

DELAWARE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
May 16, 2023

ATTENDANCE:

Present- Jeff Armentrout, Jennifer Brown, Adam DeMarco, Mark Fisher, Patricia Gladman, Mike Harter, Dan Huffman, Mike Knapp, David Laaksonen, Bryan Mellen, Jon Melvin, Colleen Smith, Chip Thomson, Chris Welker, Benjamin Wenner, Diane Winters, Tom Wright, Laryssa Hook and Jen McGowan

ABSENT: Don Howard, Tiffany Rankin, Randy Turner

GUESTS: Kevin Simpson, Natalie Hohman, Larry Hohman, Holly Whitaker, Addie Whitaker, Clay Whitaker, Tara Sapp, Cambell Sapp, Abbie Sapp, Shannon Barr, Amy Barr, Noah Hildebrand

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chip Thomson called the meeting to order, Jen McGowan led the pledge of Allegiance and Chris Welker called the Roll.

JUNIOR FAIR SCHOLARSHIP RECOGNITION

Jen McGowan announced all the scholarship recipients. They introduced themselves and shared the plans:

Natalie Homan- Wooster
Abby Sapp- OSU
Clay Whitaker- OSU
Shannon Barr- OWU
Noah Hildebrand- Hilbart Technical

Chip Thomson thanked all of them for coming, and express that the board was proud to be able to offer these scholarship to this wonderful group of young people, and wish them all the best on their future endeavors.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kevin Simpson asked about the 2nd turn, Chip and Tom Wright discussed the desire to round that turn to be more in line with the rest of the track.

MINUTES

Jennifer Brown moved and Bryan Mellen seconded to approve the minutes from the board meeting on April 14th, 2023. Motion Carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Nothing to note at this time.

OFFICE REPORT

Jen McGowan shared that the concrete remedy started today, during the preparation for the project, the interior glass of one of the office door was broken while moving the ATM, it was our responsibility. Window will be fixed as soon as possible. The sponsorship totals to date are- \$280,000 for racing, with \$56,000 already paid, and 67,500 for the fair with \$13,000 already paid. Jen has everyone's Fair Managers passes, she will distribute them after the meeting. She would like to take her vacation from June 26th - June 30th. Mark Fisher moved and Ben Wenner seconded to approve Jen to take that time off for her vacation. Motion Carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Dan Huffman financial were sent out in the board packet. Tickets money has started to come in, we have about \$200,000 in so far. With the concrete remedy starting once its complete, it will be inspected before we send out the last check to Marker from the Ag Center project.

Benjamin Wenner moved, and Adam DeMarco seconded to approve the treasurer's report.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

No Report.

GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

Mike Harter shared that the committee met and reviewed 4 contracts, the committee would like to add some language to help cover liability. The electrician contract for this year has a \$4000 increase compared to last year, but we added time to the contract for set up and tear down of fair. Ben Wenner asked if it's in Maintenance's Budget? Mark Fisher said, I don't believe that budgets have been approved. Ben Wenner, "I'm wondering why if it's in in the budget why are we voting, if it has made it through 2 committees?" Jon Melvin moved, Mark Fisher seconded to accept Morco Electric's Electrical contract for \$14,000 for the fair. Motion Carried. Diane Winters Abstained.

A-Bar Rodeo's contract was discussed, Jen confirmed that he didn't have a need for a veterinarian. The G&A committee would like to make sure he has proper insurance levels.

Mark Fisher asked about the other contract that were sent to G&A. Mike Harter said that the committee would like to work on including some legal protections for the contracts. Chip Thomson shared that the committee asked Jen to reach out and coordinate with the remaining contracts to get clarifications that G&A was looking for.

Bryan Mellen moved, Jon Melvin seconded to approve the contract submitted for A-Bar Rodeo for \$10,000. Motion Carried.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

During the last finance committee meeting Tiffany reviewed the loan progress and what information and document are need to complete this process.

FAIR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Benjamin Wenner stated the minutes were provided in the board packet. Ben has also been working with Jen to hire a part time person to help complete all the paper work associated with the Junior Fair.

ADVERTISING COMMITTEE

No Meeting. Jen has order and received a lot of the smaller stuff to hand out at events.

SAFETY COMMITTEE

No Report. .

MOTORSPORTS COMMITTEE

Bryan Mellen shared the committee only work on getting the Rodeo finalized.

FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Mark Fisher reported that they had a meeting, and they are working on a list of Corey, to be proactive on the electric for fair. The plan is to start working on the 4-H camping and the Midway. As well as some lighting update for the animal barns. To get started on 4-H camp, we had to prepare a spot for our year round campers to move to. We borrow are roller to help fix some of the roads we have, and we will need to make some repairs before we return it.

RACING COMMITTEE

Tom Wright sent an update in the board packet. March payment are finished, the second Jug payment is up this year, because of OHHA paying for the first year. Jug Day will be on FS1 day at the races. They will take our feed for broadcast. The cost will be \$17,000 USTA has agreed to help offset that cost and we plan on selling commercials to cover the remainder. Jason has \$202,000 in sponsorships and his goal is \$250,000, but I believe he can get to \$300,000. The sponsorship with Anheuser Busch has been secure, and there is agreement with Heidelberg Distributing to be the wine sponsor.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Colleen Smith shared the contract for both the Top of Stretch and Backstreet tents. Heritage Catering has agreed to do both tent for \$18,764 for both days. Colleen Smith moved, Mike Harter seconded to approve Heritage Catering's contract. Motion Carried.

The contract for the Hill came down to two companies, with very similar bids. All Occasions for \$98,662 and Berwick Manor for \$97,820. Colleen express to that in the original bid from All Occasions there were charges for tablecloths, and she worked to get that charge removed which drop the bid to that number. During a committee meeting it was noticed that there was Berwick didn't have the appropriate staff numbers to handle the tent on Thursday, Colleen reached out and Berwick agreed to up the staff at no additional cost. Discussion followed. Dan Huffman moved, and Benjamin Wenner seconded to accept All Occasions Bid for \$98,662.. More discussion took place, Chip Thompson asked for everyone to weigh in one last time. Roll Call vote was taken, motion passed 9-7.

Tom Wright shared that a meeting took place with the Delaware County Foundation in regards to the Wednesday night party. Chris Welker shared that the Delaware County Foundation works with people and cause to help raise money for worthy causes. They help manage a lot of scholarship throughout the county as well as help people with grants. Susie Bibler former of Main Street Delaware works for the Foundation and Chris Welker felt that have her and the Foundation involved will help everyone to insure that the party will be successful. Tom Wright shared the idea for the party would be a night at the races. There will be video of races with very simple betting, on the horses with the money raised to benefit our Jr Fair participate in some yet to be determined way. We hope we can have Roger Huston call the races for those in attendance to give everyone an authentic feeling for racing at Delaware.

BED TAX COMMITTEE

Tom Wright apologized to Jon Melvin, and he appreciates all that he has been doing for the grandstand project. Tom met with United Tote to make sure we can use our infrastructure for betting during the races and making sure we are prepare for it as we progress through the project.

Jon Melvin shared the demo is done, and they are currently pouring concrete and laying block, the current projections of the project does not have it being completely done by the time of the fair. But all of the back of house we need to on track betting will be available to use during fair. Fiber is being bid out. The have been 2 change orders so far both for masonry work, we needed to accelerate some work for a total of \$5549 and we forgot to include the removal of the bricks on the gate which will cost 2086. Ben Wenner moved, and Mark Fisher seconded to accept both change orders. Motion Carried.

Jon Melvin is working with Roof Connect for some of our roofing projects, Paddock, Jug, Juliette, Cabin, and Barn 34. Getting quotes for metal and asphalt. Using this company meets the competitive bidding process.

ALL HORSE PARADE

No Report

HALL OF FAME/MUSEUM

No Repot

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS.

None.

Colleen Smith moved and Dan Huffman seconded to go into executive session, for a legal matter.

Benjamin Wenner moved to return to regular session, noting that no decisions were made. Colleen Smith seconded the motion. Motion Carried.

Jon Melvin moved and Benjamin Wenner seconded to pay all current legal bills. Motion Carried.

Jon Melvin moved and Benjamin Wenner seconded. Motion Carried.