

Fair Committee Meeting Minutes
November 8, 2023, at 7:00 pm
Bridge Creek Town Hall: S9515 Wis-27 Augusta, WI 54722

The meeting was called to order by Chair Traci Martinson at 7:03 pm. A confirmation of meeting notice was made.

Committee member Derrick Nelson called Role

Present: Traci Martinson, Derrick Nelson, Jodi Thesing-Ritter (webex), Devin Hadorn-Papke, Rachel Hart-Brinson, Missy Christopherson, Valerie Strauch, Tammy Schlewitz, Meg Mueller, Jenni Haan

Others: Charles Ellefson, Sarah Brown-Jagger, Steven Erdman, Darren Schlewitz, Jenny Zimmerman, Heather Erdman

Public Comment: None. Motion to close public comment by Missy Christopherson and second by Tammy Schlewitz.

Approval of Committee Minutes - Discussion/Action

- a. October 11, 2023 - minutes
- b. Motion to approve minutes as presented without correction by Devin Hadorn-Papke and seconded by Valerie Strauch

County and Fair Relationship – Discussion/Action

- a. Fair Structure
 - a. Discussion was had about combining Fair Committee and Friends of the Fair to provide a more unified front at the fair. Eliminating confusion for who oversees what aspects of the fair.
 - b. Tammy Schlewitz moved to form a working committee between Friends of the Fair and Fair Committee to explore merger options motion was seconded by Missy Christopherson
 - i. Committee Volunteers: Steven Erdman, Meg Mueller, Traci Martinson, Tammy Schlewitz, Jenni Haan, Derrick Nelson
 - ii. Working committee is scheduled to meet on December 7, 2023 at 7 pm at the Bridge Creek Town Hall.
 - c. The earliest restructuring can take place is for the 2025 Fair. Final actions will need to be approved by Extension committee and County board.
 - d. Meg will reach out to Jamie Buttke to help mediate in late January/early February to help facilitate these discussions moving forward.
 - e. It was recommended that Fair Structure be added as a standing agenda item
- b. Code of conduct
 - a. Devin Moved to add the IAFE to the Fair Book motion seconded by Valerie.

- b. The code of conduct and rules and regulations of the fair were discussed further. Recommended to add a signature page and have all exhibitors sign them. Meg and Rachel will continue to work on drafting these rules for the fair visitors and adults. Meg will send out more examples from other counties' codes of conduct. Missy suggested posting these at the fair and Rachel suggested adding them to the Fairbook.

2024 Fair – Discussion/Action

- a. Fair Theme

- a. Derrick moved to have a theme contest for the 100th anniversary of the fair, accepting ideas from December 3- December 29. Motion was seconded by Tammy.

- b. Fairbook

- a. Tammy moved to add exhibitors ages 8 through 20 according to ATCP 160 and strike line k through 19 and motion was seconded by Missy. Motion carried.
- b. Tammy moved to remove breed associations from the list of accepted youth organizations to exhibit at the Fair. and motion was seconded by Jenni. Roll call vote: Tammy-yes, Jenni-yes, Traci-no, Derrick-no, Valerie-no, Devin-no, Missy-yes. Motion failed breed association will still be allowed to exhibit at the fair.
- c. Devin Moved that Breed Associations are allowed to exhibit any project in the Fair book and motion was seconded by Valerie. Role call vote: Tammy-no, Jenni-no, Traci-yes, Derrick-yes, Valerie-yes, Devin-yes, Missy-no Motion passed.

- d. Definition of fitting

- i. Valerie Moved to define fitting as clipping and spraying and derrick seconded the motions. Role call vote: Tammy-no, Jenni-no, Traci-no, Derrick-yes, Valerie-yes, Devin-yes, Missy-no. Motion Failed
- ii. Jenni moved to define fitting as fitting, clipping, washing, blowing, and applying fitting products and Tammy seconded the motion. Role call vote: Tammy-yes, Jenni-yes, Traci-yes, Derrick-no, Valerie -no, Devin-no, Missy-no. Motion failed
- iii. Missy moves to remove youth exhibitors from day of show. No second
- iv. Jenni moves to approve #20 as fitting is defined and Tammy seconded motion. Role call vote: Tammy-yes, Jenni-yes, Traci-no, Derrick-no, Valerie-no, Devin-no, Missy-yes. Motion Fails
- v. Devin moves to define fitting as clipping and product application and Valerie seconded the motion. Role call vote: Tammy-no, Jenni-no, Traci-yes, Derrick-yes, Valerie-yes, Devin-yes, Missy-no. Motion passes
- e. Devin moved to keep all the Breeds in the beef department and Valerie seconded the motion. Role call vote: Tammy-no, Jenni-no, Traci-yes, Derrick-yes, Valerie-yes, Devin-yes, Missy-no. Motion passes

- f. Discussion was had on the Eau Claire County Bred and Owned rule. Missy Moved to table the discussion and Devin seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - g. Discussion was had on how to deal with animals that don't make weight for the auction at the fair and how to make it consistent across all species. Missy moved to send the underweight discussion back to livestock and Traci seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- c. Superintendent Applications
- a. Missy moved that 2023 superintendents need not re-apply but confirm their intentions by November 30 and Tammy seconded.
 - b. Meg will reach out to all superintendents to accept or deny their position by the end of November.
 - c. Derrick moves to open superintendent applications for all open positions after November 30, 2023, and motion seconded by Devin.

Committee Assignments

1. Fair Committee Chair- Traci Martinson
2. Animal Coordinator- Devin Hadorn-Papke
3. Expo Coordinator- Traci and Rachel
4. Awards Coordinator: Devin, Valerie, Meg
5. Schedule/Activities: Jenni
6. Sign-up Genius & Volunteers: Missy
7. Set up & Take Down: Derrick
8. Oversight (Insurance/Legal Health): Tammy
9. Food: Meg

Fair Committee Structure Fair Representative Reports- Discussion/Action

- a. County Board- Missy
 - a. The MOU is on the agenda at the next Extension committee meeting for its first reading. MOU most likely will not pass until the friends of the fair provide a financial report for the 2023 fair.
 - b. \$10,000 passed in the county budget.
- b. Livestock- Derrick
 - a. A working committee was formed to discuss bylaws and rules. Bylaws will be presented at the November meeting. If bylaws pass elections will be held. The committee is still working on the rules and will bring recommended changes to the December meeting.
- c. Extension- Rachael
 - a. Margo Dieck is the new Health and Well-being coordinator and will be starting on November 29, 2023. Andy and Kristi are transitioning from county employees to state employees.

d. Friends of the Fair- Tammy

- a. Financial Report: No financials provided.
- b. The annual meeting is November 28 at 6:30 in Cleghorn and RSVPs are due by November 22.

e. Fair Coordinator Report- Discussion/Action

- a. Meg shared there has been discussion of changing the Fair Coordinator position from a one-year term to a two-year term. Possibly adding a Fair Coordinator Assistant position.

Announcements

- a. Charles Ellefson announced that as of January 1st Corporation Counsel will be rotating between departments. Sarah Brown-Jagger will be the new person assigned to the Fair Committee. He will still be available to help with the transition process, ensuring the transition is as smooth as possible.

Future Agenda Items

- a. Please share agenda items with Traci by December 6, 2023. The agenda will be posted by December 8, 2023.

Future Meeting Date

- a. December 13, 2023, at 7:00 pm at the Bridge Creek Town Hall.

Adjourn

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 p.m.