



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, January 18, 2018 at 7:00pm

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

Board members present were Bauman, Cooper, Dowding, Rawlinson, Ronnau, Rutt, Swanson, and Suing, with Messick being absent.

The minutes from the December regular meeting were approved as corrected by board. (Correction: Legal Counsel name was misspelled. Corrected to Alan Wood.) Minutes from the December annual meeting were approved.

Moved by Ronnau and seconded by Suing to approve the November financials. The motion was approved 8-0 with Messick absent and not voting. Moved by Bauman and seconded Rawlinson to approve the December financials. The motion was approved 8-0 with Messick absent and not voting. It was moved by Dowding and seconded by Suing to approve the paying of the checks in the amount of \$188,375.90. The motion was approved 8-0 with Messick absent and not voting. The Aging Summary was presented for information.

It was moved by Ronnau and seconded by Cooper to amend the FY16 year end Profit and Loss presented at December Annual Meeting with revised adjustments more accurately reflecting non-operating activity. The motion was approved 8-0 with Messick absent and not voting.

Officer and Committee reports

Vice President (Ronnau) gave an update on the Super Fair horse shows. Most everything is getting worked out with the new fair schedule. It was agreed upon with Equine Program Extension staff and VIPS horse show 4-H clubs that we will offer ambulance service during the public fair dates Aug 2-5, but for horse shows before and after we will use 911 to call for medical assistance if needed. Mutton busting will need to be in P3 due to the horse show not being completed in P4 in time on Thursday (moved from Monday last year). Managing Director Dickerson and Board members Ronnau, Dowding and Swanson gave an update on NHSFR VPC grant construction project to the Lancaster County Commissioners on January 4th. It is encouraged that we continue to do the update quarterly as the Commissioners had good questions and power point went well.

Communication from the Public

It was moved by Dowding and seconded by Rawlinson to move agenda item #14 – Communication from Public – up to #8 on the agenda. The motion was approved 8-0 with Messick absent and not voting.

Rod Hollman spoke to address his concern about discontinuing the open class livestock shows and possible ways to help improve the premium auction. VP Ronnau reminded us all that the LCAS isn't looking to completely do away with the open livestock shows, but take a year to step back and look at ways to reorganize to make it better at future fairs or find other ways to host these important events. Mr. Hollman mentioned his willingness to help coordinate future conversations and reorganization efforts. The premium auction feedback was around finding funding so more youth can participate. Ron Dowding and John Cooper are going to talk with Livestock Shows Lead Jay Wilkinson on ideas on how to approve.

Karen Wobig from Lancaster County Extension said 4-H staff have been working on several Lancaster Super Fair documents and there were inquiries on who they should be sent to for review since they would not be ready in time for the board meeting this year. The Ag Society asked for the fair book drafts to be sent to Super Fair Manager Amy Dickerson at the Lancaster Event Center and she would make sure board members had a chance to review between board meetings. VP Ronnau asked if we would be able to add a comment about the open show at the fair not being permanently gone and that the LCAS is seeking feedback on how to make them better in the Nebline as well as mention the Fair Volunteer Days on Mon/Tues before the Fair. Karen thought it would be ok and would check.

Designate JPA members

It was moved by Cooper and Seconded by Rutt to continue with the current JPA board members: Kendra Ronnau, Ron Suing, and Jim Swanson for the 2018 year. The motion was approved 8-0 with Messick absent and not voting.

2018 Fair Update

Fair Manager Dickerson gave an update on fair schedule changes. No more free admittance days this year because there are no more slow days with the 4 day fair where we need to encourage attendance as in the past. Select attractions will open Wednesday night for FFA/4-H before they all get super busy with shows on Thursday. It was discussed to change the prizes from plaques to buttons or hats for the hay hauling contest. This is a better idea because of the diversity in ages/gender of the Hay Hauling teams. Changes to 2018 fair schedule:

- a. Thursday
 - Mutton Busting, 6 pm, will be in P3
 - VIP luncheon still 11:30-1:00pm
- b. Friday
 - Figure 8 Races
 - No change: Watermelon feed 4:30pm followed by chicken dinner at 5:30pm
- c. Saturday
 - Demo Derby
- d. Sunday
 - Afternoon have equipment rodeo in outdoor arena (instead of 2nd Sat, Ex Hall lot last two years)

- Car Show also on Sun, now in outdoor arena lot next to Equipment Rodeo – Only one trophy per car. Add a class for pedal cars.
 - Big Wheel and Pedal Tractor Pull no change
 - Hay Hauling in P4 no change
 - Livestock move out 7pm no change
- e. New Attractions
- Reptiles are new main attraction
 - New parakeet experience inside trailer (from A to Z)
 - Motorsports arena now sponsored by Gana
 - Bingo is back in MPA
 - Open Quilts, Photography now in Lancaster Room
- f. Entertainment stage
- Keep show times/acts similar as last year

Managing Director/Event Center report (Dickerson)

There has been concern with almost half of the money from the CVB grant coming during the first year of the NSHFR in 2020 and after. Questions were raised as to how this will impact construction time and cost. We will be setting up a meeting with West Gate Bank to front part of the funds so we can be more efficient and complete construction sooner. Dickerson has looked into self performing the electric. We have a highly professional and experienced master electrician that will take on the project and will save us a significant amount of money.

It was moved by Cooper and Seconded by Rawlinson to form a subcommittee for phase three construction consisting of Ron Dowding, Tom Messick, Jennifer Rawlinson, Kendra Ronnau, and Ron Suing, with only 4 of the 5 being present at any given subcommittee meeting. The motion was approved 8-0 with Messick absent and not voting.

It was moved by Suing and seconded by Rawlinson to authorize President Dowding to sign Hampton pre-construction contract for NHSFR CVB grant improvements as long as our legal counsel Tom Huston recommends. The motion was approved 8-0 with Messick absent and not voting.

Other Business: none

The meeting adjourned at 9:39PM
 Respectfully submitted by:
 Jamie Bauman- LCAS Secretary

Secretary

President

Next Meeting: February 15, 2018 at 7:00pm