



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, September 20, 2018 at 7:30pm

In the absence of President Dowding and Vice President Ronnau it was moved by Bauman and seconded by Suing to have Board Member Swanson to stand in as acting president. Motion passed 6-0 with Dowding, Rawlinson, and Ronnau being absent at not voting.

Acting President Swanson 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 member Rawlinson arrived during discussion of the minutes.

Board members present were Bauman, Cooper, Messick, Rawlinson, Rutt, Swanson and Suing with Dowding, and Ronnau being absent and not voting.

It was moved by Cooper and seconded by Messick to approve the August minutes as corrected. Motion passed 7-0 with Dowding and Ronnau absent and not voting. It was moved by Rawlinson and seconded by Rutt to approve the minutes from the annual budget hearing. The motion was approved 7-0 with Dowding and Ronnau absent and not voting.

Moved by Rawlinson and seconded by Cooper to approve the August Financials. The motion was approved 7-0 with Dowding and Ronnau absent and not voting. It was moved by Messick and seconded by Suing to approve the paying of the checks in the amount of \$510,875.66. The motion was approved 7-0 with Dowding and Ronnau absent and not voting. The Aging Summary was presented for information.

#### **Officer and Committee reports**

- President (Dowding) – not present
- Vice President (Ronnau) – not present
- Secretary (Bauman) – no report
- Treasurer (Rutt) - Will do an update on the accounting responsibilities chart when we have more of the board & Finance/Budget Manager Gubser all present
- Committee Reports:
  - Personnel (Rawlinson)- The committee discussed strategies that both the board and LEC can do to help retain staff.
  - Phase 3 (Rawlinson) – no report
  - Grievance (Cooper) – no report

#### **Managing Director Report (Dickerson)**

- LEC Finance/Budget Manager Bruce Gubser will schedule auditor will be here for the

October meeting to present the audit for FY2017.

- There are new proposals going out for national shows and banquets. There is a need for more stalls for some of these larger shows. Questions about whether it would be cheaper to buy then continue to rent? Board Member Rawlinson shared that Quail Run in Omaha might be getting rid of some stalls. Managing Director Dickerson will reach out and see what the possibilities are. There is a need for minor improvements to the facilities to help with more horses and people, i.e. Warmup areas and water spigots. Managing Director Dickerson is looking at cost effective ways and possible trades to help with these.
- NHSFR update – construction is in full swing. LEC Business Development Lead Hoyt Kraeger showed the preliminary drawing for the arena panels LEC will be acquiring for the new outdoor arena and NHSFR event. A question was raised, is there a way we could multipurpose the panels we may be purchasing to use them as stalls as well? Adding eyelets so we could add the tarp for stalling, then buy stall fronts to switch out if we needed. A subcommittee was formed to help with panel RFP input. Those on the committee will be VP Ronnau, Secretary Bauman and Board Members Cooper and Rawlinson.
- Phase 3 – The UNL economic study impact for LEC is expected any day. Moving forward with actions to value naming rights, send out hotel RFP, research Phase 3 financing, etc.

#### **2018 Fair Results & Learnings (Dickerson/Gubser/Board)**

- Total 4-H Exhibitors 641, 4-H entries 4943. These numbers are steady from previous years across the various events. Early attendance numbers show strong days during the first four days but there was a strong decline during the 6-day carnival festival.
- Board member Suing suggested getting the TV stations on board to give more free press/live interviews.

**Other business:** none

#### **Communication from the public** (5 minute limit per person)

- Karen Wobig: Great experience with the Clover Café and the youth that are working it during fair. Continue to love to see the growth in kids going outside of their comfort zone.
- Roma Amundson: Suggest working on marketing the final 6 days better and finding events that will bring people here.

Moved by Swanson and seconded by Messick to adjourn at 9:41 PM. The motion was approved 7-0 with Dowding and Ronnau absent and not voting.

Respectfully submitted by:  
Jamie Bauman- LCAS Secretary

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Secretary Bauman

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Acting President Swanson

Next meeting: October 18, 2018 at 7:30 PM