**Hancock County Ag Association Minutes**

**January 15, 2023**

Present: Mike Elsbury, Barb Pescitelli, Mike Manship, Rachelle Kihlstrum, Wyneta Duncan, Holly Plank, Jesse Melton, Lauren Conway, David Wildman, Lloyd Arthur and Chrissy Paxton

Absent: Nicole Mann

Meeting called to order.

Guests:

1. Tyler Deutsch – Eagle Scout project. He would like to landscape around the Llama barn and showed the board diagrams and budget. He is estimating it would be $2,720, with the project beginning late March, early April and finishing up late April early May. Lloyd motions to allow Tyler to continue getting approval to move forward with his project, Jesse seconded – Motion Carries
2. Rylee Grinstead – Cool Cart. Rylee told the board that the Cool Cart was a big success and that they raised $1,000 to support their 4H club. They would like to have the Cool Cart again at the 2023 fair. Holly motioned to allow the Cool Cart for the 2023 fair, Chrissy seconded – Motion Carries.
3. Emily Meckle – Possibilities Program. She would like to start a Possibilities Program for the 2023 fair. This program would be for ages 4-22 and would be for those children with special needs who cannot join regular 4H but would like to show an animal. The estimated cost will be $3,000 to $4,000 and there would be a committee set up to oversee the program. Holly motioned to have the Possibilities Program for the 2023 fair, Lloyd seconded – Motion Carries.
4. Michelle Hasty – Queen Contest – Michelle informed the board the Claire Bishop was chosen for the 2023 Miss Indiana State Fair Queen and that there will be a Meet and Greet Open House on 2/12/23, 3 to 5 pm at Ninestar. They would like to host again the Royal Reception in the Exhibit hall the Thursday of the fair from 9 – 10 am. Chrissy motioned to have the Royal Reception for the 2023 fair, Jesse seconded – Motion Carries.
5. Kim Dawson – Hancock County Mini 4H Princess Pageant – For 2023 she would like to have a contest that would allow any girl in mini 4H to participate and it would be at no cost to the Ag Association. Chrissy motioned to have the Hancock County Mini 4H Princess Pageant for the 2023 fair, Jesse seconded – Motion Carries.
6. Greg Hochstedler – Koening – Koening would like to supply the 2023 fair with 2 – 4 seat gators, 2 – 2 seat gators, 1 track skid steer with bucket and forks, 1 five series tractor and for the driving competitions 2 garden tractors with 54 inch decks, 2 zero turn 700 series mowers with 60 inch decks and 2 tractors 4000 series. They would like to supply the equipment in return for being able to put up sponsorship signs. Greg will get with Keving Quick to get the names and phone numbers for the tractors for tractor maintenance competition superintendents to make sure they have the tractors they need; Kevin Quick the superintendent of the compact tractor has talked with Greg and their needs are being met. Jesse motioned to accept the offer; Lloyd seconded – Motion Carries.
7. Kevin Quick – Pioneer Building – The Historical Society would like to move out of the cabin as they are not getting much foot traffic and move into the Pioneer Building. The Pioneer Building committee would like to put a cement pad in the building for the Historical Society to set up, and they would like to look at bids to get this done. Chrissy motioned to allow the Pioneer Building Committee to get quotes, Rachelle seconded – Motion Carries. Kevin would like before the fair that the fans above the stage be replaced and wanted to remind whoever will be setting up the fair that the exit signs in their building will need to be checked because they usually need the batteries replaced. He also wanted to let us know that he would be placing an order for sarsaparilla by mid-March.
8. Debbie Vansickle – Youth Sheet Expo – She would like a contract for 2 years and it be hosted at the fairgrounds on July 26-30th 2023 and July 24-28th 2024. They will be charging a pin fee since clean-up has been an issue, she would like her and Lloyd Arthur to meet and discuss a discounted rate as they would like to add 2 scholarships so that it may qualify as a youth event, they will provide the roll offs. Holly motioned to start contract discussions with YSE, Chrissy seconded – Motion Carries.

End of Guests

Meeting Minutes from December – Jesse motioned to accept the meeting minutes; Rachelle seconded – Motion Carries.

Financials – There is 367,477.00 in our accounts and we had $3,900 in income and $5,865 in expenses for the month of December. YTD $6,604 in income and $6,815 in expenses. Rachelle motions to accept the financials, Chrissy seconded – Motion Carries.

Employee Search – Rob Barnhart has interviewed with several board members, and an offer would like to be given. With a start date of March 1st, 2023 and a salary of $65,000 a year. Llyod motions to extend the offer to Rob Barnhart, Jesse seconded – Motion Carries.

Attorney Search – Mike Elsbury has told us that it is not going well and if anyone has any recommendations to please pass them along.

Food Vendor and Commercial Building Contracts for the 2023 fair – the contracts have been updated and would like to know if the Commercial Building should close at 9 pm as the commercial vendors do not see much foot traffic after that. Chrissy motioned to close the Commercial Building at 9 pm, Wyneta seconded – Motion Carries.

Hall of Fame Committee – The committee consist of Wyneta Duncan, Chair, Holly Plank, Lauren Conrad, Debbie Vansickle and Rachelle Kihlsrum – This committee is set up to recognize those who have been a big part of 4H in Hancock County. A letter would go out by or web page, social media and email with a return date of February 6th, for nominations from the membership, with the idea that the names would go up permanently somewhere on the fairgrounds. Chrissy moved that we send out the letter, Lloyd seconded – Motion Carries.

Buildings and Grounds –

1. Barb told us about the meeting she and Mike had with Nick Dezelan from the City of Greenfield, about the Lift Station they would like to put on the property on the north side. It appears to not be a benefit for us to allow them to do that and Barb sent a letter to Nick to let him know that and he responded that he understood and would get with the City Engineers let us know if they have anything further. Lloyd motioned we wait until we hear back from them before making any more decision, Jesse seconded – Motion Carries.
2. Building and Grounds would like to have a day where we do inventory of the facilities and clean up, thinking the first of April. We also need to do the inventory for the buildings to figure out insurance pricing. Lloyd motioned that we get the insurance company to come out and walk the buildings to give us an updated pricing, Holley seconded – Motion Carries.

Purdue Update – Mike Elsbury told the board he is still waiting on confirmation of when we will meet with Dr. Casey Mull and the Purdue Lawyer, they are requesting a small group meet. Mike will let us know when the meeting takes place and what comes of it.

New Business – None

Old Business – None

Working meeting with take place on February 6.

Next month’s Board meeting with be February 20.

Jesse motioned to adjourn, Holly seconded – Meeting Adjourned.

**APPROVED – 2/20/2023**