

Eau Claire County Fair Committee Minutes

March 17, 2022

Meeting in person

Meeting was called to order by Jennifer Haan at 6:30pm.

Confirmation of meeting notice.

Roll Call of members was done by Danyelle Steinke

Fair Committee members present: Jennifer Haan, Scot Zimmerman, Kyle Wathke, Tammy Schlewitz, Darren Schlewitz, Leticia Papke, Bethany Strauch, Tyson Flottmeir, Missy Christopherson, and Rachel Hart-Brinson.

Other present: Debbie Kitchen, Eau Claire Fair Coordinator.

Guests Present: Lisa Vetsch, Chauncy Ellefson, Don Mowry, and Brian Antczak.

Public Comment: Lisa Vetsch – Mounted shooting and the horse project.

- Mounted shooting contract is already signed, and they donate \$800 back to the youth organization that helps with the event.
- There is a \$1,000 cancellation fee that Friends of the Fair would have to pay.
- The horse exhibitors were told there would not be mounted shooting at a superintendent meeting, but not having them was not discussed at Fair Committee or Friends of the Fair meetings.
- Contracts should be honored.

Scot moved to close public comment. Leticia second. Passed unanimously.

Approval of February meeting minutes

- Scot moved to approve the February minutes. Missy second. Passed unanimously.
- Scot moved to amend January minutes with the changes added. Tammy second. Passed unanimously.

County Education – Robert’s Rules of Order by Chauncy Ellefson

- Should post Friends of the Fair and Livestock meetings just like Fair Committee is.
- County code says anything Friends of the Fair and Livestock committee wants to do, must be approved by fair committee first.
- Cannot remove someone because of terms, unless there is a reason (walking quorum, etc.).
- Should revamp fair committee by-laws for next year.

Fair Representative Reports

- 4-H Leaders – Rachel
 - Miranda Nelson volunteered to help with food stand.
 - OYC hosting fair entertainment Friday night of the fair.
 - Clothing review, May 15th

County Board – Missy

- ARPA applications are out – was forwarded to Friends of the Fair and can be awarded for both grants that are available. \$5000 and up to \$10,000 available for loss from Covid.
- Looking for ideas to bring in more people.

Livestock – Scot

- has not looked at beef scale to determine if it meets regulations but will.
- spaces available for the UW meat lab tour, \$5 for PPE, will also tour the sheep unit.

Extension – Rachel

- Recruiting Lyssa and Yia for kids' day tent.
- Talk of having Hmong Mutual Assistance Center to come together for possible fair involvement and start their own 4-H club.

Friends of the Fair – Kyle

- Cleghorn Lions, speaker, supply people to run bingo on Sunday
- Silent auction online, \$40, getting donations. Runs Tuesday July 26th – 31st.
- Tribute garden stone received.
- Raffle is optional. Jenni, Kyle, Missy are contacts to sell them.
- Advertising budget up to \$2,000.
- Petting Zoo - \$1,500
- Horse pull is at 11:00 am on Sunday of the fair.
- Food trucks - \$175/truck Wednesday and Thursday.
\$250/truck Friday and Saturday
\$125/truck Saturday only
- Wristbands for blue ribbon tent Friday and Saturday, \$10. \$8 for daycares and one meal. \$3 to the food stand and \$5 would go to the Friends of the Fair.

2022 Fair

- Barn duty proposal – Brian Antczak
- Each exhibitor in the barn watching animals, cleaning barns, talking, and educating visitors.
 - Discuss who closes and opens barns etc.
 - Talk with other superintendents about implementing the idea.
 - Vests to designate which exhibitor is on duty at the time.
- 2022 schedule change (Gymkhana and Mounted shooting)
Jenni made motion allow Kirsten Meyers to speak about the topic, does not want gymkhana before pleasure.
 - horse superintendent was not aware that the gymkhana would change from Sunday to Friday.
 - Horse show moved pleasure to Tuesday at 9:00 am and gymkhana is Wednesday at 9:00am. Scot moved to pass change. Tammy second. Passed unanimously.

Animal Check in Forms

- Forms to verify animas at unload time, review and bring to April meeting.

Awards

- Bethany discussed the premier exhibitor award and the over-achiever award. Revise and bring to April meeting.
- Signage, adding signage to the barns to specify which barn is which. Signs with animals on them.

Superintendent openings still available

- Flowers and houseplants
- Foods and nutrition
- Soils and plant science

Fair Coordinator Report

- Daycare letters sent out
- Fair book sent to printer
- charge \$10 for hard copies wanted, one free book to superintendents and clubs. Tammy moved to charge \$10 for fair books. Scot second. Passed unanimously.
- Advertising meeting with Friends of the Fair.
- Sponsorships needed for goat awards.
- April 12th Wisconsin Fairs Association meeting. Contact Debbie if you would like to attend.

Announcements from members – Jenni, donkey races as fundraiser for the fair.

Future meeting date – April 13th at 7:00pm, Extension Office

Meeting adjourned at 9:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Danyelle Steinke
Committee Clerk