

## **EAU CLAIRE COUNTY FAIR COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, February 21, 2018

7:00 PM, Conference Room

Location: Agriculture & Resource Center  
227 1<sup>st</sup> Street W  
Altoona, WI 54720

### **MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Scot Zimmerman, Letecia Papke, Debbie Kitchen, Allison Olson, Lisa Vetsch, Leslie Strey, Dakota Roettger, Jodi Thesing-Ritter, Darren Schlewitz, Miranda Nelson

**Members Absent:** Tami Schraufnagel, Kevin Kitchen.

#### **Call to Order**

Chair Kitchen called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M.

#### **Review / Approval of Committee Minutes / January 17, 2018**

Minutes were reviewed. Jodi made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Leslie seconded. Motion carried.

#### **Review Bills / January 2018**

No payments were made this month.

#### **Public Input**

No public input was presented.

#### **2018 Fair / Discussion – Action**

Activities in Show Tent- Darren contacted the individual he proposed for entertainment at last month's meeting. He is going to follow up with the entertainer to gain further information for the group.

County 4-H Program Coordinator- Miranda Nelson, the new County 4-H Program Coordinator, was present at the meeting and introduced herself to the committee.

Bathroom Staffing- Debbie will present this idea at the upcoming Friends of the Fair meeting. Jodi mentioned that she could also find students from UW-Eau Claire to fill the positions. Those hired would be in charge of bathroom and garbage cleaning and must be 21 years of age.

Debbie and Dakota plan to compose a new system for attaining financial information from each sector of the fair. The system will consist of a form that each group associated with the finances of the fair would fill out, detailing information on their income and expenses.

Debbie proposed a sign idea that would make fairgoers aware of risk associated with being at the fair. Leticia will pass it by Keith Zehms to verify it would be passable to have around the fair.

Fair Promotion is planning on having interviews through WQOW and WEAU in July. One youth from the committee and Miranda will cover the interviews.

Miranda will verify that Andy will be in the fair office, similar to how he has been in the past.

Dakota will reach out to Kristin Haworth to see if she is still interested in being the Photography Department Superintendent. A replacement for the Dairy Superintendent has been put in place.

Barb Medford will continue to manage the Tribute Garden, but will discontinue maintaining the flower garden. Jodi's club volunteered to help maintain the garden. The \$200 brick dedicated to Mahlon Peterson will be sponsored by the Livestock Project and the Friends of the Fair.

Lisa and Miranda shared a few changes within the Livestock Project. Show times for sheep have changed with market sheep following market goat. The swine project will have a terminal show this year due to the spread of the Swine Enteric Coronavirus Disease. On March 6<sup>th</sup>, swine tags will be distributed at the Augusta High School. No points will be given for this meeting as this technically would be considered the weigh in. Miranda informed that there are a lot of taggers at the Agriculture and Resource office, and they will be given away at the March 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

In addition to the new changes, there will be no carcass show at the fair. Ultrasound scanning will be done at the weigh in on Thursday at the fair. The Livestock Project committee felt strongly that the animals should be sent to two different places this year, Augusta Meats and Crescent Meats. Animals that will be going to Crescent Meats will be leaving the fairgrounds Sunday night. Buyers will have to decide where they would like their meat to go. The swine will stay at the fairgrounds Sunday night unless they are going to Crescent Meats. A sign-up genius for the Sunday night and Monday morning clean-up will be included in the entire fair sign up genius page.

Scot made a motion to have John Bohl be the night watchman on Sunday night. Leslie seconded. The Livestock Project banquet will be at the Cleghorn Community Center the Friday after the fair. Miranda will put together an educational presentation for the banquet detailing the new ultrasound judging and how the results are concluded. There will also be a slideshow during the dinner at the banquet of pictures throughout the project year.

Jerry Way Trio band has been booked again for the 2018 fair.

Lisa shared information on the recycling dumpster. The committee decided to instead get two large mixed garbage dumpsters.

Leticia will get in touch with her contact for CPR Training. Potential dates were March 18<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>. Other leaders from the fair will also be invited and encouraged to attend.

Farm Technology Days committee asked to have a display at the fair this year. Miranda will see if they would be interested in setting up a larger booth at the fair to attract more interest.

The summer Superintendent meeting was scheduled for June 20<sup>th</sup> at 10am and 6pm.

Members of the committee will communicate with Clint from the Exposition Center to see the progress of getting the PA system working again.

The Commodity Carnival, presented by the CME Group and 4-H may come to our fair. Miranda will give full confirmation in the coming months. We would place it in the Poultry Barn at the

southeast corner. If Eau Claire County Fair secures this educational exhibit, they will need two parents and two youths to help monitor. The area will also need to be cleaned by the Exposition Center staff in order for us to have enough space.

Allison will work with Linda Henning to discuss what was done to get the Dairy Shack iPads running for the fair. She will also look into getting a Verizon cell reception booster for the Exposition Center.

Miranda will lend her LP printer for the fair this year.

List of finals changes in the cloverleaves from the fair book were discussed. Dakota made a motion to approve fair book. Scot seconded. Motion carried.

### **Sub-Committee Reports**

Biosecurity- No discussion.

Sign Up Genius- Dakota and Allison will reach out to the County 4-H Older Youth Council to need to find someone that can be trained in for future years.

Set Up/ Tear Down- No discussion.

Grounds Keeping- No discussion.

Contracts- Kindschi Pedal Pulls contract was signed and will take place on Friday from 5:00-7:00 P.M. near the rabbit and poultry barn. They will sell admission for \$3 per pull, which can cover our cost of hosting the event. We will supply bleachers. Leticia moved that the contract for the Exposition Center is executed. Leslie seconded. Motion carried.

Sponsorships- Around \$16,000 in donations has been received so far. Most structures at the fair are named by the top-level donors. The committee decided to name the swine, sheep, and goat barn to honor Mahlon Peterson.

### **Scheduling of Future Meetings / Agenda Items**

Future meetings were scheduled for March 14<sup>th</sup>, April 18<sup>th</sup>, May 16<sup>th</sup>, and June 20<sup>th</sup>. All future meetings will take place at the Eau Claire County Agriculture and Resource Center and begin at 7:00 P.M. unless otherwise noted. Agenda items for the March meeting will include 2018 Fair and sub-committee reports for biosecurity, sign up genius, set up/tear down, contracts, grounds keeping, and sponsorships.

### **Adjourn**

Chair Kitchen adjourned the meeting at 8:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison Olson  
Committee Clerk