

DELAWARE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JULY 15, 2025

ATTENDANCE:

Present- Jeff Armentrout, Jennifer Brown, Jackie Colflesh, Adam DeMarco, Mark Fisher, Mike Harter, David Laaksonen, Bryan Mellen, Jon Melvin, Tiffany Rankin, Kevin Simpson, Colleen Smith, T. Thomson, Randy Turner, Chris Welker, Benjamin Wenner, Diane Winters, Tom Wright, Don Howard, Patricia Gladman, Jen McGowan

ABSENT: Chip Thomson, Laryssa Hook

GUESTS: Jessica Miller, Jeff Crotty, Mike Knapp

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

Chris Welker called the meeting to order, Kevin Simpson led the pledge of allegiance, and Jen McGowan called the roll.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

MINUTES:

Diane Winters moved to approve the June 2025 board meeting minutes, T. Thomson second. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Chris Welker discussed the fair being early in September this year and do we want to meet the day after Labor Day? Since there were no objections, we will have our meeting on September 2nd at 6pm.

We are starting to see ads from Destination Delaware on Facebook. Everyone did a great job in the ad, and they are going to start blasting it out to a bigger audience.

Chris mentioned that he has been working with Jess and Jen with selling race tickets online and we have sold 15 that way so far. Tickets will still get mailed out, but it is going well. Colleen asked how many tickets have sold so far for the new Jug Social tent. We have sold 6 so far and Tim with Destination Delaware is working on getting a couple bigger groups in there.

FAIR MANAGER'S REPORT:

Jen McGowan reported that we are officially in full fair mode. All the fans are working in the barns except one in the poultry barn. We have secured the Delaware Finance Authority to have a tent in the Top of the Stretch area for \$9k

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Randy Turner updated on the financials. We are getting caught up from the transition to online. There are a couple more payrolls that need to be added. The balance sheet page 2 bed tax receivable at this

point is an estimate, but we do expect to get that for operating expenses. The balance sheet profit and loss dates are opposite of what they used to be.

The ice maker has arrived and put together and is making ice.

After looking at the Sargent bills, we think it is better to pay off the 2024 balance and then start catching 2025 up 2 months at a time. Louise has been a godsend figuring things out and getting us set up.

We have a mower here, so that is sooner than we had expected. We are hoping to get the other one before fair and a tractor after that.

The Commissioners do their budgeting for 2026 so we need to come up with a budget for them by the end of August. We need to figure out what we are intending to spend. The previous balance from bed tax carried over from last year. We went from \$1,66782.36 to \$622,467.08, which leaves us with \$400k that we have not spent. We now have enough money in there to pay off the grandstand loan. The money is out there in accounts receivable for operating but we haven't received it yet. Benjamin asked how much that was a month. Randy answered that it was about \$21k average a month. It is slow because of the audit and we are compiling invoices to submit for operating costs.

Mark Fisher asked what the 2024 manure bill was. It was \$50k and will be paid up to March of 2025 because we have already paid January and February.

Benjamin asked how many hours that Louise has put in for the month. Randy reported that she is working her 30 hours a week and leaving early if need be to stay within that. Tiffany mentioned that she told Louise if she was in the middle of something to finish and that she is not abusing those hours.

Benjamin mentioned that there were some trophy checks that had not been cashed yet. Jessica Miller updated that she had been on vacation last week and everything has now been cashed and caught up.

Tom Wright asked how many weeks Louise has been here so far and how many hours she is spending here. She has been here about 3 weeks and is keeping to her 30 hours. Randy mentioned that we did lose a lot of information during the transition to online and that we have hired someone to get all of that transferred over to get all that worked out for \$165 dollars an hour.

Jennifer Brown moved to approve the treasurer's report, Colleen Smith second. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Chris mentioned that the minutes were in the board packet and most everything will be discussed in other committee reports. There will be no exec call tomorrow.

GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE:

Dave Laaksonen brought forward a contract for Christmas lights for a drive thru light display on the grounds. We will provide them a bathroom and a storage area. They will pay electric overages, any damage, and a percentage of sales. This is a 3 year agreement and we can cancel or extend. Discussion was held on insurance and we feel they have enough coverage. Jackie Colflesh motioned to approve the Christmas lights Ohio display as written. Diane Winters second. Motion carried.

Dave updated on race programs and Chris had sent him figures from last year and we saved about \$12k by ordering less last year. He thinks that he can cut about 1000 more programs this year saving an additional \$1300.

FAC COMMITTEE:

Mark Fisher reported that they had met and were discussing traffic patterns for Friday night, getting to the barns and parking areas. The sound guys came out and everyone seems really excited.

ADVERTISING COMMITTEE:

T. Thomson said a flyer was being worked on for a window decorating contest and will be sent out to business to try and get people excited for the fair and the Jug. We got some tickets donated from Cosi for a giveaway and will also do race tickets for the prizes.

Chip is still working on the Pennsylvania Ave. sign and will still be dependent on the City. We can fix the existing sign to make it presentable. We are getting prices on that.

SECURITY COMMITTEE:

No Report. They will meet before the next board meeting.

MOTORSPORTS COMMITTEE:

Jeff Armentrout mentioned that the minutes were in the board packet. They met with the sound company and they are going to put a truck back in motorsports for the sound.

FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE:

Adam DeMarco mentioned that the minutes were in the board packet. We had a quote to replace or repair the fence at pavilion hill and the committee recommended that we repair it. Colleen Smith agrees with that decision.

We had reached out to Rob Stambaugh to repair barn 35 and he was interested but we have not heard back from him. We have to move on this and we upheld our end of the contract by offering him the job. Mark ended up contacting Frazier Roofing and they will be in here next Wednesday or Thursday to start the repairs on barn 35 and Ben Lehner will be in to level the stalls. We are going to tear out the tack room and put up metal so the rats don't chew thru the drywall. We need to wait until the master plan is done before we tear any barns down and we are looking to repair the barn to last 3-4 more years.

Mark Fisher mentioned that the horse trailers are starting to stack back up again. A few of them are Noah's with the horse show and those will be out after their August show.

Ben Lehner is going to do the drainage behind barn 32. Jen got an estimate for that for \$4,900.

Adam asked that if anyone knows of anything they need done to let Jen know so that she can let Jeff know so that he isn't blindsided.

RACING COMMITTEE:

Tom Wright reported that he, Jim Buchy and Hunter Wright met with Farm Bureau to discuss sponsorship. Colleen and Tom were meeting with Anheuser Busch next Wednesday. He will also be meeting with the new sound company next Wednesday to go over the racing sound needs. Tom thanked Chris for getting the race sponsorships invoiced. They have been meeting on Fridays. Tom thanked Pam for wrapping up the May payments. They have a couple horses to get straightened out but it has been a really big help.

We will need a stall man. Mick Fisher will not be doing it this year. We will also need someone for the lot behind the log cabin. Maybe we can combine those positions. He will be reaching out to Buck to hang the TV's.

This is the 100th year of the Hambo on Sat. Aug. 2. Tom would like the support from the board to attend. It will be about \$330 for flights and probably \$800 for hotel. Jennifer Brown moved to approve the reimbursement expenses. Tiffany Rankin second. Motion carried.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE:

No Report. They will be having a meeting before the next board meeting.

BED TAX COMMITTEE:

No Report.

Jon Melvin mentioned that Pete with Myers was here before the meeting to show renderings of the Pig and Lamb barn and other 4H areas. He had some renderings of the grandstand and will forward all of that when he gets it. Tom Wright mentioned that Randy should be involved in the next bed tax meeting to help create a budget for the Commissioners.

ALL HORSE PARADE COMMITTEE:

Diane Winters reported that entries are coming in. She looks forward to Dave Laaksonen's help with the pooper scoopers. The parade will be September 7, 2025 at 3pm.

Diane mentioned that she, Patti Gladman and Jen went to the Jr. Fairboard meeting and that Jen had introduced herself to them.

HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE:

Don Howard reported that Zac Davis of Davis Seed Co. is the HOF nominee for 2025. They will announce this on Monday of fair after the Commissioner's meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

Colleen Smith moved to adjourn. Tiffany Rankin second. Motion carried.