

DELAWARE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
BOARD MEETING
APRIL 21, 2015

ATTENDANCE

Present – Jackie Colflesh, Dan Huffman, Don Howard, Joe McLead, Larry Moreland, Al Myers, Pat Paykoff, Frank Reinhard, Carolyn Riggle, Aaron Roll, Tom Roll, Colleen Smith, P.J. Terry, Chip Thomson, T. Thomson, Diane Winters, Harold Wolford, Tom Wright and D.J. Young

Absent – Brad Jolliff, Loren Pool,

Ex-Officio – Laryssa Hook present

General Manager – Bill Lowe present

GUESTS

Randy DeVault, Rex DeVault, Stephen Burger, Maria Burger, Clara Selle, Mallory Hope, Tiffany Rankin, Jennifer Kessler, Phil Terry, Mike Dickey, Brian Grider, Rita Selle Grider

Mike Dickey and Tiffany Rankin from the fair's accounting firm, Maloney & Navotny presented to the board the 2014 annual financial statement and reviewed and explained the various categories and numbers. After a few questions were answered, Tom Wright moved and Don Howard seconded the report be accepted. The motion carried.

Next was the awarding of 4H scholarships for the year 2014. Tom Wright made the presentation of the scholarships to Mallory Hope, Clara Selle and Maria Burger.

MINUTES

Frank Reinhard moved and Colleen Smith seconded the minutes of the March 17th board meeting be approved as printed. The motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Chip Thomson reviewed for the board where the bed tax issue currently stands. The tax is included in the House version of the state budget, as a 3% bed tax as a 5 year pilot program, subject to approval by the voters. Thomson praised the efforts of State Representatives Margaret Ruhl and Andrew Brenner in getting

the tax to this point. The next step is the Senate version of the budget. Thomson stated that Senator Jordan's support was needed in this effort. Thomson pointed out the various options available to the board, in regard to getting the issue on the ballot. A number of questions exist regarding the terms and language of the House bill.

Thomson then discussed the Inter-Governmental Co-Operative Agreement that needed to be signed regarding the water line project, between the City of Delaware, Delaware County and the Agricultural Society. It was decided that the agreement would be sent electronically to all board members to read and respond within 48 hours with approval to sign or not to sign the document. Tom Roll moved and Don Howard seconded the process be approved as suggested. The motion carried.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Bill Lowe read a letter to the board from the Raymond B. Austin Post 115 of the American Legion, announcing that effective at the end of August, the Post would no longer be renting the Log Cabin for their meetings and would be merging with a local VFW Post.

TREASURERS REPORT

Dan Huffman presented the report. He passed out a Balance Sheet, a Profit & Loss Statement, an Accounts Payable Statement and Accounts Payable Statement. After reviewing each statement, Tom Roll moved and Don Howard seconded the report be approved. The motion carried. Huffman then discussed the computerized purchase order system that was up and running. He also informed the board that the financial statement does not include monies to be received from the insurance company as the result of the November 24th wind storm. That money is still to come but all bills relating to repairs for that storm are up to date and paid in full.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

D.J. Young reported for the committee and discussed the minutes of the committee meeting of April 16, the minutes of which were handed out to board members. Discussion centered on the committee's recommendation to borrow funds for the upgrades in the 4H Campground in the amount of \$17,000 from the 4H committee. Jackie Colflesh withdrew her motion, regarding the issue, from the March board meeting, which had been tabled by President Thomson. Treasurer Dan Huffman discussed his opinion that there was not a need to borrow the funds and that the fair had the funds to pay for the work and that a substantial part of the funds would

come from the proposed increase in the camping lot charge to go into effect in 2015. Following additional discussion about whether to borrow or not, Al Myers moved and Carolyn Riggle seconded the board send a letter to the 4H committee and graciously thank them for their offer to lend the fair the funds, explaining that upon further examination, the board would be able to use its own funds to complete the project. The motion carried.

Jackie Colflesh then moved to increase the non-electric lot fee for the Jr. Fair Campground from \$75 to \$125 and the electric lot fee from \$125 to \$175. Harold Wolford seconded and the motion carried.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

No report

AGRICULTURAL & EXHIBITS COMMITTEE

Aaron Roll reported and went over items of discussion at the April 4 FAC Committee meeting.

COMMUNITY/MEDIA/ADVERTISING COMMITTEE

No report

ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

No report

SECURITY/MEDICAL/STAFFING/TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

No report

MOTOR SPORTS COMMITTEE

No report

FACILITY AND FACILITY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Pat Paykoff reported and discussed a new large water leak and the efforts to curtail the increasing amount of leaks in the system. He also talked about a visit from the City Fire Inspector during the recently held circus in the Coliseum. The Inspector and the City Fire Chief have mandated that changes have to made to most of the doors on the Coliseum to meet code. He also announced that Ted and Jackie Colflesh donated a truck to the fair that will be utilized to apply sand to the racetrack.

RACING COMMITTEE

Tom Wright reported. He discussed racing on Monday of Fair Week with a special post time of 3PM. There will be a business after hours event held that day for members of the Delaware, Powell and Sunbury Chambers of Commerce. He also talked about the need to scarfire the racetrack and that he was investigating the costs associated with the effort. Also discussed was the concern regarding safety on the racetrack during morning training hours due to the increased number of horses stalled at the fairgrounds. Joe McLead expressed the opinion that there should be a policy requiring horsemen and women to wear a helmet when training on the track.

Wright then discussed the new affiliation with the Ohio Fair Racing Circuit. Due to the circuit's on-line entry registration, he should be able to reduce his staff by 2 people. He also pointed out how the affiliation will increase the number of horses for the Delaware Open which comprised 12 races in 2014 and is estimated in 2015 to include 24 races. With the number of overnight races cut in half, as the result of the affiliation, the fair's portion of the purses should be reduced by about \$14,000.

Wright announced that Associated Sound would no longer be providing sound around the racetrack and that a new company would need to be secured.

Wright discussed the Perfect horse barn and that there was still some work to be done. He stated that Mr. Perfect was committed to donating the barn to the fair by 2016. Perfect had stated that the value on the barn should be \$420,000.

WALL OF FAME

Chip Thomson reported that the 2015 honoree would be announced at the May board meeting. He also announced the 2015 Lady Pace honoree to be Diane Winters, a long time fair board member as well as a long time outrider for the races at Delaware.

HORSE PARADE

No report

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

T. Thomson reported that the county should have 3 new computers delivered to the fair office and installed within the next week

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Phil Terry discussed the ongoing possibility of the Jug being nationally televised again. One of the issues is not going forward unless there is some type of written agreement. Dan Huffman expressed that he did not feel comfortable with the fair being basically the bank for this multi-faceted arrangement.

Laryssa Hook reminded fair board members that the deadline for the 2015 4H scholarship applications was Friday April 24th. Chip Thomson assigned Aaron Roll Diane Winters and himself as a committee to review the applications.

Diane Winters about the recent District Meeting for fairs at Washington Court House and the excellent turnout by board members from Delaware.

Dan Huffman then moved and Al Myers seconded the board go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue. The motion carried.

P.J. Terry moved and Colleen Smith seconded the board go out of Executive Session and resume the regular meeting with the notation that no decision was made during the Executive Session.

The meeting resumed with a discussion on the hiring of a bookkeeper. Dan Huffman eventually moved and Joe McLead seconded that the Personnel Committee offer Quita Hines the position effective May 1st, 2015.

There being no further business, Colleen Smith moved and Frank Reinhard seconded the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried.

Chip Thomson, President

Bill Lowe, General Manager