



Montcalm County Fair Association Board Meeting
6 November 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, Shaun Hyde, Amber Ryan, Joe Minkel, Tom Aldridge, and Sunni Haglund. Also present, newly elected Directors: Tammy Hancock and Jamison German.

Directors Absent:
Shirley Dean and Dan Ryan

Others present were:
Katie Johnson – Rental Coordinator
Sunni Haglund – MSUE PC

Guests: Jackie Nadeau, Christa Roy, Mary Gee, Nikki Chaffin, Michelle Nitengale, Bob Nadeau, and Melissa Williams

Installation of two new and three returning Fair Board Directors for a 3-year term ending 2026 was performed (Tammy Hancock, Jamison German, Jason Nadeau, Brad Heft, and Amber Ryan, respectively).

The election of officers was then addressed for the 2023-2024 year by anonymous nominations:

President Nominations:

Todd Hetherington only nominee

No additional nominations were presented.

Move to close and cast unanimous ballot by Sunni Haglund. 2nd by Jason Nadeau. Motion passed.

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Jason Nadeau (1st VP) called for the vote.

1st VP Nominations:

Jason Nadeau, Brad Heft, Becka Merren and Joe Minkel
Todd Hetherington called for the vote.

2nd VP Nominations:

Joe Minkel, Becka Merren, and Brad Heft
Todd Hetherington called for the vote.

Secretary Nominations:

Tammi Jahnke
No additional nominations presented
Move to close and cast unanimous ballot by Becka Merren, 2nd by Joe Minkel.

Treasurer Nominations:

Lisa Johnson
No additional nominations presented
Move to close and cast unanimous ballot by Tammi Jahnke, 2nd by Jason Nadeau.

Motion to close approve Election results by Jason Nadeau, 2nd by Becka Merren. Motion passes.

The following were appointed to the Executive Board for 2023-2024:

Todd Hetherington, MCFA President
Jason Nadeau, MCFA 1st VP
Brad Heft, 2nd VP
Tammi Jahnke, MCFA Secretary
Lisa Johnson, MCFA Treasurer

Sign – up sheet for 2023-2024 Committees. Tammi Jahnke and Jackie Nadeau to update and provide copies to directors.

Lisa Johnson advised that MAFE Convention has been scheduled for January 11-14, 2024. Fees are \$80 for a fair board member (MCFA covers cost), additional \$65 for spouse to attend. Also, a \$40 one-day pass available. Additional information at MiFairs.com. Need to know by 15 November 2023 to register those interested in attending. Tammi Jahnke made a motion that MCFA pay for individual's badge (and spouses) and reimburse parking of those attending the convention. Second by Becka Merren. Motion passed.

Motion by Tammi Jahnke to vacate the position of Dan Ryan due to absenteeism in accordance with the current Bylaws, and further that the Directors meet to discuss

filling this position at 6:30pm prior to the December 2023 meeting. Second by Jason Nadeau. Motion passed.

Secretary Minutes from October 2023 presented by Tammi Jahnke. Motion to approve made by Sunni Haglund. Second by Jason Nadeau. Motion passed to place minutes on file.

Financials presented through the end of the fiscal year at the Annual Meeting and were approved to place on file. No report required at this meeting.

Guest Comments

- None.

Extension Office:

- Sunni Haglund shared that she has been advised that it is up to the fair to decide whether or not a post- and pre-fair meeting of leaders should be mandatory/required and that she as MSUE 4-H PC can provide support for it. It was unanimously agreed that this issue needs to be revisited by the Directors in February 2024 and placed on the February 2024 agenda.
- 4-H CCC - Challenges are being sent out monthly to 4-H Clubs. If Directors and/or MCFA members have ideas for these challenges to the youth, please contact Sunni Haglund and/or Tammi Jahnke.

Executive Committee:

- Did not meet.

Budget & Audit Committee:

- Did not meet.
- Tammi will email committee and get November 2023 date set to begin annual audit of all financial accounts.

Bylaws/Policies and Procedures:

- Did not meet. Chairperson resigned.
- Sunni Haglund would like to see a policy for committees requesting funds to replace or repair barns, etc. Sunni Haglund made a motion to have committee review and bring proposal back to the board. Lisa Johnson second. Motion passed. Tammi Jahnke will contact committee members to schedule a meeting to address this.

Buildings, Grounds, Camping & Construction Committee:

- Bleacher repairs to begin in Spring 2024.
- Russell's is coming next week (November 13) to winterize bathhouse. Remainder of fairgrounds water lines are winterized per Todd Hetherington.

- Michelle Nitengale and Mary Gee brought to the board’s attention that the roof on beef barn on the beef side is leaking and needs attention as soon as possible. Todd Hetherington to investigate and address.

Rental Committee:

- Katie Johnson reported on the rental activities to date for the month of October 2023: 4 weddings, United Way event, Plank Memorial Classic, all went well, one signed contract October 2024 (only one weekend in October 2024 remains available for rentals). November 2023 will be a slower month, where Katie Johnson and Brad Heft will work to reorganize Ash Building storage areas. December 2023 has a lot of back-to-back Christmas parties booked. Katie Johnson asked for more help with the website and Facebook page posting information and events.

Judges:

- Committee needs a new chairperson. Tammi to call remaining committee members and verify their participation.
- Tammy Hancock brought up record book judges should receive a parking pass, so that they do not have to pay in the future. Lisa Johnson advised that that should already be occurring, or they need to see Lisa for reimbursement is they are charged.

Livestock/Agriculture/Bio-Security/MCFAAC:

- No bio-security report per Shaun Hyde.
- Tammy Hancock made a motion to send the Bylaws of MCFAAC back to the MCFAAC Committee to be revised as “Policies and Procedures” pursuant to MCFA Bylaws, Policies and Procedures, and Roberts Rules of Order. Jason Nadeau second. Michelle Nitengale requested that at least 2 directors attend the MCFAAC November 2023 Meeting to discuss this. Motion passed.

Concessions, Commercial Exhibits & Grandstand Events:

- Did not meet.

Fairbook & Showworks

- Michelle Nitengale presented the following list of items that have changed in fair book for approval:
 1. Date of Goat Market/Showmanship show to Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. in the livestock arena
 2. Cleaned up some poultry areas to make consistent
 3. Dogs revised and reordered their section
 4. Goats revised some rules
 5. Horses added a Stall Fee
 6. Renumbered and reordered the sections to better work with Showworks
 7. Added mixed breed for Cavies and Rabbits

8. Changed that youth have 1 hour (was 2 hours) after species show to drop from auction
9. Revised schedule back to 2022 order - Still Exhibit judging on Saturday. Council voted to keep still exhibit auction on Sunday evening.

Tammi Jahnke made a motion to approve all of the above except for number 5. Horses added a Stall Fee and recommended that the Stall Fee issue be sent back to the 4-H Horse Committee to get clarification on why they wish a Stall Fee to be charges, who would receive the Stall Fee (MCFA or 4-H), and how they wish it to be utilized. Second by Jason Nadeau. Motion passed. Amber Ryan stated she would go to the next 4-H Horse Committee Meeting and get clarification.

- Michelle Nitengale is still waiting on the following information to bring to the Directors for approval for the fair book:
 - List of rabbit breeds with intermediate classes
 - Researching prospect beef class - where youth bring a feeder one year then return the next with same animal as a market beef. MCFAAC voted to add, but still working on wording.
- Directors to review Fair Book changes/additions again at the December 2023 meeting.
- Reminder: December 19, 2023 is first beef weigh-in 2pm to 4pm in fair book.

Awards/Trophies:

- Did not meet.

Marketing/Fundraising/Website/Communications Committee:

- Jackie Nadeau requested approval to complete the application for the liquor license for the Mega Raffle Event. Lisa Johnson moved to approve application, Sunni Haglund second. Motion passed.
- Jackie Nadeau presented proposal for 2024 Sponsorships rates. Tammi Jahnke made motion to approve. Jason Nadeau second. Motion passed.
- Jackie Nadeau advised that \$11,041 from Haunted Barn was collected. Expenses will be presented at December 2023 meeting to review profitability.
- Sunni Haglund made a suggestion that during fair week we solicit a college student to assist as a non-paid intern to assist with marketing the fair.

Accessibility Committee:

- A meeting has been scheduled in November 2023.

Kids Day (Youth, Family & Community) Committee:

- Have not met.

Old Business:

- Grant – a copy of the grant for ADA improvements to grandstand, livestock area, parking area, etc. has been received by Todd Hetherington and forwarded to Tammi Jahnke to be place on file.

New Business:

- None.

Motion made by Sunni Haglund to adjourn. Support by Jason Nadeau. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Tammi Jahnke, Secretary

Next Meeting Dates:

Regular Meeting – 4 December 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.

Fair Dates – June 23rd through June 29th 2024