

Fair Committee Meeting Minutes
October 11, 2023, at 7:00 pm
Bridge Creek Town Hall: S9515 Wis-27 Augusta, WI 54722

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair Traci Martinson at 7:10 p.m. A confirmation of meeting notice was made.
2. Secretary Jodi Thesing-Ritter called roll.
Present: Missy Christopherson, Jenni Haan, Tammy Schlewitz, Traci Martinson, Derrick Nelson, Devin Hadorn-Papke, Jodi Thesing-Ritter, Valerie Strauch, Rachel Hart-Brinson
Others Present: Meg Mueller Chauncy Ellefsen, Brian Antczak, Lyssa Seefeldt, Heather DeLuka (via Webex).
3. Public Comment – Brian Antczak, Poultry Project Leader; Presented a request for the poultry project to be added to livestock auction- Motion to close public comment by Valerie and second by Devin Hadorn-Papke
4. Approval of Committee Minutes - Discussion/Action
 - a. September 13, 2023 - minutes
 - b. Motion to approve minutes as presented without correction by Derrick Nelson and Seconded by Valerie Strauch
 - c. 5. County and Fair Relationship - Discussion/Action
5. Fair Structure – It was recommended that the fair structure be added as a November action item for discussion. Chair Martinson agreed to add this item to the November agenda.
6. By-Laws and Conflict of Interest Clarification-
 - a. Missy Christopherson moved and Devin Hadorn-Papke seconded the motion to proceed with the by-laws as written in consultation with Corporation Council who indicated that the by-laws are not being broken as written with the current Fair Committee membership.
 - b. Structure for Fair Committee Members – This item has been referred to the November meeting where we will discuss the fair committee structure.
 - c. Mutual Respect Policy – Jenni Haan raised concerns about committee members speaking about one another outside of the committee. She asked that this concern be addressed with some policy changes and consequences added to the document.
 - d. Missy Christopherson suggested that a working committee be constituted to look at the mutual respect policy and bring forwarded suggested language revisions.
 - e. Derrick Nelson indicated that the policy already reflects specific language currently.
 - f. No action taken on this matter.
 - g. e. Code of Conduct
 - h. Rachel and Meg will work on bringing some language forward. Chair Martinson indicated she would add this as an item to the November meeting.

7. Eau Claire County / Friends of the Fair MOU - Discussion/Action
 - a. The Corporation Council brought forward the MOU and briefly shared the draft document. The terms of the MOU are extended to the period the lease of the Expo Center of 2026.
 - b. Tammy Schlewitz made a motion to amend the MOU to indicate that all contracts over \$2000. Missy Christopherson provided a second. Motion carried.
 - c. Tammy Schlewitz made a motion to approve the MOU as amended. Derrick Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - d. The MOU will now go to the Extension Committee. Friends of the Fair should provide any recommendations at their November meeting.

8. Eau Claire County Fair, F.O.F, Extension Roles/Responsibilities - Discussion/Action
 - a. Updated Document – Roles/Responsibilities
 - b. It was requested that the document be emailed to committee members. Meg will send the document to the committee. It will be added to the November meeting as an action item. The updated document will be shared at the meeting for approval.

9. 2024 Fair - Discussion/Action
 - a. Committee Assignments – Missy Christopherson made a motion to postpone this item to date definite to allow for time for committee to receive the document with the roles. Valerie Strauch seconded. Motion carried.
 - b. Jenni Haan recommended that the committee assignment document be updated to include changes based on fair evaluations from 2023.
 - c. Fair Committee Chair-
 - d. Animal Coordinator
 - e. Expo Coordinator
 - f. Awards Coordinator
 - g. Schedule/Activities
 - h. Sign-up Genius & Volunteers
 - i. Set up & take down
 - j. Oversight (Insurance/Legal Health)-
 - k. Food
 - l. Fair Committee Structure Fair Representative Reports - Discussion/Action

10. County Board - Missy
 - a. Missy Christopherson reported that there are two upcoming budget public hearing sessions- October 17 and November 7 at 7:00 p.m. with a possible follow up session on November 8 at 1:00 p.m.

11. Livestock - Derrick reported on the Livestock Committee meeting on Tuesday, October 10.
 - a. A committee will meet on October 30 to discuss possible Livestock Committee changes for 2023-2024. Changes will be presented at the November meeting.

- b. A motion was made by Jodi Thesing-Ritter to forward the Poultry Project proposal to the Livestock Committee for consideration. Motion was seconded by Jenni Haan. Motion carried.

12. Extension - Rachel

- a. Rachel Hart-Brinson reported on the Extension Health and Well-Being position. In person interviews will take place on October 23rd. The Chippewa County 4-H Coordinator position is closing, and interviews will follow.

13. Friends of the Fair - Tammy - Financial Report -Exhibitor Checks

- a. Tammy Schlewitz reported the Meg Mueller has been hired as the Fair Coordinator.
- b. The Donkey Races were a success.
- c. Fair Checks were mailed and should have been received by exhibitors.
- d. A question was asked about the status of an Assistant Fair Coordinator. Meg will have more details at our next meeting. By-law changes will be needed to add an assistant position.
- e. Tammy was asked for a financial report. There is no financial report to share. A question was asked about the DATCAP report financial report. A question was asked about the timeline. October 31 is the end of the fiscal year reporting, and the goal is to have the accounting reconciliation completed by that time.
- f. A request was made to have this report submitted to this committee by our December meeting.
- g. The Friends of the Fair Annual Meeting will be on November 28 at 6:30 p.m. at the Pleasant Valley Community Center.

14. Fair Coordinator Report - Discussion/Action

- a. Updates
- b. Meg was offered the position for a second term. There is the potential for an assistant coordinator to be added. Tammy, Meg, and Jenni attended the district 2 meeting. The WAF meeting will take place in January. Committee members are invited to attend this meeting as well.
- c. Fair book Edits
- d. Meg will draft Fair book edits for our committee to review. It was suggested that a working group be formed to review the Fair book and then bring those edits to the committee for approval.
- e. A Fair book work group meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 24th at 6:30 p.m. at the Pleasant Valley Community Center.

15. Announcements

- a. Jodi Thesing-Ritter announced the Field of Screams Haunted Barn and Trail sponsored by the Pleasant Hill Go Getters 4-H Club and the 4-H Older Youth Council will take place on October 14, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, 28 from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. at 8020 Curvue Road, Eau Claire, WI 54703.

- b. Jenni Haan reported the potential for engaging with the Boys and Girls Club to get them engaged in the Fair. Jenni will be meeting with the Director in the coming weeks and will report.

16. Future Agenda Items

- a. Jenni Haan requested that the Superintendent process be added to the agenda. Please share agenda items with Traci by November 1. The agenda will be posted by November 3.

17. Future Meeting Date

- a. November 8, 2023, at 7:00 pm at the Bridge Creek Town Hall.

18. Adjourn

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted October 16, 2023

Jodi Thesing-Ritter

Secretary