



Lancaster County Agricultural Society, Inc.
4100 N. 84th St, Lincoln, NE 68507

MINUTES

Board of Directors Monthly Meeting
Board Room--Lancaster Event Center Office
Thursday, April 19, 2018 at 7:30pm

Vice President Ronnau called the meeting of the Lancaster County Agriculture Society to order. Proof of due notice was given with the Nebraska Open Meeting Act posted.

Board members present were Bauman, Cooper, Messick, Rawlinson, Ronnau, Swanson, and Suing with Dowding and Rutt being absent. Hoyt Kraeger from LEC staff and Tracy Anderson from Extension Office also in attendance.

The minutes from the March regular meeting were approved as corrected.

Moved by Messick and seconded by Suing to approve the March financials. The motion was approved 7-0 with Dowding and Rutt absent and not voting. It was moved by Rawlinson and seconded by Bauman to approve the paying of the checks in the amount of \$320,297.40. The motion was approved 7-0 with Dowding and Rutt absent and not voting. The Aging Summary was presented for information.

Officer and Committee reports

Vice President Ronnau: Recommendation to put together a hard copy of all the committees we have organized. With all the moving pieces it would be nice to have them all listed in one place. It was also suggested that they are listed on the agenda even if they don't have a report. It was also suggested by Vice President Ronnau to put together a personnel committee to help address strategic planning goals for personnel. It was moved by Rawlinson and seconded by Cooper to create a personnel committee that would include Jennifer Rawlinson, John Cooper, Karen Rutt, Kendra Ronnau with Jim Swanson being an alternate.

Finance & Budget Manager Hiring Committee: Board member Rawlinson introduced recommended candidate, Bruce Gubser.

Phase 3 Committee: Board member Messick reported that the committee had first meeting on April 16. They will start to put together the proposal to present to public for vote. Next meeting will be the Monday before the next board meeting.

District 1 Meeting: Member Messick reported on the District 1 meeting. He was unable to attend at last minute but gave a report to District representative Lisa Eggerling to present at the meeting as well as sent him the minutes following the meeting. The report on Lancaster County presented mentioned the fair scheduling change to 4 days and entertainment highlights. Some items of note discussed at the meeting were the new liability waivers on the NAFM website that we can use. They are also asking for fair boards to update their contact information for the website.

2018 Fair Update:

- Pepsi Main Stage (Bauman): The Lancaster GhettoBlasters will be playing a short set on Aug 3 (Friday before they play at the Super Fair) for a national act at the Royal Grove. This shouldn't be an issue and they will help us promote their show and do ticket give-a-ways or anything we can come up with. Hope to have a more finalized plan by May 1st for main stage acts. Rawlinson has a contact from Syracuse that might be interested in having some entertainment ideas.
- Fair Volunteer Days: The web link is up and has been shared in the Nebline. As we progress towards fair we will all work together to get these slots filled. Contacting local FFA Chapters and high schools to help fill their volunteer hour requirement might bring in more volunteers. It was also suggested to put together some sort of contest for t-shirt design after school is out
- Fair Board Assignments – Managing Director Dickerson talked about some key events for the board to be at (Watermelon feed, luncheon, etc.) We need to confirm where the hay hauling contest. Currently there is some schedule overlap. A Watermelon feed end time was discussed. We decided on 6pm and will stay until 6:30 if people are still coming. There was a recommendation to stagger when the County Commissioners will be here so it isn't so crowded and they don't have to stay the whole time. There was a reminder to ask exhibitors and families for open livestock relaunch ideas during the Exhibitor Breakfast.
- Fair Board Meals Preference: Breakfast will be provided however for lunch and dinner everyone is to get vouchers.
- Carnival after fair: The Carnival would like to have some sort of more family/adult-appealing entertainment in MPA. They are worried about parents etc. being entertained while kids on rides. Amy will work on ideas with them. We will be keeping the parking fee so people don't wait and come to fair after its over because of free parking. Amy will make necessary marketing changes.
- Junior Fair Board: Invite them to come to the next meeting and see how we can get them involved.

Managing Director/Event Center report

Dickerson gave high level update on Lancaster Event Center and Phase 3 plans including:

- new Facility User Improvement Fee—being rolled out to shows and overall going well.
- Havelock Avenue upgrade design & timing—to start construction this fall, Gates 2 & 3 shut down April-July 2019 but open back up for Super Fair in August is goal. City being very communicative on the project.
- NHSFR construction, visit, groundbreaking update—successful groundbreaking event during NHSRA Executive Director James Higginbotham’s visit with speeches by Governor Pete Ricketts, County Board Chair Todd Wiltgen, City Council Member Cyndi Lamm attended by about 50 people on beautiful spring day. Successful visit updating James on LEC preparations. Construction will start in full force shortly after final City approvals.
- Phase 3 high level update—Dickerson updated on different planning meetings

Other Business: None

Communication from the Public: None

Executive Session

- The Board moved to go into Executive Session at 8:45 pm to discuss contractual and legal issues. Moved by Ronnau and seconded by Swanson. Passed 7-0.
- The Board moved to go out of Executive Session at 9:15 pm. Moved by Rawlinson and seconded by Suing. Passed 7-0.

Muhlbach Naming Rights Contract Buyout (Dickerson)

- Messick moved to pay Bob Muhlbach amount due to end naming rights agreement in amount of \$6664.00 for Muhlbach Outdoor Arena. Seconded by Ronnau. Passed 7-0.

Finance & Budget Manager Contract—Authorization for President to sign (Dickerson)

- Rawlinson move to give President Ron Dowding authorization to sign contract for new Finance & Budget Manager if Bruce Gubser accepted offer outlined by Hiring Committee. Swanson seconded. Passed 7-0.

Motion made by Cooper and seconded by Suing to adjourn at 9:32 PM. Passed 7-0.

Respectfully submitted by:
 Jamie Bauman- LCAS Secretary

Secretary Bauman

Vice President Ronnau

Next Meeting: May 17, 2018 at 7:30pm