

DELAWARE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
BOARD MEETING
June 21, 2022

ATTENDANCE

Present- Jeff Armentrout, Jennifer Brown, Jackie Colflesh, Adam DeMarco, Patricia Gladman, Mike Harter, Don Howard, Dan Huffman, Michael Knapp, Bryan Mellen, Jon Melvin, Tiffany Rankin, Colleen Smith, Chip Thomson, Chris Welker, Diane Winters and Laryssa Hook

Absent- Mark Fisher, Benjamin Wenner, Tom Wright

GUESTS- Allison Beekman, Jenny Beekman, Jeff Stover, T. Thomson

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Tiffany Rankin called the meeting to order. The Pledge was recited and Roll Call was taken by Chris Welker.

PUBLIC COMMENT

T. Thomson provided an update on sponsorships. He has added First Citizen as a day sponsor for Sunday. He is working on the Wednesday night pre Jug Party.

MINUTES

Collen Smith moved and Bryan Mellen second a motion to approve May 17, 2022 board meeting minutes. Motion carried

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Tiffany Rankin recognized our scholarship award winner Allison Beekman, who was unable to attend last month's meeting. Allison will graduate from Centerburg High School, and attend Mount Vernon Nazarene University to pursue a degree in Criminal Justice

Tiffany attended the Delaware County Township Association (DCTA) meeting. The DCTA will hold a meeting here on the 1st Saturday of Fair, September 17th. We will provide each township with a promo code for their residents to use for a dollar off gate admission.

She thanked the board for the quick turn around on the decision to purchase a tractor to be used for the horse show arena. Jon Melvin agreed and expressed his gratitude because he ran the tractor for the State Fair qualifying show.

FAIR OFFICE'S REPORT

Chris Welker said that Matt Farmer has moved on to another opportunity, as a result we brought Jim Bennett back into the maintenance department.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dan Huffman went over the financials and reported we are stable and on good footing. The Bed Tax account is high because we are holding onto money. Jennifer Brown moved and Jeff Armentrout second the motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Tiffany Rankin reported that bids for the Landscaping had all come in and it was decided to go with Ivy Tree's bid of \$17,000.

Discussion was held on a letter received from the city about the cost the city incurred during an event held on April 23rd on the grounds. She has a meeting next week to discuss this matter with representatives from the city.

Tiffany has also received letters from homeowner who live near the grounds, a meeting will be organized with them to address their concerns.

GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

No Report, just a request for bylaw changes.

FINANCE

Tiffany Rankin went over the end of Financial Report. We have received grants for the grandstand projects, and that contributes to the high amount of cash on hand. Our assets have grown because of the Ag Center. Bed Tax holds our numbers up high, and a 2021 vs 2020 comparison is hard because it compares to our Covid Fair. Our Bed Tax revenue is rising.

FAIR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

No Report

ADVERTISING COMMITTEE

Chip Thomson reported that, Jennifer McGowan has reached out to billboard companies, and that there will be no increase from last year. The committee is work on finalizing the radio stations they would like to work with this year, iHeart and WDLR are whom they believe they will work with. The sign on 23 is up and we need it to work. OHHA will be live broadcasting the races again this year during fair. This will be the 40th year of the Little Brown Jug bushes.

SAFETY COMMITTEE

Caribbean Fest update, there is a warrant out for the organizer. Will hold a committee meeting soon to go over a scaffold waiver. Plans to have a walk through on the grounds with the Sheriff, City Police and EMS.

MOTOR SPORTS COMMITTEE

Bryan Mellen reported that they are still working to find an announcer

FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Mark Fisher reported he plans on have a meeting next week. The quote to bring fiber to all the gates is \$15,000 RDF Design group did the design work for the project. Jeff Armentrout told the board that the Coliseum has gas and the old office's gas has been turned off. Chip Thompson stated that Conroy was going to clean the Grandstands before the fair. Dan Huffman informed everyone that Pete Mendez will

be working on the sound again and making sure we can make announcements from the new office. Jeff Stover asked if the board had looked into purchasing a tamper for compressing clay in horse stalls, Dan Huffman said we can't get one due to the supply chain delays until October.

RACING COMMITTEE

Jennifer Brown reported that the 24 qualifier races on Monday went well, they have 120 horse to race Sunday at 9:00am. Ambulances were an issue that got sorted through on Monday but the issues seem to be sorted out for Sunday.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Colleen Smith reported that 2 caterers were still in the process for catering the Hill. She has met with both of them to go through each item line by line to help reduce the cost. Once Colleen has both bids in hand she will have a committee meeting to review the bid and then ask that the Executive be allowed to execute the contract. Tiffany Rankin said the reason that our previous caterer left was a change in the scope of their business. Colleen believes that each caterer would be willing to provide a sponsorship of some kind for the fair. Chip Thomson asked if we really needed to have breakfast, if the bids have been higher than anticipated then we need to cut costs. Tiffany Rankin said to help offset the increase we'd need to find more sponsorship dollars. Jeff Armentrout asked why we needed to have breakfast. Colleen Smith said because that's what we have always done. The original quote from one caterer was \$267,000. Colleen Smith moved to approve the Executive Committee to spend \$130,000 on a catering contract. Mike Harter seconded. Motion Carried.

BED TAX COMMITTEE

Will have a meeting next week. Tiffany set a meeting with an official from the auditor's office to review the Ohio Revised Code.

ALL HORSE PARADE

Diane Winters reported that we are having a parade.

HALL OF FAME/MUSEUM

Don Howard reported that he has items coming in. Chip Thomson reported ballots are coming in, plaques are looking well-worn on the wall. Chip is looking into replacing.

OLD BUSINESS

Dan Huffman said paving starts tomorrow morning, will take about 14 days. They are not paving in-between the Coliseum and the BV booth. The goal with the grindings is to making trailer parking better.

Marker says the design was bad, and the designer says it's good. The resolution we would like is for them to replace the East, North and West sides of the pad on the Ag Center. Dan has exhausted other options for concrete.

Mike Harter moved to pay Case Farm 8231.92 for half of the pad they put in to receive our horse manure. Jon Melvin seconded. Motion Carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Chris Welker said we'd be at First Friday in July, asked if any board member would be willing to come a help.

Chip Thomson moved to use Roger D Fields Associate to design our Fiber project at a cost of \$15,000. Jon Melvin seconded. Motion Carried.

Jon Melvin moved to adjourn. Jackie Colflesh seconded. Motion carried.

Tiffany Rankin, President

Christopher Welker, Interim Fair Manager