



Lancaster County Agricultural Society, Inc.
4100 N. 84th St, Lincoln, NE 68507
Board of Directors Monthly Meeting
MINUTES
Thursday, July 18, 2019 at 7:30pm
Lancaster County Farm Bureau Meeting Room--Lancaster Event Center

President Dowding called the meeting of the Lancaster County Agriculture Society to order at 7:32 pm. Proof of due notice was given with the Nebraska Open Meeting Act posted.

Board members present were Bauman, Cooper, Dowding, Messick, Rawlinson, Rutt, and Suing with Ronnau and Swanson being absent and Messick participating by phone. Also present were Tracy Anderson and Karen Wobig from Extension and Susan Bulling from LEC.

It was moved by Rawlinson and seconded by Dowding to approve the June minutes as amended. Motion passed 6-0 with Ronnau and Swanson being absent and not voting, Bauman abstained as she was absent from the June meeting.

It was moved by Rawlinson and seconded by Suing to approve the June Financials. Motion passed 7-0 with Ronnau and Swanson being absent and not voting. It was moved by Rawlinson and seconded by Cooper to approve the paying of the checks in the amount of \$888,212.01. Motion passed 7-0 with Ronnau and Swanson being absent and not voting. The Aging Summary was presented for information. Vice President Ronnau arrived at the meeting at 7:40pm.

Officer and Committee reports

- President (Dowding)- No
- Vice President (Ronnau)-no report
- Secretary (Bauman)-no report
- Treasurer (Rutt)-no report
- Personnel (Rawlinson)—Greg Rook was hired and will start Monday as the Operations Director. His experience with 26 years at Cam-Plex in Gillette WY and 13 years supporting the NHSFR there as well as many event similar to LEC will be a huge addition to the management team.
- Phase 3/Ad Hoc (Rawlinson)— We will be waiting on any ad hoc report until after fair is completed. Creation of the Fund Development Committee will begin towards the end of August with Mari Lane Gewecke to help diversify our revenue stream. It was mentioned that we should consider reaching out to service clubs. Having an LCAS board member attend several of these

meetings to discuss volunteer needs, upcoming major events, etc. would help spread the word to new groups of people. Creating a general Powerpoint might be useful. Board member Rawlinson will consider making some new business cards with facts on the back. There has been follow up with Jeff Maul at the Chamber/CVB and he is helping come up with a list of potential companies for sponsorships.

- NHSFR Rodeo Board Committee (Ronnau) – Managing Director Dickerson and LCAS VP Ronnau met with Governor Ricketts and he gave some thoughts on some funding ideas for LEC to compete with surrounding states that give state grants/loans for capital improvements to like event centers to compete to bring national events to their states. The Governor encouraged private fundraising as the primary vehicle beyond the NE State Tourism marketing grant that LEC already has been awarded. Commissioners Amundson and Vest attended as well as LEC Ad hoc Committee member Debby Brehm who helped setup the meeting. Ronnau mentioned it was important to mention the incredible support from county commissioners on recently finalizing the second rodeo grant from the county lodging tax fund.
- Grievance (Cooper)- no report, but as we gear up for fair remind individuals with grievances to go first through 4-H grievance procedure as outlined in the fair book.

2019 Fair Update

84th and Havelock will be open in time for fair and we will have access to gates 1 and 3 and east access only from gate 4. The final fair schedule will be sent out in the Neblin, highlighting a brief 4-H schedule and overall fair information. The early fair departure policy for animals and static exhibits was reviewed. For those wanting to leave early, they need to fill out a form with 4-H Extension in advance. We need help promoting the Open Livestock shows with pre-entries due next week. VIP Luncheon – Tracy has secured two 4-Hers to present during luncheon and will be providing information to LEC. LCAS board members need to be available at 11am to make sure we are prepared for awards. It will stay in the Nebraska Lottery Tent and Guest and Community Relations Director, Susan Bulling will send the guest list to LCAS Board Member Rawlinson so we can reach out to anyone on a personal level to confirm attendance. Bulling did mention that vendor numbers are down a bit this year, mostly due to a few large vendors not returning for various reasons (routing, inconsistency). However, sponsorships are up some.

Extension: Lunches will be available for static judges in the Lincoln Room so they don't have to go over to Good Times Grill and can eat when works for them without being in a line. Sunday evening will be the move in for static exhibits and food safety training for café volunteers. Volunteers are still needed on Tuesday and Wednesday before fair for 4-H/FFA Family Fun Volunteer Days to help with more fair setup.

Managing Director Report (Dickerson):

Staff are working on our event schedule through 2023. Some good connections were made with some other potential promoters on trip to Rock Springs last week for the 2nd NHSFR there. They were able to talk to many more key folks for tips and tricks for next year's NHSFR in Lincoln. There has been major headway on campsite construction on the electrical and water installs. As we move forward we will need help NHSFR exhibitors find horses to lease for those who are from other countries/provinces as

well as potentially looking for some host families.

Other business: None

Communication from the public (5 minute limit per person):

Bulling reminded us all that we will be needing help with the Open Class Livestock shows. Most Superintendents are new and may need some guidance.

Moved by Bauman and seconded by Ronnau to adjourn at 9:41pm. Motion pass 8-0 with Swanson being absent and not voting.

Respectfully submitted by:
Jamie Bauman- LCAS Secretary

Secretary Bauman

President Dowding

Next Meeting: August 22, 2019, 7:30pm