

CUSTER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Regular Board Meeting

August 8, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM at the Shooting Sports Building by President Kent Nelson. President Nelson informed those present of the location and availability of the Nebraska Open Meeting Act publication. The meeting notification and agenda were posted in advance at the Custer County Courthouse.

Members present were Becky Pearson, Kent Nelson, Ron Chytka, Ira Spanel, Sonya Atkins, Travis Schauda and Marla Stallbaumer. Members absent were Shane Ryan & Shawn Lehmkuhler.

Others present were Michelle Nelson, JJ Martin, Mona Weatherly, Deb Haumont, Troy Walz, Emily Barnett and son and Rebekah w/ Connie Ulmer Accounting.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from the July 11, 2019 meeting were reviewed. It was noted by Weatherly that her name was spelled incorrectly. Siting the correction, Chytka made a motion to approve. Spanel seconded the motion. Roll call vote:

Voting Yes: Schauda, Spanel, Atkins, Stallbaumer, Chytka, Pearson & Nelson.

Voting No: None

Absent: Lehmkuhler & Ryan

Financial Report:

Treasurer Chytka presented the financial report. Following are the account balances in the various accounts July 31, 2019.

Events Acct:	\$9,248.06	High School Rodeo Acct:	\$1,541.34
Livestock Acct:	\$21,453.03	Capital Fund:	\$13,973.32
Memorial Funds:	\$1,085.06	General Fund:	\$41,435.93
Storm Damage:	\$211,220.87	Savings Acct:	11,064.00

Schauda made a motion to pay the bills. Chytka seconded. Roll call vote:

Voting Yes: Schauda, Spanel, Atkins, Stallbaumer, Chytka, Pearson & Nelson.

Voting No: None

Absent: Lehmkuhler & Ryan

Budget Discussion:

Rebekah presented the budget that Connie Ulmer Accounting has put together based on the trends over the past five years. It shows a deficit of \$21,350. Rebekah explained that the numbers could be adjusted as the board sees fit to be approved and submitted to the state. She also noted that the numbers could change should the County Supervisors approve our additional request. The Supervisors will meet August 27th at 9:45 am. Another area of concern is the money set aside as storm damage funds. Should more improvements be made and money be pulled out of that account it will negatively impact the budget. After many questions to Rebecca about more detailed explanation of spending accounts, it was determined that not everyone was looking at the same numbers. Rebekah will email out the correct budget she has put together to all board

members Friday, August 9th. The Ag Society members will all review and voice areas that they feel can/should be adjusted via email. Also brainstorm ideas to generate income. Should that avenue not produce any results there will be a workshop August 16th. It was determined that to get the budget posted properly it needs to be submitted to the Custer County Chief by noon on August 26th.

Extension Report:

Troy thanked JJ & Michelle for their help during fair. He presented a sale summary showing \$237,015.85 was brought in. There is just over \$41,000 that they are waiting on. There was one suggestion in the suggestion box at fair which was from Amy Tharp to bring back the carnival. Troy also had requests for extra trash cans and water access at both ends of the new barn, as well as a dry "river" bed at all hydrants to keep the mud hole down.

4-H Council:

No report.

Fair Recap:

If Josh Call does provide entertainment on Tuesday of fair next year, he will need to provide his own ticket takers.

The mounted shooting went long as it was roughly four hours.

Nelson noted that the cedar fiber rule in the premium book should be addressed and wasn't sure if that was an Ag Society rule or livestock committee. Troy wasn't sure either. The hog gates will need attention in the future as some of the springs are wearing out. Noted that Michelle could have sold more camper stalls had they been available.

2020 Fair Date

Schauda made a motion to set the fair dates for July 24-30, 2020. Pearson seconded. Roll call vote:

Voting Yes: Schauda, Spanel, Atkins, Stallbaumer, Chytka, Pearson & Nelson.

Voting No: None

Absent: Lehmkuhler & Ryan

Grounds Report:

There are some invoices from Mead Lumber that JJ needs to clarify for the correct accounting. Much of which was lumber for the grandstands to replace boards. They also painted to get ready for fair and replaced the motor for the fan in the rabbit barn. The fairgrounds have been cleaned up from fair, with the exception of Barn #2. The girls will be going back to school, so JJ will lose their help, and he just hired George as there are numerous events coming up.

Events Coordinator:

Michelle presented board members with a list of past and upcoming events.

Michelle asked if bringing a beer garden to fair would be an option to generate more income for the Ag Society. There was some discussion as in the past it has been brought up but was met with resistance from the community.

Spanel noted that Levi Olson will be putting on a beer garden at the Truck & Trailer Showdown Aug. 16-18. Olson will give the Ag Society 10% of the beer garden proceeds. The only cost incurred by the Ag Society will be \$300 for pool tables and the cost to have Kyle Stringham set up the video from the arena. Michelle asked if there would be issues if the event had to be moved indoors. Spanel did not think there would be.

It was also brought up that bringing the carnival back to the fair may be something to look into.

Other Concerns:

Time to get started working on Mid-States. Questions about tarp placement and possibly putting up some hand rails in the grandstands.

Bergrenn was to call Michelle regarding starting on restrooms but had not as of meeting time.

Michelle noted the "Shout out" to the CCF Crew that an individual posted on the Chamber Facebook page complimenting the fairgrounds crew for having the grounds presented so well during fair.

Stallbaumer brought up that she would like to see barns #9 (open air) and #10 (show ring) padlocked during equine events. There is no reason for horses to be in those two areas.

Schauda made a motion at 8:57 pm to adjourn. Spanel seconded. Roll call vote:

Voting Yes: Schauda, Spanel, Atkins, Stallbaumer, Chytka, Pearson & Nelson.

Voting No: None

Absent: Lehmkuhler & Ryan