

## Fair Committee Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2024, at 7:00 pm

227 1st Street West Altoona, WI 54720 Room 103/104

### 1. Call to Order and Confirmation of Meeting Notice

A confirmation of meeting notice was made. Meeting called to order by Chair Martinson at 7:03 p.m.

### 2. Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Traci Martinson, Derrick Nelson, Jodi Thesing-Riter, Devin Hadorn-Papke, Missy Christopherson, Valerie Strauch, Tammy Schlewitz, Meg Mueller, and Jenni Haan

Others Present: Jim Stone, Sarah Brown-Jager and Charles Ellefson

3. Public Comment: Motion to close public comment by Jenni Haan; second by Missy Christopherson; Motion passed.

### 4. Approval of Committee Minutes- Discussion/Action

a. December 13, 2023 - minutes

Motion by Jenni Haan; second by Missy Christopherson; Motion passed.

### 5. County and Fair Relationship – Discussion/Action

a. Fair Structure- recommended that Fair Committee and Friends of the Fair attend the Extension Education Committee meeting on February 21. Time TBD. Requested that the meeting be after 6:30 p.m. to accommodate work schedules for committee members. It is recommended that action be taken by the Extension Committee at the end of the meeting.

b. Roles/Responsibilities- Meg Mueller distributed an updated document to be reviewed and approved at the February Fair Committee meeting and then be sent to Extension Education Committee for approval in March.

c. Code of Conduct- Jodi did not have a document to share at this meeting. Tammy proposed that we use the WAF document. She read the document and committee members agreed that it would be a good starting point. Tammy will email that PDF to committee members and the committee will vote on the document at the February meeting.

## 6. 2024 Fair - Discussion/Action

a. Fair Theme -A discussion took place about the submitted themes. Following the discussion, Jenni Haan made a motion to use “Celebrating a Century: Reflecting on the Past and Focusing on the Future”; Jodi Thesing-Ritter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

b. 2024 Schedule- Meg Mueller verbally presented a proposed schedule. Rachel suggested that cats be moved to Friday. Meg will have a written schedule at the February meeting.

Jenni Haan proposed that we add a rodeo to the schedule on Sunday, July 21 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Details were shared about the opportunity. Jodi Thesing-Ritter made a motion to approve the proposal. Derrick Nelson seconded the motion.

Rachel reported that the Foods Revue will be on March 17. The Clothing Revue will be on Saturday, May 4.

### c. Fair Book

Meg Mueller presented the horse changes. No action is needed as the fair book has been approved.

### d. Committee Updates

Jenni Haan presented donkey races information. Derrick Nelson moved to approve the donkey races and Traci Martinson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### e. Fair Vet

Add to the next agenda when Mondovi Vet can provide the fee structure so the committee can make an informed decision.

## 7. Fair Committee Structure Fair Representation Reports – Discussion/Action

a. County Board - MOU – Chancy presented the proposed MOU. He highlighted the proposed language changes. The recommendation was made that the DATCP report would be provided to the Extension Education Committee prior to the February meeting. This will allow the DATCP report to be submitted to the state before it would go to Extension Education Committee.

Tammy Schlewitz made a motion to remove existing language in item 12 and replace it with language to submit the DATCP report prior to the February Extension Education meeting. Jodi Thesing-Ritter seconded the amendment. Motion carried.

Jenni Haan made a motion to approve the MOU as amended. Derrick Nelson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The MOU will now move to the Friends of the Fair for approval.

b. Livestock - Derrick

The livestock committee completed their livestock rules updates. Those rules have been submitted for the Fair Committee. The primary change to the rules will be to allow youth to sell one large and one small animal. Those youth will be required to earn twice the points. Jenni Haan made a motion to approve the rules as presented. Tammy Schlewitz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Devin Hadorn-Papke raised concerns about no minimum weight for sheep. It was recommended that this suggestion be referred to the Livestock Committee for consideration for next year.

c. Extension – Rachel

The Dean of Education for UW-Extension has recommended that all Extension staff be on site at Fairs to provide education and promotion.

d. Friends of the Fair – Tammy

There has not been a Friends of the Fair Committee meeting. Meg is working to finalize the DATCP report. The County Fair made over \$26,000 this year.

Jodi Thesing-Ritter suggested to take to Friends of the Fair to consider offering exhibitor fee scholarships to all exhibitors in honor of the 100th anniversary of the Eau Claire County Fair. Meg Mueller agreed to take this to the committee.

e. Financial Report

The committee working to prepare the financial report is continuing to work on the financial report.

8. Eau Claire Livestock Experience – Discussion/Action

a. Devin- Will work to address the dates on the application so they can coincide with completing the necessary requirements of the Livestock Committee.

9. Fair Coordinator Report – Discussion/Action

a. Updates- Meg Mueller reported on the WAF Conference. The group that attended came back with lots of great ideas.

10. Announcements: None

11. Future Agenda Items

12. Future Meeting Date:

a. February 21, 2024 @ 6:30 pm for the joint committee meeting with Extension Education Committee and Fair Committee. Fair Committee meeting commences immediately following the joint Committee meeting.

13. Adjourn Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted January 17, 2024

*Jodi M. Thesing-Ritter*

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Committee Secretary