it back to my chair in time to watch the class she was in!
- While the on line entry and on site scanning could use a little polishing up, I think it's going to be a great improvement.
- Having the show ring under the tent. Not having the kids day tent or the leaders food stand. It was nice for the kids not to feel rushed from one thing to the next.
- Holding pen before show ring
- The entry system.
- Keep times staggered for pick up and drop off. It was very eas
- Having all exhibits brought in on one day much easier
- The way projects were dropped off and picked up. because when we have normal fair if the last pick up is 4pm there will still be exhibits on the grounds and have the kids that show animals be in the first group to get their projects.
- I really liked the swine show ring outside. We had multiple people comment for the show and the auction that it was a nice change.
- Really liked the office centrally located. Much easier to excess for all projects & accommodate more than 1 person at a time.
- This was our first year in 4 H and although the fair was unconventional, my son won a few blue ribbons this year and is excited about what he exhibited and plans to continue with 4H next year.
- One day shows, less stressful

What could we make better for next time?

- More ribbons for Cloverbuds. He was jealous of all his sister's ribbons.
- Not have Steve Strey give his speech in the neighing of the auction unless it's all inclusive
- If rules are being made to keep people safe, enforce them. "Immediate family" maybe needs to be defined and enforced. Aunts, uncles, grandparents, etc. were allowed to be there even though we were told immediate family only. Some people were allowed to get wristbands when they got to the fairgrounds, some weren't.
- Go back to manual draws of sale order. Way too much placing people in the sale unfairly. It is said that it is done electronically however word gets out every year that that is not the case. If you worry about species mixed have numbers for that species separated. Example #1 sheep, #2 swine, #3 goat, #4 steer and so on
- Hopefully next year can be more open for families/extended families to participate
- Chickens all in 1 day and take home. Pigs only there for show and auction.
- Keep the fair more like this. The animals need to be there all weekend like normal but avoid all the "crap" that forces the kids to work on things other than their projects. That takes all the fun out of it for the kids.
- No covid and family could attend again, but I know that was out of everyone's control
- Moving the sale back closer to 7 instead of 5
- Better speaker system in the barns for calling show order.
- I think you did a great job!
- Hopefully Malts and Cheese Curds are back by next year 😊
- 1 big request. Let's get poultry into the animal auction. Let me know what I need to do to help make that happen.
- There was a lot of division noted between the exhibitors this year. It really crushed the team spirit and atmosphere and made it very uncomfortable for new members.

- Food needs to be more organized including the chicken dinner. there were a lot of screw ups on the chicken. white mixed with dark and not getting the right amounts of dinners for ex. the order was 4 white 2 dark the customer got one white, one dark and the rest had a mix of light and dark and got shorted some chips.
- A better PA system that was louder and you could hear in the barns would have helped. We also had some technical difficulties with the printer and were not able to print the show order for the swine show which made it a little difficult to organize. The short time constraints from swine arrival to show did not help the matter.
- The feedback is so important to the kids. It was impossible to read some of the writing. It would be wonderful if judges could try to make sure their comments are legible. The lack of comments on photography entries makes it hard for the kids to know how to improve
- Better team work. People making decisions & not passing on to so necessary people are aware.

Any other comments you feel need to be shared?

- Great job!
- I also was very uncomfortable with Steve Strey at the auction the comments he made about religion and this country can be controversial and made me feel not welcome.
- Rules need to apply to EVERYONE. It felt like it depended on who you were as whether the rules applied or not. We received an email saying masks were required but the majority of the people there were not wearing them. What kind of example are the adults setting for the? youth?
- Debbie Kitchen does a lot of work which is very much appreciated and feel like she is under appreciated. Was very pleased with the many people that came together to make it happen.
- Specific to photography- I was impressed with how well youth followed directions this year regarding size of tag board and how to attach entry tags!!! Maybe more youth and parents are reading the bold print and noticing the highlighted info in the Fairbook. Thank you to everyone who helped get things organized for our unique circumstances this year!
- I was disappointed in the number of people, including adults, who are role models for the younger youth that were not masking on Saturday when it became mandatory. And adults making negative statements regarding masking to the public. Note: The youth do notice when individuals are not following rules and making negative comments.
- Our family does not believe in the whole mask thing. It was appreciated that even though the mandate went into effect on Saturday, we were not looked at and scolded for not wearing them. I felt the majority of people at the showcase and auction on Saturday shared our same beliefs when it came to masks and while there were quite a few who chose not to wear them, including my family, I did not in any way feel unsafe being around anyone. Mask wearers and non-wearers were equally respectful of each other and one's personal space.
- I would love to know how many 4-H & FFA youth we have in Eau Claire County. These clubs are amazing and I would love to promote and get more youth involved. Thank you for all the hard work this year!! Even though the showcase was different, we still loved it. Can't wait for 2021!!!
- Look into getting food trucks
- Thank you to everyone who worked to put in place all the processes and procedures to make this happen. I was very impressed how things were set up to ensure safety!

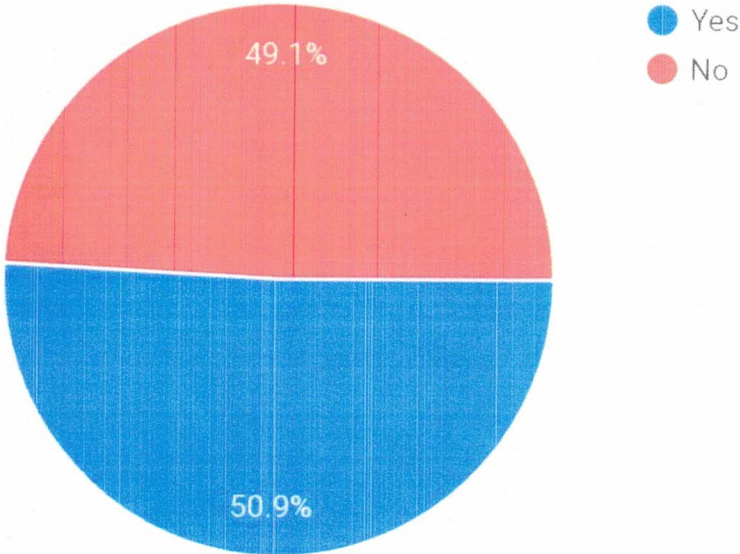
- This is a large animal fair and it is about the money at the auction not the showcase of the kids and the animals.
- I think this was a great alternative. I know it was the highlight to my child's summer and appreciate all the work that went in to make this possible.
- What an amazing job with what there was to work with. Seemed to run smoothly and kids seemed to enjoy the more relaxed atmosphere. great kids great people great showcase.
- Given the circumstances, time constraints, and everything else, I thought this year Fair was awesome! Huge thank you to all board and committee members, superintendents, and exhibitors!
- Great work to all that made this year possible. I am absolutely impressed with the level of planning and effort put forth to make the showcase happen. Our family is grateful for your efforts.
- Just wondering why livestock kids signed up for cleanup times from 4-8, when they got on the grounds animals were loaded around 2 pm on Sunday. I know of a family that showed up on Sunday for the cleanup shift at 4 pm and were disappointed that they were not able to say good bye to their animals. There was no communication that the animals were going to be loaded at 2pm.
- Very embarrassed on what was handed out to the Livestock Buyer's. Looked very cheap!
- Thank you for making it happen this year, we appreciate your efforts!
- Super job! Tough circumstances to deal with. Thank you!
- Livestock leaders were very unfriendly to exhibitors and parents. Could feel the tension as soon as one would walk into the barn.
- I think we should explore the option to have food trucks. This year was so nice for the exhibitors not having to run here and there to work their shifts in the different food tents.
- Well done. It was great as a first year 4H member. He was reluctant to stay in 4H, but after the fair he decided to stay in for another year.
- Have pick up times for exhibits like they were this year. Then exhibits will still be there until 4pm and have the kids who show animals be the first to pick up expo exhibits.

- Kids who were in their final year of showing that choose to show this year should be done and not allowed to show and those who did chose not to can. so kids that have already been out of high school a year and showed cannot next year and those who did not can along with the graduated seniors from this year. All projects should have been awarded champion and reserve champion ribbons, trophy's or plaques and all the kids should have been recognized. I know a couple who weren't and they deserved it.
- I feel there could be more respect between adults. With the health orders put in place I think the all board members should have set an example to the youth & followed the guidelines.
- Love to be able to watch the live streaming.

Did any of your family volunteer?



57 responses



Did you feel safe participating?

57 responses

