

Minutes Fair Committee

February 14, 2024, at 7:00 pm

Bridge Creek Town Hall: S9515 WI-27 Augusta, WI 54722

1. Call to Order and Confirmation of Meeting Notice

Meeting called to order at 7:12 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Fair Committee Members present: Derrick Nelson, Valerie Strauch, Devin Hadorn-Papke, Jodi Thesing-Ritter, Traci Martinson, Jenni Haan, Meg Mueller, and Tammy Schlewitz

Webex attendance: Leticia Papke, Jeff Hadorn, and Heather Deluka

3. Public Comment

- a. Leticia Papke presented concerns related to the livestock project meeting where the date for the Sheep Weigh-In was moved several weeks later so the restriction of 100 pounds or less at weigh in be adjusted.
- b. Jeff Hadorn suggested that the weight restriction be lifted to help exhibitors meet market standards with the new weigh in date.
- c. Motion to close public comment was made by Tammy Schlewitz and seconded by Derrick Nelson. Vote to close public comment was made unanimously.

4. Approval of Committee Minutes- Discussion/Action

a. January 17, 2024 - minutes

Correction made by Jenni Haan to add motioned carried following language regarding rodeo addition to the fair.

Correction request made Devin Hadorn-Papke to change language to indicate minimum weight at final weigh-in should be increased. Language currently reflects minimum at initial weigh in.

Motion made by Jenni Haan and seconded by Devin Hadorn-Papke to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried.

5. County and Fair Relationship – Discussion/Action

a. Fair Structure- Jodi Thesing-Ritter asked how to make public comment if you are not able to attend the special meeting.

Traci Martinson made a motion to have the Fair Committee be disbanded immediately following this meeting. Tammy Schlewitz seconded to motion.

Jodi Thesing-Ritter spoke against the motion.

Jenni Haan spoke in favor of joining the two committees together but spoke against doing so without structure in place.

A ballot vote was made. Meg Mueller served as clerk for the ballot vote. 3 people voted in favor, 3 people voted against, 1 person abstained.

A second ballot was circulated. Meg Mueller served as clerk for the second ballot vote. 4 people voted against. 3 people voted in favor. Motion was not approved.

b. Roles/Responsibilities

Meg Mueller shared that the updated document was added to the packet for review at this meeting. Derrick Nelson made a motion to approve the document as distributed. Valerie Strauch seconded the motion. Motion carried.

c. Code of Conduct

Tammy Schlewitz presented an updated document. Jenni Haan asked for clarification regarding action taken should the code of conduct be violated. Tammy agreed to bring the document back with added language to reflect action taken should the code of conduct be violated. Meg requested that this item be added to the March 4th agenda so that it can be voted on and added to the Fair Book.

6. 2024 Fair - Discussion/Action

a. Fair Schedule-

Meg Mueller proposed that the dog show be moved to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday evening so that it will not conflict with other shows and that the area where the dog show will take place can be used for other activities throughout the fair. Meg has requested feedback from the Dog Project Superintendent but has not heard back from them.

Meg Mueller asked Leticia Papke for feedback regarding the beer and wine judging being moved to not conflict with the rodeo which will take place from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. with gates opening at 3:00 p.m. It was proposed to move the Beer and Wine judging to 3:00 p.m.

Rachel Hart-Brinson sent an email to request that the food stand hours be extended to include more time.

Meg will make an exhibitor schedule, entertainment schedule, and master schedule.

Tammy Schlewitz made a motion to approve the schedule as amended with the Dog Show moved to Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.; Beer and Wine Judging moved to 3:00 p.m. on Sunday in advance of the rodeo; with the understanding the food stand hours will change. Derrick Nelson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Meg will post the Exhibitor Schedule next week.

b. Fair Vet

Derrick Nelson clarified with the vet that their fair walk-through fees would be donated. Any services rendered would be charged to the exhibitor. Meg Mueller has requested a prospectus be provided by the Vet to be brought to the next meeting for review.

c. Open Show Class

There does not appear to be enough interest in having a Livestock Open Show that would allow the youth to sell at the Auction. Devin Hadorn-Papke recommended that the item be reconsidered for next year's fair.

The Open Book for the 2024 has to be approved. Meg Mueller will put the proposed Open Book in the March meeting packet for approval.

d. Flyers

Missy Christopherson requested that this item be added to the agenda and was not present to share her thoughts to the item will be moved to date definite.

e. Superintendents

An additional superintendent ask was made on Facebook for the vacant positions. Meg will send the current superintendent list to Jodi to be added to the minutes. Meg Mueller shared the vacant positions and the process to apply for positions. Everyone is encouraged to invite people to apply for positions.

f. Committee Updates

The awards committee met and reviewed the awards for this year. They are looking at a special 100th year token or medallion. It was also suggested that belt buckles be ordered for showmanship or other large awards.

7. Fair Committee Structure Fair Representative Reports – Discussion/Action

a. County Board - MOU - Missy

b. Livestock - Derrick

Derrick Nelson made a motion to remove the 100-pound max weigh in weight for sheep because the weigh in date has been pushed back 18 days by a vote at the Livestock meeting. Devin Hadorn-Papke seconded the motion. A lengthy discussion of pros and cons was had by the committee. A ballot vote was taken. Meg Mueller served as clerk for the vote. 4 votes in favor; 2 against the motion. 1 abstention. Motion carried. Jenni Haan made a motion to limit the weigh in maximum at 109 pounds considering .5 pound gain per day with 18 days for the change of the weigh in. Four people voted against. Three voted against. Motion failed.

c. Extension – Rachel

Rachel was not present at the meeting and did not submit a report to be read.

d. Friends of the Fair – Tammy

1. 2023 Financial Report included in the packet was not correct. Meg Mueller has spoken with DATCAP and they have accepted the report. There is a more updated report that Meg will distribute to be included in the next packet to be discussed at the next meeting.

8. Fair Coordinator Report – Discussion/Action

a. Updates

DATCAP health rules have been updated and released and will be added to the Fair Book. Meg is working with Jackie Brorson, Fair Assistant, to secure judges.

Jodi Thesing-Ritter asked for clarification for the role of the Expo Building Committee Chairperson. Meg Mueller indicated that there are not written documents for the chairperson but there are people who can share information. Jodi requested to meet with superintendents to get feedback and suggestions prior to set up. Meg indicated that this is possible. Jodi shared that she would connect with Meg to arrange a time to meet.

Jenni Haan indicated that the styrofoam boards for the youth leadership area have been sold. New boards can be made.

9. Announcements

Secretary Jodi Thesing-Ritter reminded the committee that she would not be at the special meeting on March 4, 2024. She requested that a secretary be assigned for the meeting.

Chair Traci Martinson indicated that she would be stepping down from her position on the Fair Committee and as Chair effective immediately. She will share this information with the County in writing following this meeting.

10. Future Agenda Items

11. Future Meeting Date:

- a. March 4, 2024 @ 6:00pm - Extension Office, Altoona
- b. March 4, 2024 @ 6:30pm - Joint Meeting - Extension Office, Altoona

12. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted February 14, 2024

Jodi M. Thesing-Ritter

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Committee Secretary