

DELAWARE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
BOARD MEETING
September 12, 2023 – Ag Center

ATTENDANCE

Present – Jennifer Brown, Mark Fisher III, Patricia Gladman, Mike Harter*, Don Howard, Dan Huffman, Michael Knapp, David Laaksonen, Bryan Mellen, Jon Melvin, Tiffany Rankin, Colleen Smith, H.C. “Chip” Thomson, Randy Turner, Christopher Welker, Benjamin Wenner, Diane Winters*, Laryssa Hook and Jen McGowan

Absent –Jeff Armentrout and Tom Wright

GUESTS – Laurie Bauchmire, Ed Slone, Carolin Slone, Monty Harris Sr., Danny Jones

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chip Thomson called the meeting to order. Patti Gladman led the Pledge. Roll call was taken by Chris Welker.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Laurie Bauchmire, Ed Slone, Carolin Slone, and Monty Harris Sr. shared that they were members of the All Horse Parade Committee and they were thankful for the support. Chip shared his gratitude with all them for then involvement in helping have a parade.

MINUTES

Benjamin Wenner moved and Don Howard second a motion to approve the August 15, 2023 board meeting minutes. Motion carried.

*Mike Harter and Diane Winter arrived.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Chip Thomson thanked everyone who jumped in to help with the Horse Parade. Chip wanted to acknowledge all the work Jon Melvin has put into help push the Grandstand Project along. Jon Melvin shared that it will be functional for fair and then will be finished up after fair.

Chip thanked Chris Welker for handling a fraud issue.

OFFICE REPORT

Jen reported that we are starting to pick up and everything is coming together nicely. Chip thanked Tiffany for the use of her hotspot when the internet was out and the office needed to run credit card transactions.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Dan Huffman reported the financials were in the board packet and that we have enough money to open the fair. He shared that we are in fair mode.

Benjamin Wenner moved and Jennifer Brown seconded to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Motion Carried.

GENERAL BUSINESS-(Chip went around the table to ask each director for updates)

Chip Thomson shared the update on the line of credit. Don Howard made the motion that the Delaware County Agricultural Society establish a \$150,000 line of credit with First Common Wealth Bank, Furthermore we authorize board president, H. Chip Thomson to sign all paperwork establishing the line of credit on behalf of the DCAS. Randy Turner seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Tiffany Rankin reminded the board that like all other debts we incur the County Commissioners have to approve the line of credit.

Mike Harter reported that the horseman is not contesting the legal action and it will last for 5 years.

Dan Huffman said, if you see Jason Settlemaier at fair, thank him.

David Laaksonen shared that he will be running the race programs out of his camper, and he will be working with Dick Burlotte and the Kiwanis club. Tiffany Rankin asked where the physical programs would be located. Dan Huffman shared that there is space in an old office in the corner of the betting booth by the Log Cabin.

Colleen Smith shared the Hill is ready.

Patti Gladman shared that the total rentals of the Ag Center should hit \$100,000 by the end of our year, and we are currently at \$70,000.

Tiffany Rankin shared that Phil Terry will be helping with sponsors this year, and there are phone calls where people are asking for discounts on tickets. Phil has asked Tiffany to bring this to the board to discuss on what he can offer people. Discussion followed. Benjamin Wenner moved and Colleen Smith seconded to approve a 20% discount to any person who purchases 10 or more tickets to Pavilion Hill. Motion Carried.

Tiffany was also asked if the board would revisit the rule of minors on the Hill. People want to be here and people have kids. Discussion was held on the logistics and safety concerns. Colleen Smith shared that the current rule is no one under the age of 18 is allowed in the tent. Mark Fisher moved to allow minors on Pavilion Hill with an accompanying adult, and if the child becomes unruly the Safety and Hospitality committees have the right to remove the whole party from the tent. Motion was seconded by Benjamin Wenner, motion carried by a roll call vote 10-6.

Laryssa Hook shared that the Junior Fair Board is setting up and getting ready for fair.

Benjamin Wenner asked when the tractor found its way into the Ag Center. Don Howard confirmed it was empty and we have sprinkler system. Mark Fisher shared that the fire inspector will be in tomorrow, and they will tell us if we are in the clear.

Jon Melvin said the Grandstands are ready to go, they will be functional. After fair we will reconcile and get the rest done. They will be working through Friday, and the trailers will be pulled out on Thursday.

Mark Fisher shared that the tote board is done, Potts is finishing power washing, and potholes will be patched tomorrow. He also went to pick up brine from the county and they offered to sell us a dump truck. It's around 10+ years old and they offered it to us for a price of \$500. The County Commissioners have to have a resolution and then the title can be worked out. It is a transaction Jen can handle so no motion is required.

Mark Fisher also reported that barn 34 is done. We have also received new sand to put down in the riding arena. He asked if we wanted a point of contact sheet like we had last year. Tiffany Rankin offered to update the one from last year.

Jennifer Brown asked if there was a 10'x10' paddock tent. Jen McGowan confirmed there is. Jennifer Brown also said the Jason Roth from Scioto Downs said we could borrow benches from Scioto Downs.

Don Howard what time the morning meeting would be during Fair. Chip Thomson said 7:15 am.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

Jon Melvin moved to adjourn, Don Howard seconded. Motion Carried.

H.C. "Chip" Thomson, President

Christopher Welker, Secretary

