

po box 513 • Greenville, MI 48838

Montcalm County Fair Association Board Meeting

9 January 2023

Montcalm County Fairgrounds, Greenville, MI

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Todd Hetherington and the Pledge of Allegiance and 4-H Pledge were recited.

Board members present:

Officers: President Todd Hetherington, 1st Vice President Jason Nadeau, 2nd Vice President Becka Merren, Treasurer Lisa Johnson, and Secretary Tammi Jahnke

Directors: Brad Heft, Doug Jackson, Amber Ryan, Amanda Wall, Joe Minkel, Shirley Dean, Tom Aldridge, and Sunni Haglund.

Directors Absent: Shaun Hyde, and Danny Ryan.

Others present were:

Katie Johnson – Rental Coordinator

Pending – MSUE PC (to be filled January 23, 2023 by Sunni Haglund)

Guests: Jackie Nadeau, Tammy Hancock, Mary Gee, Serena Newman, Melissa Eldridge, Rory Eldridge, Carter Senn, Jennifer Senn, Nikole Chapin, Bo Stephenson, Michelle Nitengale, and Cory Wall

Secretary Minutes from 5 December 2022 presented by Tammi Jahnke. Motion to approve made by Jason Nadeau. Second by Sunni Haglund. Motion passed to place minutes on file.

Financials presented through the end of November 2022 by Treasurer Lisa Johnson. Motion to approve financials through the end of November 2022 by Jason Nadeau. Second by Doug Jackson. Motion passed to place financials on file.

Amanda Wall asked Lisa Johnson about the money in the MCFA Horse Rental Checking Account belonging to MCFA being used to pay off loans. Lisa explained about keeping a reserve for expenses and the fact said loans have very low interest rates. Shirley Dean volunteered to look at it with the Budget/Audit Committee to review the feasibility of whether paying off any of the 3 loans MCFA currently has would be beneficial at this time.

**Guest Comments**

* None

**Extension Office**:

* Still awaiting Program Coordinator to begin on the 23rd of January 2023. When asked if serving on the MCFA Board of Directors is a conflict, Sunni Haglund advised that she is waiting on confirmation from MSUE whether a conflict of interest exists or not regarding her position on MCFA Board, and that she believes she has found someone to replace her as the Poultry Superintendent.
* 4-H CCC did not have enough attendance at last meeting due to illness and holidays, but shared that they are challenging the clubs to do the DeVos Children’s Hospital collection again. More information to come through the Extension Office and 4-H CCC Facebook pages.

**Executive Committee**:

* Executive Committee met. Reports to be discussed with Budget Audit Committee reports below.

**Budget & Audit Committee**:

* Budget & Audit Committee conducted an audit of the MCFAAC financial reports, minutes and bank statements. A report was provided by the committee with recommendations to the Board of Directors. Motion made by Shirley, second by Sunni Haglund to open discussion. Discussion opened. Shirley clarified it is the Budget & Audit Committee’s position that MCFA Treasurer does not have to be a signatory on the MCFAAC accounts and that the MCFAAC can still keep their separate PO Box, however, the MCFA Treasurer does need to be added as having access to all MCFAAC accounts for the purpose of reviewing transactions and bank statements according the Bylaws of MCFA.
* Shirley Dean made a motion to approve the Budget & Audit recommendations to the Board of Directors that, pursuant to the MCFA Bylaws, the MCFA Treasurer be added to the MCFAAC accounts with Huntington and Independent Bank so that the MCFA Treasurer has access to both accounts to verify transactions and bank statements and that MCFAAC bank accounts reflect the address of PO Box 513 Greenville, Michigan 48838 for mailing purposes by the 1st of March 2023. Support by Amber Ryan. Motion carried. Amanda Wall only member opposed. Lisa Johnson abstained.

**Bylaws Committee:**

* Did not meet. Scheduled to meet Wednesday, January 18, 2023.

**Buildings, Grounds, Camping & Construction Committee**:

* March 1, 2023 Camping Reservations will open online per Jennifer Senn.
* Upon reviewing the increase in electricity costs, Becka Merren made a motion to increase campsites fees to $200 for water/electric and leave the rustic sites at $100 for the week of fair. Support by Shirley Dean. Motion passed. Amanda Wall only member opposed.

**Rental Committee**:

* Katie Johnson reported on the rental activities to date for the month of December 2022. Six holiday parties in December 2022 rented the facilities. All except one have rebooked for 2023. Inquiries have picked up. Horse shows are starting to inquire and book for 2023.
* Michelle Nitengale and Bo Stephenson presented the Inventory for 4-H Advisory Council and Lion’s Club as requested.

**Judges Committee**:

* Amanda Wall advised that they would meet tonight and set dates to meet.

**Livestock/Agriculture/Bio-Security/MCFAAC Committees:**

* Minutes were provided by Committee.

**Concessions, Commercial Exhibits & Grandstand Committees**:

* Committee met and are revising areas of the contracts.
* Mapping out our electric options.
* Exploring rental rates.
* Will have more information after attending the upcoming MAFE Convention.

**Fairbook & Showorks Committees:**

* Fairbook is done and online.
* Showorks renewal is due mid-February 2023

**Awards/Trophies Committees**:

* Did not meet.

**Marketing, Fundraising, Website & Communications Committee**:

* Committee is scheduled to meet January 17, 2023.
* Joe presented additional website quotes.

**Accessibility Committee:**

* Has not met

**Youth, Family & Community Committee (aka Events Outside of Fair):**

* Will be searching for ideas at MAFE Convention.

**Old Business**:

* Todd Hetherington will be meeting with Peasley to look at the trailer being offered.
* Gates for Security. Tabled to February 2023 Meeting for further discussion.

**New Business**:

* Lisa Johnson moved to approve MCFA Committees chairpersons with a minimum of 2 members on each committee for 2022-23 per Bylaws, Jason Nadeau supported. Motion passed by vote of Executive Committee Members unanimously.
* Lisa Johnson emailed the MAFE link to those attending. Can still get badges if anyone additional wishes to attend.
* Jason asked if we had an existing contract with Jim Trolard. Todd Hetherington advised it has expired but being negotiated. Lisa Johnson advised she has been contacted by Mini-mods for 2023.

Motion made by Jason Nadeau to adjourn. Support by Doug. Meeting adjourned at 8:49 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Tammi Jahnke, Secretary

Next Meeting Dates:

Regular Meeting – 6 February 2023 at 7:00 PM

At Ash Building, Montcalm County Fairgrounds,

Greenville, Michigan

ALL Fair Committee Members and interested 4-H Volunteers/Members

are invited to attend.