

Hancock Co. Ag Association Meeting Minutes

Hancock Co. Fairgrounds, Sarah Burke Exhibit Hall

Monday, January 15th – 6:30 pm

Attendance: David Wildman, Mike Elsbury, Lauren Conway, Jesse Melton, Debbie Vansickle, Mike Manship, Holly Plank, Holly Williams, Brooke Greene, Penny Hunt; ExOfficio - Rob Barnhart and Amber Barks. Absent - Matt Joyce

Meeting was called to order. Minutes from the November meeting were presented. Holly Plank moved to approve the minutes and Mike Manship seconded. Motion carried.

Financials for the association were presented by Mike Manship. The Phyllis Kingen Memorial- Pioneer Building has deposited \$425 in December with \$525 additional in January. There was a question about a loan to the Poultry Club that borrowed money to buy cages. The intention was for them to pay back the loan through fundraisers. It was stated that the leadership has changed for the club since that was implemented and the new leadership may not know about the loan. Holly Plank will send email to find out about status of that. Jesse Melton moved to approve the financials as presented and Penny Hunt seconded. Motion passed.

Business that was conducted –

- Fairgrounds update: Rob Barnhart

- The shop building was moved after Christmas. Appreciated all the help.
- Bleachers – No update
- Commercial Kitchen – The remodel is done in Ringside Café and the floors waxed in the Exhibit Hall kitchen
- The Holiday Lighting was a hit and received a lot of good feedback

- 4-H Updates: Amber Barks

- Parade theme – suggestion given was “The Art of Nature of Fun”. Holly Plank moved to use this theme for this year’s parade; Penny Hunt seconded. Motion carried.
- Amber asked for up to \$3500 for youth to go to Roundup and Academy. She stated that youth going make a \$40 deposit and the remaining fee she tries to get funded. David Wildman moved to give up to \$3500 for trips as well as if a 4-H’er could not pay the \$40, we absorb it. Holly Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Jack Wesley is giving out 2 scholarships in honor of his son Bud Wesley. Scholarship applications are on website
- Purdue is making it mandatory to do Fair Entry in order to exhibit at the fair. It has to be done by May 15th deadline. Otherwise they just receive a participation ribbon.
- We currently have 502 4-H’ers enrolled

- Possibilities Program: Emily Meckel

Emily stated that they had a great turn out last year. There were 29 participants with hopes of 50 for this year. She stated there is an interest to include more species including swine, alpaca and llamas this year. She would like to continue to use the West Arena and has talked to Jesse Melton about it. There is more room to do what they need to do in that building. Along with the expansion of species in the program, Emily wants to invite county organizations such as Special Olympics to have a 10 x 10 tent that day to provide additional resources for participants parents. They would be set up on the east side of the West Arena. She requested to have the show on Thursday, June 27th, starting at 10 am, allowing 2 hours for the show (requesting the building from 9 am – 1 pm). Jesse Melton made a motion to give the time slot requested for the Poss – Abilities program and vendors located on east side of building at no charge. Lauren Conway seconded. Motion approved.

- Memorial Presentation made by the Country Kritters 4-H Club

Sophie Wagner from the Country Kritters made crosses in memory of Evan Neumeister and Lindsay Locker, 4-H'ers that passed away this fall. She asked for permission to put them on the fairgrounds. Penny Hunt moved for Sophie to work with Rob Barnhart to find an appropriate place for the crosses. Jesse Melton seconded. Motion passed.

- Hall of Fame Committee: Debbie Vansickle and others – No report

- Fundraising: Lauren Conway and Penny Hunt

- The online auction raised \$9300. Thank yous for donations have been sent. The auction exceeded expectations. Thanks was given for Penny and Lauren's efforts. Those that bought items asked if this would be an annual event. Question was also raised about doing a Consignment Auction.
- The "Flags" donation for the West Commons building was a part of the auction – 5 were purchased through the auction
- Other fundraising ideas that were suggested was to sell T-shirts
- The Koenig gift card that was donated for \$375 by Mike Elsbury to be used for mower maintenance. Holly Plank moved to reimburse Mike Elsbury for purchasing the card during the auction. Seconded by Jesse Melton and motion carried.

- Tourism: Holly Plank = no report

- West Commons Building: Jesse Melton

- The pad is prepared for concrete. The state has approved permit and the city has approved the first part of building of the building. The city needs a site plan before they will permit the second part.
- Custom Metals had a year end deal on the metal that is needed for the building for half price. Jesse Melton moved to approve \$1629 for the purchase of the building; Penny Hunt seconded. Motion passed.
- Additional funding approval – Jesse Melton to approved purchasing 7 doors for the building at \$11,212.77. Holly Plank seconded. Motion carried.
- Jesse Melton is working on a contractor's quote from Menards for windows. Penny Hunt moved to approve up to \$3000 for the windows, Lauren Conway seconded. Motion passed.

- Lift Station: Mike Elsbury

- We need to schedule a meeting to request our property trade request with the city. Mike will get with Gregg Morelock to get a date.

- Fair Planning: Everyone

- Holly Plank reported that Brooke Greene is taking over the schedule of fair events and getting activities on the schedule. Currently June 19th is scheduled for the Country Vendor Fair.
- Penny Hunt is chairman of the Commercial and Food Vendors for the fair.
- Holly Plank and Brooke Greene met with the carnival re: food vendors that are associated with the carnival. The Ice Cream vendor we already have is acceptable for our contract. Holly Plank is working with them to get a layout of the carnival set up in the space we usually have the carnival.
- Holly Plank asked what we as a board need to do to help with the Exhibit Hall. Amber Barks stated Rachelle Kihlstrum is going to continue during the Exhibit Hall oversight.
- Holly Plank is working with Brooke on the overall fair schedule. She is working to get Stella Luna concert for Tuesday June 25th.
- Debbie Vansickle reported on Walker County. Trying to get everything solidified for Friday, June 28th.
- Lloyd Arthur reported he had contacted some different events to be held in the Multipurpose Area. He contacted for the following: June 23rd - Tractor Pull Ntpha regional - \$15,000. He suggestion selling ticket for \$20.

June 24th or 25th Horse Pull \$5000

June 26th Rodeo and 27th – Bull riding; It would be \$40,000 but event manager said he can get chute sponsors to help cover costs. Suggested selling VIP sections can sell for more. Rodeo will set up everything. Our obligation is that we have to have two ambulances on site.

It was stated that Tourism money is available for pay for events. Possibly sell a week pass for all events.

- Holly Plank talked to Dishman Bounce Houses to be at the fair June 24th – 28th in carnival area of the fairgrounds. They are putting quote together.
- Talked to DNR about having interactive activities
- Ag on Wheels as a possibility
- June 19th and 26th will be kid's days at the fair
- There is an Adult Leaders Meeting on January 16th and it was suggested to request help with selling tickets for the carnival. David Wildman will be at the meeting.
- It was stated that Public Safety (ie sheriff's department, ambulance, fire department, etc) needs to be improved for this year. Penny Hunt will work on that.
- Brooke Greene reported on activities and prices she had checked on as added attractions to the fair:
 - Chainsaw Art (Miles Nasby in Hancock County) – cost is \$1000 per day which includes 3 shows. We decided on how many days we wanted. He completes a carving for each show that he donates to the fair association for them to use as a fundraiser. Dates available are June 18th, 19th, 24th – 28th. He has stated he would like to come.
 - Kids Day – Caricature Artist – cost \$125/hour, 2 hour minimum
 - Bands – J Baker Band out of Fishers, \$3500 June 23, 24 or 26th; Brycen Cooper from New Palestine \$800 June 27th or 28th
 - Looking into getting someone for facepainting and air brush shirts
- Got a letter for Patriot Games Mobile Laser Tag
- Delanie Melton reported on Momma Town - It is planned for June 17th – 23rd.
- Indiana Wild (Exotic Animals) - \$400 first day, \$200 each day after.
- Fairgrounds Projects:
 - Cattle and Hog Barns update – no report
 - Wiring and lighting changes – no report
 - Cattle wash racks – No report
 - Bleachers – No report
- Assistant Treasurer position/ ATM/ additional check signors for the bank account
 - Mike Manship reported that checks over \$5000 need 2 signatures. The Assistant Treasurer can sign everything with a stamp. He is looking for additional signatures. David Wildman volunteered to be the Assistant Treasurer. Holly Plank moved David Wildman for Assistant Treasurer and Penny Hunt seconded. The motion carried.
 - A motion was made by Mike Manship for Holly Plank and Penny Hunt be additional signatures. Lauren Conway seconded. Motion carried.
 - ATM – Jesse Melton and Penny Hunt volunteered to help keep them filled for events. Mike Manship is working on a process for that.
- Semi-Annual meeting of the Membership in April or May: Debbie Vansickle and Penny Hunt
 - Debbie and Penny will meet and set a date for that,
- Eclipse Plan: Everyone
 - It was suggested to offer campgrounds for rental but no other events. Question was raised about getting a permit.
- Other/New Business
 - Mike Manship stated we normally get Jerry (that is volunteer help for the fairgrounds) gift

cards to show our appreciation. Mike Manship moved to give \$1000 worth of gift cards for his help. Jesse Melton seconded. Motion carried.

- Debbie Vansickle reported wanting to do quarterly newsletter. Received good comments from the first one and it would be a good way to keep our membership informed.

The next working meeting for the board will be Monday, February 5th at 6:30 pm in the Fair Office.

Next meeting will be February 19th, 2024 at 6:30 pm at the Sarah Burke Exhibit Hall.

Penny Hunt moved to adjourn the meeting. Mike Manship seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm.

Meeting was reconvened for one piece of business.

Holly Plank made a motion to approve the bookings and deposits for the following events at the fair in the amounts of –

June 23rd – Tractor Pull, \$15,000

June 24th – Draft Horse Pull, \$5,000

June 25th – Stella Luna Concert, \$2,500

June 26th and 27th – Rodeo and Bull Riding, \$40,000

June 28th – Walker County Concert, \$7,500

for a total of \$70,000. Penny Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Debbie Vansickle
Secretary

Hancock Co. Ag Association Meeting Minutes

Hancock Co. Fairgrounds, Sarah Burke Exhibit Hall

Monday, February 19, 2024 – 6:30 pm

Attendance: David Wildman, Mike Elsbury, Debbie Vansickle, Mike Manship, Holly Plank, Holly Williams, Brooke Greene, Penny Hunt, Matt Joyce, Jesse Melton and David Garmene; ExOfficio - Rob Barnhart and Amber Barks. Absent - Lauren Conway

Meeting was called to order. Minutes from the January meeting were presented. Holly Plank moved to approve the minutes and Mike Manship seconded. Motion carried.

Financials for the association were presented by Mike Manship. County appropriations to be received in 2 days in the amount of \$95,000. David Garmene moved to approve the financials as presented and Penny Hunt seconded. Motion passed.

Business that was conducted –

- Fairgrounds update: Rob Barnhart

- Gladiator Roofing presented a bid of \$192,731 to replace the roofs on the Swine and Cattle Barns
- Chisholm Lumber gave a quote of \$6,033.66 to replace the wood on the bleachers in the Multipurpose Arena. We will need \$500 for additional supplies. Holly Plank moved to appropriate \$7,200 maximum to replace the bleacher seating. Mike Manship seconded. Motion passed. April 13-14 at 9 am is tentatively set as work days to replace the wood on the bleachers.
- Eight new shows have been booked for 2024. Also looking at a Home Show.
- Received 5 loads of millings for use at the fairgrounds
- Koenig is using the Exhibit Hall and Sheep Barn for a meeting in March. Working on doing a trade out for use of the buildings for maintenance on the skid steer and tractor. Penny Hunt moved to do a trade out with Koenig for maintenance. Mike Manship seconded. Motion passed.

- 4-H Updates: Amber Barks

- Currently doing STEM programming with Ivy Tech at the 4 county schools
- Preparing to do Chicken Embryology
- Eastern Hancock has been selected by the state for project achievement. This program takes 4-H into the classroom

- Lift Station – Gregg Morelock and Nick D, City Wastewater Manager

- An explanation of proposed lift station on north side of fairgrounds was given
- The area that will be taken will be about 65' x 75' area to be fenced and landscaped.
- Additional lift station is needed because the other one is at capacity
- This will be an 18 month project
- Manholes are being added to allow for growth for the fairgrounds
- The project will start after the fair and be finished in 2025.
- Compensation from the city to the Ag Association would include – Replacement of the water line up and including the meter to the northside washracks (going from ¾" line to 2" line) with a cost to the city of \$16000
- Total compensation to the Ag Association - \$16000 plus appraised value of the ground being used of \$6000 - \$7000 – total of \$22,000-\$23,000

- Security Update/Sherriff – Penny Hunt

- Penny met with John Lawrence and Bobby Campbell on Friday Feb 9th concerning security for the fair. They want their station during the fair to be in the new building. They also would like a clear overhead door for their area and are willing to add some money to it.

- They are fine with the extended dates of the fair to cover the 24 hour security.
 - Penny stated she has the number to have the EMS at the fair and will be contacting them.
 - Alcohol on the premises was brought up. They want clarification on a policy if individuals are caught with alcohol on the fairgrounds and what the consequence is. Suggestion - If a minor is in possession of alcohol, they will enforce the law. Regarding adults – confiscate it and first warning. Another offense, escorted from facility. We as an Ag Association will set that policy.
 - They stated the trespassing statute has changed. A board member has to be with law enforcement to say the individual be removed from the grounds if there are violations.
 - They need guidance on our expectations are of the Sheriff's Department. A committee of Penny Hunt, Jesse Melton and Matt Joyce will develop a policy for next meeting.
 - They asked for a contact for after hours issues as well as a fair board contact list.
 - They volunteered to promote any event we have at the fairgrounds through their social media.
- Cattle – Josh Sparks
- Josh spoke as the Beef Superintendent. He stated after the cattle show last year, it had been suggested to release cattle after the show on Tuesday. Now that he has received more information and seen how things have changed a little bit in the schedule, he wants to amend that. He will ask at beef check in at the fair what 4-H'ers need early release so he will know how many want to leave after 11 pm that night. He had received concerns that there would not be any cattle in the barn during the fair and he reassured there would be cattle in the barn through the supreme showmanship.
- Miss Princess Pageant – Kimmy Dawson
- Last year, the Extension Office sent info on the pageant to potential contestants. This year going to try and do the promotion through social media.
 - The committee is currently working on levels of sponsorships.
 - The committee wants to have contestants sell raffle tickets. Amber stated that selling raffle tickets cannot be done at the fair.
 - Last year, each contestant got a tiara and goodie bag. This year they want to add a mini ribbon and a rose.
 - The committee has talked about adding People's Choice and Director's awards this year.
 - They are wanting to have a float in the parade this year for all the contestants instead of just the selected top three.
 - They plan to have a get-together for them to write thank yous to sponsors
 - It was suggested that they concentrate on Princesses attending the Mini activities and fill in where the Queen's Committee needs help
- Fundraising: Penny Hunt and Brooke Green
- Brooke talked about selling tshirts. It was suggested not to compete with Junior Leaders selling tshirts. If they were sold together on the same site, it could possibly help the junior leaders sales. Amber is going to take it back to the junior leaders to see what they want to do.
 - Holly Plank talked about the sponsor flags that have been bought and is ordering them.
 - The Consignment Auction is September 14th. Matt Joyce is working on a plan for commission on items in the sale. It was asked if we have contacts at the hospital, Elanco, etc. to see if they have items they want to donate. He has talked with Marc Huber about doing a simulcast of the auction. The committee to organize the auction is Matt Joyce, Brooke Greene, and David Wildman
- Tourism and Sponsorship: Holly Plank
- Holly made the grant presentation at the Tourism meeting on Feb 9th and we received the \$95,000 we requested. We should get the check soon.

- Holly discussed the current sponsorship packet we have and suggested we increase the presenting sponsor amount. Holly Plank moved to update presenting sponsor from \$10,000 to \$15,000. Penny Hunt seconded. Motion passed.
- Holly Plank has a packet of information for day sponsorships. Sponsors can bring signage that morning; set up anywhere on the fairgrounds; have a designated building for them to work out of if they choose; and advertise their sponsorship in everything we advertise for the fair.
- Hall of Fame Committee: Debbie Vansickle – No report
- Fair Schedule and Planning
 - Penny Hunt talked about the Commercial and Food Vendors contracts. She passed out contracts.
 - There are options for when vendors want to be at the fair and prices. Options – A – be here the second week during the 4-H week; B – be here the entire run of the fair (additional \$200). Holly Plank moved that a vendor pay \$50 for each additional day over the initial contract that a vendor is at the fair. Jesse Melton seconded. Motion passed.
 - Holly Plank discussed the updated fair schedule. Mini Sheep and Goat shows have changed back to Thursday; Sheep show moved to 10 am instead of 9 am;
 - Farm Bureau is not sponsoring the Pet Parade this year and would like to do a Farmer Olympics instead. Holly Plank moved to add the Farmers Olympics on Friday June 21st from 12- 5 pm in the Show Arena. Penny Hunt seconded. Motion passed.
 - Trying to get a Home Depot workshop on Friday night of the fair. Possibly have a pre-sale of tickets/reservations to get them an idea of how many to plan for.
 - It was questioned about how to handle tickets for all the entertainment events at the fair. Holly Plank will put numbers together for next meeting.
 - Holly Williams reached out to the Pendleton Heights radio station and presented a pricing chart for advertising the fair. Holly Plank also commented on getting info from Tourism on advertising and suggested we revamp our advertising possibilities. Rob Barnhart volunteered Friends 4 Jessica to pay for the advertising on Pendleton Heights radio if we chose to do that.
- Committee Assignments – Mike Elsbury
 - Consignment Auction – Matt Joyce, Brooke Green, Penny Hunt, David Wildman
 - Fundraising and Sponsorship– Holly Plank, Penny Hunt, Brooke Green, Lauren Conway, Debbie Vansickle
 - Budget – Mike Manship, David Wildman, Dave Garmene, Brooke Green, Penny Hunt
 - Hall of Fame – Debbie Vansickle, Wyneta Duncan, Holly Williams, Lauren Conway
 - Carnival – Jesse Melton, Mike Manship
 - ByLaws – Debbie Vansickle, Penny Hunt, Holly Plank, Lauren Conway
 - Commercial – Penny Hunt, Holly Plank Nicole Mann
 - Parade – Holly Williams, Jesse Melton, Penny Hunt, Mike Elsbury
 - Building and Grounds – Jesse Melton, Matt Joyce, Holly Plank, Holly Williams, Debbie Vansickle, Mike Elsbury, Rachelle Kihlstrum
 - Multipurpose Arena – Lloyd Arthur, chair, Holly Plank, Brooke Green, Matt Joyce, Mike Elsbury
- West Commons Building: Jesse Melton
 - The paperwork is in for the local permits for the building. The meeting for the variance is March 24th. Jesse has been promised we will have permit on March 25th. Jesse has talked to the barn company and they are tentative to start building the first week of April.
- Other/New Business
 - Holly Plank reported on contacting Steven Elsbury about being our board attorney to be on

retainer. Steven was adamant not to be paid but Holly expressed that it needs to be paid to keep everything clear cut and professional. Holly volunteered to be the contact from the board. Holly Plank moved to retain Steven Elsbury as our attorney for general purposes for the ag association and continue to use Chris Isom for the past carnival issues. Penny Hunt seconded. Motion carried.

- Pending the outcome of this year's fair, the dates for the 2025 fair would be June 17th- 27th.
- Debbie Vansickle suggested a second sign honoring Max Gentry for the show arena be put up at the west door of the show arena. Debbie Vansickle moved to do so and Jesse Melton seconded the motion and the motion carried.

- Old Business

- The next working meeting for the board will be Monday, March 4th at 6:30 pm in the Fair Office.
- The next regular meeting will be March 18th, 2024 at 6:30 pm at the Sarah Burke Exhibit Hall.

Jesse Melton moved to adjourn the meeting. Mike Manship seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Debbie Vansickle
Secretary

Hancock Co. Ag Association Meeting Minutes

Hancock Co. Fairgrounds, Sarah Burke Exhibit Hall

Monday, March 18, 2024 – 6:30 pm

Attendance: David Wildman, Mike Elsbury, Debbie Vansickle, Holly Plank, Lauren Conway, Brooke Green, Penny Hunt, Matt Joyce, Jesse Melton and David Garmene; ExOfficio - Rob Barnhart and Amber Barks. Absent - Mike Manship, Holly Williams

Meeting was called to order. Minutes from the February meeting were presented. David Wildman moved to approve the minutes and Jesse Melton seconded. Motion carried.

Financials for the association were deferred. Holly Plank said we had received the \$95000 from Tourism.

Business that was conducted –

- Fairgrounds update: Rob Barnhart
 - Cattle washracks; running water from hydrants.
 - Contacted the Board of Health and will be out in about 2 weeks to look at the kitchens for approval for Commercial kitchens
 - The work days to replace/repair the bleachers at the Multipurpose Arena will be April 13th & 14th
 - Working on getting the doors back up on the Pioneer Building
 - Elanco has volunteered 70 interns that will be at the fairgrounds the week of May 20th that to do projects at the fairgrounds
- 4-H Updates: Amber Barks
 - The 4-H Intern is Megan Bell and she starts March 19th
 - The Cat Show wants to move to June 20th at 3 pm because of conflict with Fashion Revue
 - Mini Goat show wants to stay on Tuesday June 25th at 4 pm instead of Thursday June 27th
- West Commons Building Update – Jesse Melton
 - The final permit hearing is Thursday, March 21st and everything reads that it has been passed for us to receive the permit. We just need to attend the meeting and we will have permits on Friday, March 22nd
 - The building will start going up the first week in April and it will take 4-5 days to build
- Fair Planning: Everyone
 - Final schedule – Holly Plank reported on the final schedule and passed out the schedule for review. We need to sign the contract for face painting, caricature and other kids day activities so we can secure them for the fair. Cost is \$3100 and will be in the bounce house area on June 24th and 26th. Holly Plank moved to sign the contract and pay Indy Facepainting and More for the fair. Jesse Melton seconded the motion and motion passed.
 - Brooke Green reported the Mechanical Bull has been paid for the amount of \$1600 and it will be open at the fair from 4-7 pm before the Rodeo on Thursday, June 27th. Discussion was had to make that activity free for fairgoers. Penny Hunt moved to have mechanical bulls rides for free, possibly try to find a sponsor. Jesse seconded the motion and the motion passed.
 - Brooke Green reported on the Bounce Houses. They will be at the fairgrounds June 24th – 28th, from 4-9 pm confirmed. We will doing bracelets for admission and the vendor will take care of selling and collecting money for the bracelets. There will be nightly pick up of money and receipts to account for sales.

- Holly Plank discussed doing the electronic payments for ticket sales for entertainment - ie paypal, venmo, etc. We will need a tablet to hook square up to be able to take payment. We have confirmation on all entertainment; need to contact the wrestlers yet.
- Brooke Green reported on the "Car Show Guy". He wants to know if we wanted to do a Fair Board Award at the car show. It will be no cost to the ag association and he will make a special award for us to present.
- Fair and Parade permits – Rob will take care of applying for those
- Fair Marketing and Advertising – Debbie Vansickle reported she has a meeting with Annie Grinstead regarding a marketing plan for this year's fair. Annie is working on a whole marketing plan including logo, promotional pieces and advertising.
- Rob is working on getting janitorial service and trash service quotes for the fair.
- Jesse Melton discussed the carnival ticket presale. Luers will be sending out their packets shortly to get the presale tickets started. It was discussed to talk with Co-op, Tuttles, Chicagos, etc. to see if they would be willing to help with that. Jesse also discussed the ticket booth staffing for ticket sales. We need 3-4 people for each 3 hour shift for every night of the carnival. Trying to get adult leaders, school clubs and service clubs to help.
- Penny Hunt reported on fire, EMS and security being at the fair. The sheriff's department wanted clear cut expectations re: alcohol use. The behavior standards regarding alcohol at the fair – 1. Any minor caught with alcohol at the fair, the sheriff's department will handle with regards to the law. 2. Adults- 1st Offense – alcohol will be confiscated, and offender will be educated on the use of alcohol on the grounds. Second offense – alcohol will be confiscated, and individual will be removed from the grounds. Third offense – alcohol will be confiscated, and individual will be banned from grounds for the rest of the fair. Penny Hunt moved use the afore stated behavior standards to give to the Sheriff's Department and Lauren Conway seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Brooke Green has talked to Koenig Equipment and requested what we would like to use for the fair. Her contact wanted to know when we want the equipment and needed to know dates. It was stated June 17th for gators; other equipment that is needed for Multipurpose Arena for the second week. They will have equipment on display from Monday, June 24th – 28th. She has talked to Calista Sorrell about doing Touch a Truck with GC FFA the second week. Calista was going to try and get the other FFA chapters involved as well.
- Brooke Green talked to the bee guy about having a bee observation station at the fair. It will probably be in Momma Town building
- question re: banning dogs at the fair; Holly P will make signs
- The entertainment ticket prices proposed are – **Tractor Pull** - \$20 at gate/\$18 presale, 5 and under free; **Bounce Houses** – Bracelet 15 min \$5; 1 hour - \$15 ; \$25 unlimited day; unlimited week \$75; - **Draft Horse Pull** - \$10 at gate/\$8 presale; **Donkey ball and races** - \$10 at gate/\$8 presale; **Rodeo**- \$20 at gate/\$18 presale; **Bull Riding** – \$20 at gate/\$18 presale; **Stella Luna** - \$5; **Walker County with Craig Moore** – \$20 at gate/\$18 presale; **Multi event ticket**– presale only for \$75 and purchased by June 22nd evening. It was suggested to do a discount for 4-H members at \$50. Penny Hunt made a motion to accept the presented ticket pricing and it was seconded by Matt Joyce; Discussion was held re: bounce house price and possible refund with rain cancellation. It was expressed that their needs to be specific disclosures. It was also stated to check on exact capacity on both venues to make sure we don't sell more tickets than what can attend. After discussion, the

motion passed.

- Commercial Building and Vendors: Penny Hunt
 - The contracts have sent to commercial vendors that came last year. She will be following up with those she hasn't heard from shortly.
 - Food vendors from last year have been contacted
 - The Vendor Market on June 19th will be in the Commercial and Pioneer Buildings. Jesse Melton is contacting Kevin Quick about the antique tractors coming in on Thursday June 20th. Vickie Ramsey will be passing out flyers on April 13th during the Spring Market.
- Parade – Mike Elsbury, Barb Pescitelli
 - Barb Pescitelli will continue as superintendent of the parade and would like to keep the volunteers that have helped in the past.
 - It was stated that it would be good to get the bands back in the parade along with cheerleaders, dance groups, etc.
- Lift Station – Mike Elsbury
 - Jesse Melton moved to accept the proposal for lift station once the approval of the West Commons Building permit is approved and received; Penny Hunt seconded the motion and the motion passed.
- Fundraising: Penny Hunt, Lauren Conway, Matt Joyce, Brooke Green
 - Linda Petty presented a fundraising idea. She suggested putting a 4-H emblem on the side of the West Commons building and sell plaques with names on it that would be attached to
 - Matt Joyce and Penny Hunt are working on the Consignment Auction guidelines and fees. It will be September 14th
 - The Golf Outing is September 21st at Arrowhead Golf Course
 - Holly Plank is working on the sponsor flags
- Tourism and Sponsorship: Holly Plank – No report
- Hall of Fame Committee: Debbie Vansickle – No report
- Budget – David Wildman – no report
- Eclipse: Plan for fairgrounds/campsites
 - Rob talked to the parks department about working with us on getting campsites rented and receiving some of the rental money. They said they don't have the manpower and declined
 - Jesse Melton is going to check with Bridgette at Tourism on what we need for permits. Rob has talked to a group about security if we choose to sell campsites.
 - The fairgrounds has 40 hook ups. It was suggested to rent the sites for \$100/night, with a 2 night minimum. Gates locked at 11 pm. We can do hang tags to know who has paid to be on the grounds and offer primitive camping also. Holly Plank moved to advertise 40 electric/water, no sewer/fire campsites for \$100/night with 2 night minimum; 40 primitive camping \$50/night, with 2 night minimum, no fires; split rental 60/40 with security group. A map will be created with hang tags provided. Jesse Melton seconded and motion passed.

Penny Hunt moved to adjourn the meeting. Holly Plank seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Debbie Vansickle, Secretary

Hancock Co. Ag Association Meeting Minutes

Hancock Co. Fairgrounds, Sarah Burke Exhibit Hall

Monday, April 15, 2024 – 6:30 pm

Attendance: David Wildman, Mike Elsbury, Debbie Vansickle, Holly Williams, Lauren Conway, Brooke Green, Penny Hunt, Matt Joyce, and David Garmene; ExOfficio - Rob Barnhart and Amber Barks.
Absent - Mike Manship, Holly Plank and Jesse Melton

Meeting was called to order. Minutes from the March meeting were presented. Penny Hunt moved to approve the minutes and Brooke Green seconded. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was presented by David Wildman, asst treasurer. Balance in checking is \$213917 with the tax levy of \$95,000 being received as well. Dave Garmene moved to accept the treasurer's report with Lauren Conway seconding the motion. Motion passed.

Business that was conducted –

Fairgrounds update: Rob Barnhart

- Bleachers seating in the Multi Purpose Arena is complete. Foot boards need to be worked on before the fair. Cost of boards would be around \$5500 plus supplies. Penny Hunt moved to spend up to \$6000 to get the foot boards taken care of before the fair. Lauren Conway seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- There is rental interest in the Commercial kitchen. Waiting on Health Department inspection.
- Elanco is sending 70 volunteers in May. Some of the things they will be working on is staining the bleacher boards, helping in the Llama Barn, cleaning in the Show Arena and painting fence posts.
- Working on getting the last door hung in the Pioneer Building
- Doug Rodebeck is working on the electric in the West Commons Building and the doors should be here this week. Ryan Miller is working on the concrete.

4-H Update: Amber Barks

- Hired Heather Melton to fill the vacant part time position in the Extension Office
- The Superintendents and Leaders Meeting is April 18th to discuss selling carnival tickets
- Other things that have been happening – STEM program with Ivy Tech; Chicken Embryology; workshops; and Tshirts for sale
- Livestock Tagging dates – May 8th Goats; May 12th - Sheep

4-H at Eastern Hancock update: Vickie Ramsey

Vickie is the 4-H contact for this program. Right now it is geared to the 5th graders at Eastern Hancock. Projects will include gardening, floraculture and others. Hope to have some of the participants display at the county fair. Question was raised about sponsorship for those that can't afford to enroll in 4-H and several volunteer to help sponsor a child.

Fair and Parade permits: Rob Barnhart has taken care of

Parade entries, bands, dance teams, etc.: Everyone

Several board members have made contacts to get more participation from youth for the parade. Suggested to waive the \$10 fee for any school representation.

- Fair planning: Everyone

- We did not get any of the State Fair gates that were offered earlier in the year. Mike Elsbury has had no luck getting anyone to respond to his emails re: the gates
- Board member availability to take tickets and work events was discussed.

- Brooke Green discussed –
 - GIANT FM radio is available June 18th-22nd to be at the fair
 - She talked to the FFA groups about having Touch A Truck at the fair and they will not be able to do that for this year. She also talked to Cathy Logan at Keystone and she said they would help with having farm equipment at the fair
 - She is checking into the sides needed at the Multipurpose Arena, Bowl and the Food Court
- Debbie Vansickle asked the status of Momma Town. Delanie Melton sad it will be June 18th-23rd from 8 am-10 pm. She has several different species coming (calf, pigs, boer goat, dairy goats) including chicks and ducks hatching. It was requested that she lets the board know how many pens she needs. Penny Hunt moved to have a vinyl banner made for Momma Town that would include animals on it be made for the fair. Lauren Conway seconded and motion passed.
- Debbie Vansickle asked about signage for the West Commons Building. It was moved by Debbie Vansickle that permanent signage for the Farm Bureau Dairy Bar and the Lemonade ShakeUp be purchased and put up in time for the fair. Matt Joyce seconded. Motion passed.
- The Lactation Station needs a bigger vehicle location for the fair.
- Security contract: Mike Elsbury
 - The security contract for the fair has been signed. David Wildman moved we pay the \$8000 for security and Penny Hunt seconded. Motion passed.
- EMS and fire department staffing: Penny Hunt
 - Penny Hunt has contacted all the necessary departments and they will be covering the fair this year. They will have one cart available for mobility at the fair. They will come in late afternoon and stay until the fair closes each day
- Trash and Livestock dumpsters: Rob Barnhart
 - Rob Barnhart has contacted waste management services and has bids coming for the dumpsters as well as for the ice
- Presale of concert and event passes: Everyone
- Electronic payments: Everyone
- Commercial Building and Vendors: Penny Hunt and Brooke Green
 - We have 15 contracts for commercial vendors with four more to be heard from.
 - There are 7 food vendors secured with 4-5 more contracts on the way. Penny has an all enclosed Hot Dog Cart that is wanting to come. Penny Hunt made a motion to drop the rental fee to \$450 for that vendor due to the size of the space he will need. Matt Joyce seconded it and motion passed.
 - The Country Vintage Market at the fair. There are 103 available spots in the Commercial and Pioneer Buildings combined. It was requested for signage and Debbie Vansickle will order those. There is a Google Form available for vendors to reserve their spots. Payment by ck or PayPal. The board will take care of marking the floor and providing the table and chairs.
- Antique Tractor Display/ Pioneer Building: Mike Elsbury
 - It was suggested that 5x7 tarp be placed under each tractor to help prevent oil from going into the concrete floor
- Eclipse update: Rob Barnhart
 - Rob Barnhart reported that he had no inquiries to camp and only had one camper, Jesse Melton who was there in case anyone showed up.
- Fair Board Hats and Shirts: Debbie Vansickle
 - Debbie Vansickle needs shirt sizes
- Fund Raising: Penny Hunt, Lauren Conrad & Matt Joyce – no report
- Hall of Fame Committee: Debbie Vansickle – no report
- Budget – David Wildman – no report

- Other/New Business

- Building and Grounds committee plans to have a walk through the fairgrounds at 5 pm on 5/20/24 to designate what needs to be taken care of at the fairgrounds so a plan can be developed to take care of those needs.
- Larry Gray with the York Rite Pizza asked for there be no blockage between their building and the Pioneer Building so that people could get to their building easier.

Next working meeting 5/6/2024 @ 6:30 pm: Next regular meeting 5/20/2024 @ 6:30 pm

Penny Hunt moved to adjourn the meeting and Lauren Conway seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Debbie Vansickle, Secretary

Hancock Co. Ag Association Meeting Minutes

Hancock Co. Fairgrounds, Sarah Burke Exhibit Hall

Monday, May 20, 2024 – 6:30 pm

Attendance: David Wildman, Mike Elsbury, Debbie Vansickle, Holly Williams, Mike Manship, Holly Plank, Jesse Melton Lauren (Conway) Fogle, Brooke Green, Penny Hunt, ExOfficio - Rob Barnhart and Amber Barks. Absent - Matt Joyce and David Garmene

Meeting was called to order. Minutes from the April meeting were presented. Jesse Melton moved to approve the minutes as present and Mike Manship seconded. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was presented by Mike Manship, treasurer. Balance in checking is \$262,691.75 with \$1,486,554.19 in total assets. Jesse Melton moved to accept the financial report and David Wildman seconded. Motion passed.

Business that was conducted –

Fairgrounds update: Rob Barnhart

- The bleachers are done except for staining at the Multipurpose Arena.
- Elanco volunteers will be here on Tuesday. Jobs they will be doing are staining the bleachers; painting posts down Park Street; working in the Show Arena, Hog Barn and Llama Barn and maybe in Pioneer Building
- Waiting on the Health Department to inspect the Commercial Kitchen and once it is permitted, it will be ready to for rental.

4-H Update: Amber Barks

- We currently have 826 4-H'ers in the program with additional ones that can still sign up
- June 11th is building set up
- There are 9 new mini 4-H'ers that have signed up through Chicken Embryology
- Need more volunteers for camp to meet Purdue's requirements for campers per adult quota
- Office is finishing up on judges and awards for the fair.

West Commons Building Update – Jesse Melton

- The walls are going up. We are waiting on the City to inspect before we can move forward. By the end of the week, we should be ready to drop ceiling
- Bills are in on most of the construction - Insulation - \$8/sheet, Metal was half price, waiting on concrete price. To date, the cost of the building is \$107,939.

Lemon Shake up – Tarra Youngclaus

- A hot water dispenser needed for the Shake Up stand. A 24 gallon Bunn brand one that makes 24 gallons/hr, comes out at a temperature of 212 degrees has been located. Cost is \$1893 without shipping. Tarra Youngclaus has checked on renting as well with no luck. Request is the necessity to keep up with the demand and is safer than transporting heated water across the road from the Exhibit Hall kitchen. Holly Plank moved to purchase this hot water dispenser for \$1893 for the Lemon Shake Up Stand and Mike Manship seconded. Motion carried.

Parade entries, bands, dance teams, etc.: Everyone

- Question was raised about age someone can be to drive a tractor or motorized vehicle in the parade. Individual must be 16 with a drivers license
- No luck with getting school bands

Carnival – Jesse Melton

- We have received the first packet of tickets – 20 tickets for \$22. Need to have a plan to sell the tickets. Places that have been suggested or have been talked to include – Keystone store in Greenfield and Custom Metals are willing to sell tickets. Other possibilities suggested are – Farmer's Market, and Bomgarner's

- Ticket booth staffers – it was announced at the superintendents and leaders meeting about the need and Jesse Melton hasn't heard back from anyone willing to do. Jesse stated he has some parents that have volunteered to help sell. Holly Plank will create a SignUp Genius to help with getting volunteers.
- A Carnival representative will be at the fairgrounds on May 23rd to work on layout for fair
- Fair planning: Everyone
 - Scheduling – Holly Plank
 - Generating a SignUp Genius asking for volunteers that will include help for taking tickets for the entertainment events. Bounce House help is covered
 - Misc – Brooke Green
 - Home Depot has volunteers to do the kids workshop on Friday night, June 28th. They are wanting to do something 4-H themed; need tables
 - Tents and sides – Dustin Dishman is providing and have been ordered.
 - Signage – Mike Elsbury
 - We need numbers for the new doors in the West Commons Building and Holly Plank is taking care of that; Debbie Vansickle is taking care of the permanent signs for the Farm Bureau Dairy Bar and Lemon Shake Up signs for the West Commons Building
 - Signs with the schedule need to be printed and put up for this year's fair. Jesse Melton moved to make 5 information signs like last year with days and events and Debbie Vansickle seconded the motion. Motion carried.
 - Photographers – The livestock superintendents have their own for the shows. It was suggested to take pictures on our own and see how this year goes before hiring a photographer
 - Trash (Republic), janitorial and ice are taken care of for the fair.
 - EMS and Security have been taken care of for the fair.
 - Need to know the specific equipment needed for multipurpose events
 - Gators and tractors – Koenig contacted, can commit to 3 gators and tractors as needed
 - RASK – has equipment we need for the pulls.
 - Drones – we have a plan to take some videos. It will have to be after hours due to regulations.
 - Swindells are donating a couple of round bales and we are making photo props with them.
 - Penny Hunt reported that on June 26th, Colton Kiser is bringing his Monster truck for display, from 4-9 pm. Also trying to get a hot air balloon that can be tethered for balloon rides.
 - Misc - Mike Elsbury
 - Lactation Station wanting to close at 8 pm each night and wants to leave on the 27th.
 - With the help of Steve Wilson at GBCBank, we have received a \$25,000 check from the Pope Family Foundation. They would like the money to be used towards the West Commons Building – possibly for the concrete and have a small recognition sign that says it is from the Foundation. We will figure out the wording. Jesse Melton moved that the money donated from the Pope Family Foundation go towards the concrete in the West Commons Building. Seconded by Penny Hunt and the motion carried
 - Brooke Green has contacted the lady with the Highland cattle about coming to the fair. Question raised by owner is whether to have a cow with a calf or 2 calves. Comment was made to have signage regarding safety and leave up to the owner.
- Eventbrite – Holly Plank
 - Eventbrite will be used for presale ticket sales for all the paid events. She has created an event – The Fair and under that bracket, you will be able to purchase tickets for all the events. Holly has created a QR Code that you can scan and take you directly to the tickets. The plan is to go live June 1st. The cost for the Eventbrite subscription is – 1. \$49 for a month; with up to sales of 250 tickets; 2. Waive the \$49 fee if we only use them for online sales and we will have access to their tech support. Brook Green volunteered to sell tickets for the events and carnival during project check in.

- Momma Town – Delanie Melton
 - Location for Momma Town is being moved to Llama Barn and she will need signage
- Commercial Building and Vendors: Penny Hunt and Brooke Green
 - The Commercial Building is full and currently have a waiting list.
 - Signed up an additional food vendor for under the food court
 - Fair Office Printer – Penny Hunt discussed the status of our office printers. We own the large one but pay per click and a print maintenance fee. The contract is renewed in August. Penny Hunt presented other options for printers that are more cost effective that will meet our needs. Penny Hunt moved to dispose of our two current printers, cancel the contract and purchase a HP color LaserJet Pro MFP4301fdw for \$529. Motion was seconded by Jesse Melton and motion passed.
- Fair Sponsorships – Holly Plank
 - All Day sponsors slots are filled with Hancock Health being the Presenting Sponsor. Looking for a sponsor for the Mechanical Bull
- Advertising – Holly Plank
 - We have been working with Annie Grinstead on advertising for the fair. A new look advertising campaign has been created for this year's fair to show we are trying to do new things with our fair and create some excitement. Facebook ads are being revealed on a regular basis.
 - Fair book has been submitted for print.
 - Working on the necessary signs needed for the fair.
 - Brooke Green checked with Sarah Riggs, Yard Card Queen, on yard signs for the fair with a cost of \$250. A clover and a ribbon were suggested to be included in the signs. Brooke Green moved to get photo props for \$250 from Yard Card Queen. Penny Hunt seconded the motion and the motion carried
 - Brooke Green presented information on a Photo Booth for the fair. Cost is \$250 for 2 hours, \$100 each additional hour. Holly Plank moved if a sponsorship can be found for photo booth, we will do the photo booth. Penny Hunt seconded; motion carried.
 - Quotes from Signarama were presented for double sided flags - 8' and 10'. A frame pull ups are good to use as well. Possibly 'You are Here' signs and mesh fence signs were suggested.

Grants – Debbie Vansickle

- The White Family Foundation Grants were due May 15th. After looking the criteria more, there were several items we needed to present than we had time to do so. Better to do once we get a list of priorities.
- Poet grant due May 24th and will try to find something to qualify.

Electrical Hookups on South end of Food Court – Mike Elsbury and Jesse Melton

- The hook ups are in the gravel area on the south end. There would be 6 permanent 50 amp spots created. Cost would be \$21000 to do. Currently the temporary ones are costing \$3600-\$4000 per year. We are losing money on fair rental with the temp spots; we can have permanent spots put in for this year's fair. Lauren Fogle moved to install the permanent electrical spots on the south end of the Food Court and Mike Manship seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Newsletter – Debbie Vansickle
 - Would like to get a newsletter out with all the fair information before the fair and may need help getting them mailed.
- Incident Report Form – Rob Barnhart
 - We need to have one on han. Amber Barks stated she has one to use and after an incident, we have to have it returned to Purdue within 24 hours
- Antique Tractor Display – Jesse Melton
 - There is a need for a plan for leakage of tractors. A conversation with the tractor exhibitors needs to happen for those displaying tractors have something to prevent oil leakage on floor.

- Fair Board Hats and Shirts: Debbie Vansickle
 - Items have been ordered and will be brought to a meeting for distribution
- Password
 - Need a new password for the WI-FI
- Lift Station – Mike Elsbury
 - There were discrepancies in the contract wording that didn't match what had been agreed to. Mike Elsbury and Steven Elsbury worked with city attorney Gregg Morelock to correct things. Once the corrections were made, Mike Elsbury signed contract. Work will probably start right after the fair.
- Fund Raising: Mike Elsbury
 - Need to promote Consignment Auction scheduled for 9/14 and the golf outing scheduled for 9/21 during fair. Both events are advertised in the fairbook.
- Hall of Fame Committee: Debbie Vansickle – no report
- Budget – David Wildman – no report
- Other/New Business
 - Stone needs to be spread at the Multipurpose Arena driveway. David Wildman moved to allow Rob Barnhart to talk with Duane Vansickle with V&S Transport to purchase stone to not exceed \$1500. Lauren Fogle seconded the motion and the motion carried.
 - Drain in block bathroom needs to be redesigned. A verbal quote with Matt Joyce that it would be around \$4000 to fix. He cannot get to it before the fair. We need to see if we can get someone to address it before the fair. David Wildman moved to solicit another bid that does not exceed \$4000 and can get the repair done before the fair. Holly Plank seconded the motion and motion carried.
 - David Wildman discussed the removal of a tree in the parking lot that he was concerned about its safety. David Wildman moved to solicit bids up to \$1200 to remove the Ash tree in the parking lot before the fair. Penny Hunt seconded and the motion carried.
 - Vickie Ramsey stated there are 43 paid vendors for the Country Vintage Market.
 - Vickie Ramsey stated the Kountry Kritters 4-H Club has money to spend. She questioned about purchasing benches for the fair. It was suggested they purchase up to 4 benches.
 - David Wildman moved to take \$1500 from Livestock Fund to purchase a RFID wand. Jesse Melton seconded. The motion carried
 - A Fairgrounds Facility walk through will be May 28th at 5 pm to start a list for wants and needs for the facility.
 - There will be a Fair Planning Meeting on June 11th at 5 pm.
 - Fair follow up meeting is scheduled for July 1st – 6:30 pm

Next working meeting 6/3/2024 @ 6:00 pm: Next regular meeting 6/17/2024 @ 6:30 pm

Penny Hunt moved to adjourn the meeting and Mike Manship seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 9:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Debbie Vansickle, Secretary

Hancock Co. Ag Association Meeting Minutes

Hancock Co. Fairgrounds, West Commons

Monday, June 17, 2024 – 6:30 pm

Attendance: Matt Joyce, Mike Elsbury, Debbie Vansickle, Mike Manship, Holly Plank, Jesse Melton, Penny Hunt, Brooke Green, ExOfficio - Rob Barnhart and Amber Barks. Absent - David Garmene Lauren (Conway) Fogle, David Wildman, Holly Williams,

Meeting was called to order. Minutes from the May meeting were presented. Holly Plank moved to approve the minutes as presented and Jesse Melton seconded. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was presented by Mike Manship, treasurer. Balance in checking is \$242,260.15, with \$255,470 in total current assets. Jesse Melton moved to accept the financial report and Holly Plank seconded. Motion passed.

Fair Business that was conducted –

- Debi Hill asked about ATMs – located in Exhibit Hall and Sheep Barn. Exhibit Hall will be open to ATM
- Holly Plank making an ATM sign outside Show Arena to direct people in
- Delanie Melton questioned where MommaTown signs were going; to be figured out
- Jeff Jones – swine is all good
- Vickie Ramsey – Vintage Market all good
- Amber Barks, 4-H Report
 - People will start asking about early release; asked on how to handle – Amber, Mike Elsbury and Supts will work on that
 - Questioned about exhibit turn in on Friday; suggested blocking off parking spots in front of the exhibit hall so exhibits can be dropped off
 - Two grievances have been filed. The Grievance committee is David Wildman, Heather Hill and Rachelle Kihlstrum
- Penny Hunt
 - Vendor move in went well. Brought up that the carnival is using more power than anticipated. One food vendor has left because he tried to set up earlier than supposed to and chose to leave instead of waiting. The Vendors have been very flexible with all the changes that have been made and are working to make it all work.
- Brooke Greene
 - We have sold several combo tickets as well as carnival tickets. We can continue to sell tickets until 10 minutes before the carnival opens on the first day of the fair. Brooke will pick up the tickets at the businesses.
 - Brooke stated that teams are needed for Donkey Ball
- Mike Manship
 - Mike discussed making change during fair week. Holly Plank and Penny Hunt also have access to change during the week.
- Matt Joyce – bleachers are good and ready to go
- Jesse Melton
 - The city street department brought over some bleachers for our use
- Positioning the stage after the meeting
- Debbie
 - There is a notebook to put ideas in for 2025 fair.
 - Walker County contact has been made.
 - A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the West Commons Building will be on Friday, June 21 at 5:30 pm ; guests to cut ribbon include – Fair Board representatives Jesse Melton and Matt Joyce; Farm Bureau Debi Hill and Linda Petty; Shake Up – Tarra Youngclaus and Amanda Locker; Sherriff – Brad Burkhart; and inviting the Mayor Guy Titus
- Holly Plank

- There is a list of what needs to be done at the fairgrounds after the fair in the fair office
- There is also a list of what needs to be done for the fair yet in the fair office
- Holly talked to Barb Pescitelli about the parade and horse show. Horse Show should end around 2 pm. Parking in the north parking lot will be closed from 12 – 6 pm. It was questioned if we will need more parking due to the carnival. Making yard signs saying parking lot closed.
- Judges for the parade have been told that the competitive floats are 4-H clubs
- We have pop up tents for food at Multipurpose Arena.
 - Sunday and Thursday– Ribeyes and drinks (Cattlemen's)
 - Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday – Maxwell Meats (vendor)
- Announcer stand staying put and not being moved for other events
- Combo tickets for 4-H'ers are priced at \$50; \$75 for everyone else and they will be on sale until Saturday night
- A large animal vet will be on grounds for pig check in. Plans are for it to be Doug Powers
- The Fair Board has an Amazon Wish List
- Working on getting Venmo set up
- Need landscaping for the West Commons Building. We are filling a water trough with flowers to meet landscape requirements

Mike Elsbury

- A concrete barrier is being placed at southeast corner of the Pioneer Building to keep people from parking in inappropriate spots
- We are putting barricades on east end for the moved building. Holly Plank has gotten fencing to put around it along with decorative flags. We need to screw the doors shut.
- We need help manning all the events and ticket booths. Most of the slots are covered for the events at the Multipurpose arena. There are bags of change in the safe for each individual event.
- We will be selling cold drinks in the Ringside Café during the livestock shows. We will need help manning the Café.
- Golf Outing and Consignment Auction – Holly Plank has taken care of signage for these 2 events.
- Setting up radar gun at Sherriff's Department for kids to throw baseball. 3 for \$1 – extra money for Association

Next working meeting 7/1/2024 @ 6:00 pm: Next regular meeting 7/15/2024 @ 6:30 pm

Penny Hunt moved to adjourn the meeting and Mike Manship seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 9:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Debbie Vansickle, Secretary

Hancock Co. Ag Association Meeting Minutes

Hancock Co. Fairgrounds, West Commons

Monday, July 15, 2024 – 6:30 pm

Attendance: Mike Elsbury, Debbie Vansickle, David Wildman, Mike Manship, Holly Plank, Jesse Melton, Penny Hunt, David Garmene; ExOfficio - Rob Barnhart and Amber Barks. Absent – Brooke Green, Matt Joyce, Lauren (Conway) Fogle, Holly Williams,

Meeting was called to order. Minutes from the June meeting were presented. Penny Hunt moved to approve the minutes as presented and Mike Manship seconded. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was presented by Mike Manship, treasurer. Balance in checking is \$65000 in general account, with \$108,000 in total current assets.

Facilities update: Rob Barnhart

- Fair clean up is about done
- Currently getting ready for Youth Sheep Expo
- Commercial kitchens just need to be approved by the Health Dept
- 4-H Updates: Amber Barks
 - Getting ready for State Fair
 - Got through the 10 day fair
 - The Superintendent's Meeting will be July 22 at 6:30 pm at Exhibit Hall
 - There were 835 4-H members this year, 5 more than last year. This number is both traditional and mini 4-H'ers
- West Commons Building – Rob Barnhart
 - Working with Doug Rodebeck to get the permit process going
- Fair review: Everyone
 - Holly Plank stated she would not do a week and a half fair again as a volunteer. Not sure how to match the carnival with all the necessary 4-H activities but we need to try.
 - Need to schedule review meeting
 - Meeting with Luehr's Carnival: Penny Hunt, Holly Plank and Lauren Fogle met with them at the Decatur County Fair. Some of the issues that were discussed included -
 - Electricity use - they said they used their generators to run rides. There was concerns that they were plugged in to our outlets and how much of that use was on our electric bill
 - Luehrs would like to see our event schedule for the fair sometime in January
 - The entrance off of Apple Street worked to encourage walk through traffic
 - They appreciated the traffic control while they were tearing down
 - June 17 – 22 is when they are scheduled for 2025. They were disappointed that everything wasn't together but they are looking forward to what we can do in the future
 - The committee asked if they had an opening in July that we might consider
- Golf Outing
 - The golf outing fundraiser is Saturday, September 7th at Arrowhead Golf Course
 - We need Hole sponsors and to recruit teams to play. We made between \$4000 and \$5000 in 2023 and would like to better that for 2024
 - Looking into having some activities for non golfers, such as Bingo, Cornhole
 - Food came from the hospital last year; working on what to do for lunch this year
 - Working on prizes

- Consignment auction: Matt Joyce
 - Has been working hard on. Commission based on the price of what the item goes for
 - Auction is Saturday, September 14th and we will be running multiple rings
 - Pioneer soda: What to do with the remaining product
 - there is a significant amount of soda left over
 - The average cost is \$1.18/bottle; propose to figure out an amount to sell a carton for and try and get it sold
 - Post on FB to sell and have a pick up day; possibly sell \$5 for 4 or \$35 for 24 (a case)
- Holly Plank moved to sell the remaining soda for \$35 per case; Penny Hunt seconded. Motion passed.
- Lift Station: Mike Elsbury
 - Update is - The road is going to have to be cut to run the line from north side to south side so Park Avenue will be closed for a short amount of time. The fairgrounds will still be accessible.
 - No start date has been set yet
 - Committee reports: Any updates
 - No reports
 - Superintendents meeting: July 22nd at 6:30 pm in Exhibit Hall
 - Election of Board members in November/ Making membership aware of seats that will be up for election. Current board members that are up for election are:
 - David Wildman, Mike Elsbury, Holly Plank and Penny Hunt. Each are eligible to be re-elected
 - Other new business
 - Riley Days – Penny Hunt discussed about potentially seeing if they would want to use our facility for their waiting list for vendors since we let them use the fairgrounds for free for parking and they charge \$1 to ride the bus to downtown.
 - Vickie Ramsey would like some feed back on the Vintage Market. Penny Hunt said it was very good and \$1910 brought in for ag association. It was suggested that Saturday would be better day to have it than during the week.
 - Linda Petty thanked the board for everything and they loved the new building for the Farm Bureau Dairy Bar
 - Question was raised if the ag association board had a code of conduct. It was stated that Purdue University has a behavioral volunteer expectations guideline. The concern is to be turned into Amber Barks.

Next working meeting 8/5/2024 @ 6:00 pm: Next regular meeting 8/19/2024 @ 6:30 pm

Jesse Melton moved to adjourn the meeting and Holly Plank seconded the motion. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 7:13 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Debbie Vansickle, Secretary

Hancock Co. Ag Association Meeting Minutes

Hancock Co. Fairgrounds, West Commons

Monday, August 19, 2024 – 6:30 pm

Attendance: Mike Elsbury, Debbie Vansickle, David Wildman, Mike Manship, Holly Plank, Jesse Melton, Penny Hunt, Brooke Green, David Garmene, Matt Joyce, Holly Williams; ExOfficio - Rob Barnhart and Amber Barks. Absent – Lauren (Conway) Fogle

Meeting was called to order by President Mike Elsbury. Minutes from the July meeting were presented by Debbie Vansickle. Penny Hunt moved to approve the minutes with correction and Jesse Melton seconded. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was presented by Mike Manship, treasurer. Balance in checking is \$110,817.23 in the general account, with \$135,827.65 in total current assets. Net loss for fiscal year \$51,584.33. A question was raised on utilities based on all the electrical we did this year. Penny moved to accept the financial report; Jesse Melton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Facilities update: Rob Barnhart

- West Commons – Working with Doug Rodebeck on the plans to be submitted to state to get final approval to use the building.
- Rentals – several new groups are booking the facility
- Other – Rob asked to purchase 2 trail cams due to some recent vandalism. Penny Hunt moved to purchase the trail cams and Jesse Melton seconded the motion. The motion passed.
With that, Holly Plank moved to purchase “No Trespassing” and “Surveillance camera” signs. Penny Hunt seconded, motion passed.
- The Commercial kitchen has been rented out couple of times.
- The International Fair that was held at the State Fairgrounds has booked the fairground. I will run for 4 days in November and they have rented Exhibit Hall and Sheep Barn and Show.
- Rob was thanked by the board for his efforts in managing the fairgrounds.

- 4-H Updates: Amber Barks

- The Fall Awards Program will be September 22nd
- Hancock County 4-H'ers did well at the Indiana State Fair with members receiving Sweepstakes recognition, Top 5 Rabbit Royalty, and Fashion Revue Honor Group. Question was asked about livestock kids doing well at state fair and it was stated the official results had not been posted.
- The County 4-H Kick Off will be held in November

- 2025 Fair Schedule: Everyone

- The proposed 2025 schedule was presented. Holly Plank stated that we are trying to get animals to stay longer to have animals on the grounds throughout the fair. Also trying to have 4-H activities to overlap more with the carnival. Discussion was held with suggestions to the schedule makeup. The committee will continue to work on next year's schedule.
- A Question about adding a Pack Class for Llama project.

- Golf Outing

- This year's golf outing is September 7th at Arrowhead Golf Course
- Sponsors for Holes – Holly Plank is contacting past sponsors and has gotten a good response. Sponsor forms were distributed.
- Teams are needed. Cost is \$300 for a team of 4.
- Other Activities that are being looked at to be held in conjunction with the golf outing are:
9 am - Bouquet Making class with Earl Grey Fields at Arrowhead; setting up cornhole boards

- Lunch was discussed. Jimmy Johns has a lunch pack with sandwich and chips for \$6.50. We will get drinks and desserts. A motion was made to provide lunch from Jimmy John's for the golf outing by Debbie Vansickle; Jesse Melton seconded the motion. Motion passed
- Working on Prizes for winners.
- There will not be a silent auction at the Golf Outing.
- Door prizes are needed for the event.
- Yard Signs promoting the event were available and distributed.
- Consignment auction: Matt Joyce
 - Flyers are available for promotion. Kyle and Wayne Addison helping along with Marc Huber. Some of the items will be simulcast through Huber Auctions website.
 - Yard signs were available to promote the Auction and everyone was encourage to take them.
 - Holly Plank has submitted information to radio stations promoting the auction and golf outing
 - More consigned items are needed.
 - There will be a Silent Auction at the event. Basket donations would be appreciated.
- Indiana Festival Association – Penny Hunt
 - Penny Hunt and Brooke Green attended a Tourism Marketing event. The festival guide was discussed and is somewhere we have previously advertised (120,000 copies). Tourism will pay \$175 of any ad that is placed in the guide ag association paying an additional \$250 or \$350, depending on size of ad. The ad deadline is August 31st. Discussion was held to commit to the \$350 ad. David Wildman moved to add \$350 to Tourism money for an ad in the marketing guide. Matt Joyce seconded; motion carried.
 - There is a "Hello Hancock" website. Penny Hunt has signed the Ag Association to be a part of that website.
- Scholarships and Awards – Holly Plank
 - There were concerns raised in regards to issues selecting the scholarships and fall awards. It was stated that everyone involved to have integrity. The Committees are to be established by the board and issues and concerns need to be addressed by the board. The lack of cooperation between the entities has been lacking.
 - First issue address was the disbanding of the fall awards committee, which was not brought before the board. Since then, the members on that committee have been asked to rejoin the committee. A letter was sent to disband the committee by Amber Barks. The fall awards committee consisted of Patty Paxton, Kelly Paugh, Laura Phares and Amber Barks.
 - There were some awards selected that were not selected based on the contracts associated with that specific award. Some of those awards have since been corrected. Question on how some were selected with the right protocol and others were not. The Committee could review awards that have been selected to make sure protocol was followed.
 - Scholarship Awards – Holly talked to the Community Foundation this morning regarding the handling of the scholarships housed by the Foundation, specifically the Debi Plank Scholarship. It was determined that not all members were contacted that were to be a part of the scholarship selection. The question that was asked of the Foundation was whether or not Amber Barks, Youth Educator, signs off on the awards. It was determined that in the future, all selection members will be contacted directly from the Community Foundation. The criteria for each award/scholarship needs to be verified by Amber Barks rather other extension office staff.
 - It was added that our need to grow 4-H memberships and sponsorships, and other related entities. As a board, we want to have a strong cooperative effort between the board and the Extension Office, specifically with the Youth Educator. We as a board are willing to be a sounding board for actions regarding the 4-H program to help in the growth expectations.
 - Added comments came from Lorraine Ewing regarding the Callahan Awards. The Callahan

Awards were started by her father, Ora Callahan, to honor 10 year members for their accomplishments. It was suggested that maybe it is time to review and rewrite necessary criteria for those awards.

- Committee reports: Any updates
 - Hall of Fame – Debbie Vansickle stated she is setting a meeting together in September or October to work on that.
 - Budget – No report
 - Tourism - No Report
 - Bylaws – Debbie Vansickle presented updates to the current by laws. The proposed 5th Amended By Laws of the Hancock County 4-H Club Agricultural Association, Inc. changes were read. The main by laws changes are 1. An increase in the number of board members from 12 to 15; 2. Change the townships that make up the director Districts; 3. Addition of at large directors; and 4. Addition of project superintendents as candidates for the Adult Leader positions. Questions were asked and addressed regarding the proposed by laws changes.
- Other new business
 - Brooke Green suggested a mural be painted on the block bathrooms facing Apple Street. The cost would be \$500 and she distributed a proposed mock up of the mural. Penny Hunt moved to approve the painting of the mural for \$500; Holly Plank seconded; motion passed
 - Holly Plank – The Business Entity Report needs to be updated; Mike Manship will take care of submitting it.
 - Holly Plank – ordered thank you cards for sponsors this year; Brooke Green is addressing them and sending out.
 - Membership Applications for the Ag Association membership were submitted. Those asking for membership were Josh Miles, Chris Wickard, Julia Wickard, Emily Kidder, Brittany Tompkins, Linda Sullivan. Holly Plank moved to accept these into our membership; Penny Hunt seconded. Motion passed.
- Old Business
 - It was reported that the Riley Festival is not interested in sharing overflow vendors that could be housed at the fairgrounds. We would have to charge what they do. A community partnership between the Ag Association and the Riley Festival was trying to be achieved. The fairgrounds for the Riley Festival to use for parking and Shuttle Service is currently not compensated, however we have the expense of cleaning up from the shuttles patrons. We could rent parking lot like any other vendor for their event. The Riley Festival used to come and ask permission for use but has not done so for a few years. It was suggested we reach out to them.
- Mike Manship moved to adjourn the meeting; Matt Joyce seconded; motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Debbie Vansickle, Secretary

Hancock Co. Ag Association Meeting Minutes

Hancock Co. Fairgrounds, Sarah Burke Exhibit Hall

Monday, September 16, 2024 – 6:30 pm

Attendance: Debbie Vansickle, David Wildman, Holly Plank, Jesse Melton, Penny Hunt, Brooke Green, David Garmene, Matt Joyce, Holly Williams; ExOfficio - Rob Barnhart and Amber Barks.
Absent – Mike Elsbury, Mike Manship and Lauren Fogle

Meeting was called to order by Vice President Holly Plank. Minutes from the July meeting were presented by Debbie Vansickle. Penny Hunt moved to approve the minutes with correction and Jesse Melton seconded. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was presented by Asst Treasurer David Wildman. Concern on balance of checking account is low. Current balance in checking/savings is \$88,468.92, with \$135,827.65 in total current assets. Net loss for the fiscal year is \$51,584.33. A question was raised on utilities based on all the electrical we did this year. Jesse moved to accept the financial report; Penny seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- Facilities update: Rob Barnhart

Doug Rodebeck is working on what needs to be done in West Commons Building. Hancock Co. Farm Bureau, Inc. presented \$2500 check to go towards the building.

- 4-H Updates: Amber Barks

- The Fall Awards program is Sunday, September 22 at 2 pm
- Casey Mull, state extension staff, has asked for copy of by laws
- The Jr leaders will have booth at Trunk or Treat on October 25th the fairgrounds
- The Youth Update meeting is this week with Purdue
- Looking for 4-H Ambassadors. Any 4-H member in 8th through 12th grades is eligible to apply

- 2025 Fair Schedule: Holly Plank

- The Livestock Superintendents (beef, sheep and swine) met and made suggestions to move existing schedule to coincide with the dates of the 2025 fair

- Golf Outing Report – Holly Plank

- Made about \$4000. Finalizing numbers to report at a later date.
- The amount of sponsorships we received was good.
- The Golf Outing for next year will start at 1 pm instead of 8 am on Saturday, September 6th. We have already received some commitments from teams to participate.

- Consignment Auction Report: Matt Joyce

- The Consignment went well in general on Saturday. The items that were outside sold better than the items inside
- A grader box purchased for the ag association at the Consignment Auction. Penny Hunt moved to approve \$500 for the purchase of the grader box. Matt Joyce seconded the motion and the motion passed.

- By Laws -

- Debbie Vansickle did the second reading for the changes to the association By-Laws.

Debbie Vansickle made a motion to approved the By-Laws as read. Matt Joyce seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was called for with the vote being –

Holly Plank – presiding officer

Dave Garmene – yes

Brooke Green - yes

Penny Hunt – yes

Matt Joyce – yes

Jesse Melton - yes

Debbie Vansickle – yes

David Wildman – yes

Holly Williams – yes

Motion carried with a unanimous vote of yes to pass the By-Laws.

- New Business

- Penny Hunt requested that Hancock Co. Community Corrections be able to use the Exhibit Hall free of charge for their Christmas party. Brooke Green moved to let them do so and Jesse Melton seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- The new District board of directors guidelines will be presented at the October meeting for adoption.
- The proposed Christmas event that was suggested will be on Saturday, December 14th from 1-6 pm. It will be a community event, "Christmas at the Fair" with vendors, gift wrapping, cookie decorating, carriage rides, Home Depot Kids workshop and Christmas lights. Currently looking for a sponsor. Will have Stock Stuffers similar to Trunk or Treat.
- Riley Festival committee will have a representative at the meeting will be at October meeting to discuss continuing to use the fairgrounds as a Shuttle Bus stop. It was suggested there needs to be a contract of expectations.
- Leftover items from Consignment Auction are going in the Garage Sale that will be in the Llama Barn during the Riley Festival.
- Jeff Jones, representing the swine committee, asked when fair schedule will be voted on. The plan for is to do that at the October meeting. Schedule is needed for the 4-H Handbook. Possibly do a Special Meeting at 6 pm on September 30th to finalize schedule.
- The Swine, Sheep and Beef committees/superintendents met to discuss the out truck situation for those species. As a group, they leaned towards no one would have an out truck for the fair. That led to discussion of the fair schedule and suggestions.

- Old Business – none was discussed.

Penny Hunt moved to adjourn the meeting and Jesse Melton seconded the motion. The motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Debbie Vansickle, Secretary

Hancock Co. Ag Association Meeting Minutes

Hancock Co. Fairgrounds, Sarah Burke Exhibit Hall

Monday, October 16th, 2023 – 6:30 pm

Attendance: Wyneta Duncan, David Wildman, Mike Elsbury, Lauren Conway, Jesse Melton, Debbie Vansickle; Absent: Rachelle Kilstrum, Mike Manship, Chrissy Paxton and Holly Plank

Also in attendance: Matt Strahl and Bryan Smith from the Hancock Leadership Class

Meeting was called to order by President Mike Elsbury.

The minutes from the previous meeting were presented. Motion was made by Jesse Melton to accept the minutes; seconded by Debbie Vansickle. Motion passed.

The financials were presented. David Wildman made a motion to defer approval of the financials until next meeting; Jesse Melton seconded the motion. Motion carried and financials will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Rob Barnhart reported on facility activities. They included –

- Greenfield Park and Recreation will be holding their annual Trunk or Treat at the fairgrounds on October 26th. They have over 40 vendors including the Jr. Leaders. He suggested that the Ag Association have a booth to pass out candy. Wyneta Duncan moved that we do so and Lauren Conway seconded the motion. Motion passed. We will need approximately 1500 pieces of candy.
- The Farm Bureau Building is empty except for some signs that will be stored. The shop is also empty. Meeting with Circle M re: concrete for the West Commons building and moving the shop.
- Met with Nancy Davis with the Hancock Regional Hospital Foundation about a sponsorship for purchasing lights to put up at the fairgrounds for Christmas. He and Debbie Vansickle met with Nancy and allocated a \$2500 sponsorship to do the Christmas lights and decorations as well as a day sponsorship for the fair. After discussion, Jesse Melton made a motion to use \$1000 of the allocated funds to purchase Christmas lights; Lauren Conway seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- A report was made regarding the upgrade of the electricity project; facility rental with 5 campsites being rented for a month; and update on fixing the water pressure with the Greenfield Water Department
- The Commercial Kitchen upgrade in the Exhibit Hall should be done after the first of the year. He currently has 3 people interested in renting the kitchen – two bakers and one caterer.
- The drive running parallel to the Pioneer Building is higher than the building and causing a few issues. Working on resolving the problem.

Amber Barks gave the 4-H Update. It included –

- Pie in the Face program. For every 75 kids entered in 4-H, there will be a pie in the face
- The Junior Leader Bonfire had 24 kids in attendance

- Working on the 4-H Handbook
- The 4-H Kickoff and Open House will be November 2 from 5-7 pm.

Amber asked if we wanted to do Volunteer Training prior to the Annual Meeting. Mike Elsbury said he would get back with her on that.

Amber stated she was waiting on the Process and Procedures from Purdue. She also has the guidelines for the new Sports project for this year.

Mike Elsbury reported on the Lift Station status. Nothing new to report and he had contacted attorney Greg Morelock that day. Wyneta Duncan wanted to clarify that they have horse and pony activities on that side of the fairgrounds starting April 1 through September and that the minutes from that meeting just say they have activities in April.

Jesse Melton reported on the status of the West Commons building. The state is in the process of approving the drawings for the state permitting process. The shop is not being moved to the north side of the fairgrounds but will be moved north of its current location and will become Momma Town during the fair. The Farm Bureau Building is being disassembled and it and the storage container will be up for sale, possibly putting them in the online auction. All vendors for the project have been contacted – waiting on prices for building materials, electric and concrete. Lauren Conway made a motion to add the Farm Bureau Building and the storage container to the online auction; Jesse Melton seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Jesse Melton also reported that he was meeting with Doug Rodebeck about finishing the campgrounds.

Lauren Conway reported on what has been secured for the online auction. There are 19 confirmed lots with multiple contacts waiting to be heard from. She stated she needs all lots by November 20th. She is meeting Marc Huber on October 19th to start publicizing and check on what he needs from us to get the auction up and running.

Other fundraising ideas were presented –

- Buy A Brick or wall for new West Commons Building
- Wish List for people to support such as sugar, lemon juice for the Lemonade Shake Up Stand; shovels, rakes, wheelbarrows etc. Items that people could pay online that would benefit our facility that we would not have to take out of our current financials
- Golf Outing is planned for September 7, 2024

Debbie Vansickle reported on the status of getting a Walker County concert at the county fair. She has gotten to the right people and is in the process of filling out the “Request to Appear” form.

No report on Hall of Fame.

The Annual Meeting of the Ag Association is November 20th at 6:30 pm. Debbie Vansickle is in the process of developing a newsletter and it will serve as the annual meeting notice along with other information for the association.

There is a Solar Eclipse Planning Meeting coming up and Amber Barks stated she would be attending that meeting. Jesse Melton stated they had been contacted by the county about using Briney Creek facility for parking to view the eclipse.

New Business –

- Community Connections will be November 11th at the Sarah Burke Exhibit Hall. The question was raised about the Ag Association having a booth at the event.

Debbie Vansickle made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Jesse Melton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by
Debbie Vansickle
Acting Secretary

Hancock Co. Ag Association Meeting Minutes

Hancock Co. Fairgrounds, Sarah Burke Exhibit Hall

Monday, November 18, 2024 – 6:30 pm

Attendance: Jesse Melton, Debbie Vansickle, David Wildman, Holly Plank, Penny Hunt, Brooke Green, Matt Joyce; Mike Elsbury, Mike Manship; Lauren Fogle; Josh Myles, Delanie Melton, and Ryan Bodell; ExOfficio - Rob Barnhart and Amber Barks. Absent – David Garmene and Holly Williams.

Meeting was called to order by President Mike Elsbury. Minutes from the October meeting were presented by Debbie Vansickle. Jesse Melton moved to approve the minutes as presented and Lauren Fogle seconded. Motion carried.

It was stated if new directors have not been vetted as an approved volunteer yet they cannot vote in business matters at this meeting.

The treasurer's report was presented by Treasurer Mike Manship as the same one presented at the Annual Ag Association Meeting earlier. Holly Plank moved to accept the financial report; Penny Hunt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2024 Officer Elections

President – Penny Hunt nominated Holly Plank for president; Debbie Vansickle seconded the motion. David Wildman moved that the nominations be closed with Lauren Fogle seconding. Motion carried unanimously. Holly Plank elected as president.

Vice President – Debbie Vansickle nominated Mike Elsbury for Vice President; Jesse Melton seconded the motion. Brooke Green nominated Penny Hunt for vice president. Nomination to be closed were moved and seconded. Mike Elsbury elected Vice President.

Secretary – Jesse Melton nominated Debbie Vansickle for Secretary; David Wildman seconded the motion. Holly Plank moved to close the nominations with Jesse Melton seconding the motion. Debbie Vansickle elected Secretary.

Treasurer – David Wildman nominated Mike Manship for treasurer with Matt Joyce seconding the motion. Lauren Fogle moved to close the nominations with Holly Plank seconding the motion. Mike Manship elected Treasurer.

Assistant Treasurer – Holly Plank nominated David Wildman for Assistant Treasurer; Lauren Fogle seconded the motion. Holly Plank moved to close the nominations with Lauren Fogle seconding the motion. David Wildman elected Assistant Treasurer.

David Wildman moved for the destruction of all ballots; Delanie Melton seconded. Motion passed.

Extension Report –

- Amber Barks got a second quote for printing the handbooks and it was \$15,000. Current printer's quote was around \$5000. David Wildman moved to print the handbooks at a cost not to exceed \$5000. Lauren Fogle seconded the motion and motion carried
- Amber asked for approval to send out judge's letters for the upcoming fair. A couple of superintendents want an increase in pay for the judges of their projects.
- The Junior Leaders will be one of the first to host an event at the ice rink in downtown Greenfield in December. This event is for is for all 4-h'ers that are currently enrolled for the 2025 4-H year. Currently, there are 225 4-H'ers that have enrolled for the upcoming year.

Kate Dennis, Hancock County Health Department addressed the board regarding an emergency back up plan.

- She is requesting that the fairgrounds be an emergency back up if the Hancock Co. Health Department office and facility would be shut down for any unforeseen reason. Buildings that were suggested to be used are the Exhibit Hall and Sheep Barn. The Department is looking at multiple locations for this emergency plan including the Library. The plan is to never have to use the emergency plan. It was stated we need a "memorandum of understanding" between both groups.
- It was stated that the fair board needs to have a right to refuse occupancy if buildings were being used

Christmas at the Fair – Penny Hunt, Brooke Green

- It was discussed that a motion had not been made to do the Christmas at The Fair event and that it needed to be done. Penny Hunt moved the fairgrounds host the Christmas at the Fair event; Brooke Green seconded the motion and the motion passed.

New Business

New Ag Association Member request

- Penny Hunt moved to accept Becky Myles as a new Ag Association member; Delanie Melton seconded the motion. Becky Miles was approved as a member.
- Debbie Vansickle explained how to become a member of the ag association for those attending and not currently members.

Next Meeting Dates

The next Working Meeting will be December 2nd @ 5:45 PM in the fair office.

The December Board Meeting will be December 16th @ 6PM at the Sarah Burke Exhibit Hall.

Brooke Green asked about the Work Day that had been held. David Wildman, Mike Elsbury, Matt Joyce and Rob Barnhart showed up to help. Most of the items that had been discussed at the last meeting had been taken care of so it was a short day.

Mike Manship moved to adjourn the meeting and Brooke Green seconded the motion. The motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Debbie Vansickle, Secretary

Hancock Co. Ag Association Meeting Minutes

Hancock Co. Fairgrounds, Sarah Burke Exhibit Hall

Monday, December 16, 2024 – 6:00 pm

Attendance: Jesse Melton, Debbie Vansickle, Holly Plank, Penny Hunt, Brooke Green, Matt Joyce, Josh Myles, Delanie Melton; ExOfficio - Rob Barnhart and Amber Barks. Absent – David Garmene, David Wildman, Mike Elsbury, Mike Manship, Lauren Fogle, and Ryan Bodell

Meeting was called to order by President Holly Plank. Minutes from the November meeting were presented by Debbie Vansickle. Jesse Melton moved to approve the minutes as presented and Delanie Melton seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report

Debbie Vansickle presented the Treasurer's report. End of the first month of the new fiscal year, balances as of 11.30.24 are – Checking/Savings \$65,890.49 and total assets \$1,287,823.67. Jesse Melton moved to approve the financial report as presented. Delanie Melton seconded the motion and motion passed.

Extension Report – Amber Barks

- Amber reported that the handbook is being proofed for printing.
- An evening skating at the rink in downtown Greenfield had 60 kids signed up so far to attend.
- There were two Holiday workshops scheduled to be held at the fairgrounds. The first one had 6 attendees. The second one is December 19th and depending on how many sign up will determine where it will be held. If there are less than 30 registered, the workshop will be at Extension Office. If there are 30 or more, the workshop will be in Exhibit Hall

Old Business

- Christmas at the Fair – Holly Plank

The event was held on Saturday December 14th at the fairgrounds and it was a huge Success. It is estimated that there was around 2,000 people in attendance. The Reporter featured an article about the event in the paper. General comments included –

- o Possibly put up a direction gate to guide people to everything as well as giving us an opportunity to see exactly how many people are in attendance.
- o Signage needs to be improved so people know where to go and what is where
- o Suggested making a line or gate for people to see the Reindeer and cattle
- o Geo Fencing will help us track anyone over the age of 18. This can tell us how long someone was at the event, where they are from, etc.
- o We sold out of the cookie kits early (60 kits were made). One of the food trucks was also doing cookie decorating.
- o Carriage rides were popular, possibly add a third carriage. We could charge for the carriage rides as a fundraiser. The area to line up to get on the carriage rides needs to be roped off. Also need to cut off the rides at dusk.
- o A majority of the crowd left around 5 pm. We could have used the whole fairgrounds.
- o A Vendor survey is going to be done. Most were done selling around 4 pm.
- o A hand sanitizing station was requested outside of the animal area.
- o Parking was mainly in the grassy area south end of the fairgrounds and behind the West Arena. It was questioned about handicap parking behind the Pioneer Building.
- o It was suggested to have another photo station.
- o The Ceramic Trees area did not turn out like they had hoped. It was stated that it wasn't a \$40 value.

When everything was accounted for the financials for the event were: Total Expenses – \$6,656.12, Income (includes sponsorships and free will donations) - \$6540, with a loss of \$116.12.

County Council Meeting – Holly Plank

Ag Association representatives attended a County Council meeting on December 4th to request money for improvements at the fairgrounds. A list of requested capital improvements was

presented and prioritized for 2025, 2026 and 2027. It was suggested that the ag association work with the Council's financial advisor Greg Guerrettaz to see how to proceed with the improvements.

On December 11th, the County Council approved the presented capital improvements to not exceed \$5 million for the three year plan. The board's Executive committee will be meeting with Greg Guerrettaz to get everything lined out.

Lift Station – Holly Plank

The Board needs to come to an agreement on the new easement that is in regards to the Lift Station being built on the fairgrounds. A letter from City Attorney Greg Morelock requesting another easement due to a prior easement given to the city for another project. The request was to – adjust the easement 10'. It had been suggested that if they could do an additional water tap behind the West Arena it would be acceptable. A counter offer had been received and discussed.

The option was discussed to accept the last offer which was the city would provide the labor to install another tap behind the West Arena however the Ag Association would provide the materials. The discussion was if we continue to ask for more other than our original agreement, work will be delayed and we will not be able to have everything done in time for the fair. It was stated that we need a 2" line stick up and we know where it will be located. Debbie Vansickle made a motion to accept the last offer and Matt Joyce seconded the motion and the motion passed. Holly Plank will contact Greg Morelock.

New Business – Holly Plank

- The committees for the new year have been determined. They are as follows -
 - Building and Grounds – Matt Joyce, chairman; Mike Elsbury, Jesse Melton, Lloyd Arthur, Ryan Bodell, Dave Garmene and Rob Barnhart
 - Budget – David Wildman, chairman; Penny Hunt, Holly Plank, Josh Myles and Debbie Vansickle
 - Carnival – Holly Plank, chairman; Dave Garmene, Penny Hunt and Delanie Melton
 - Commercial/Food Vendors – Penny Hunt, chairman; Brooke Green, David Wildman and Lauren Fogle
 - Fair Events – Brooke Green, chairman; Penny Hunt, Debbie Vansickle, Delanie Melton and Holly Plank
 - Multipurpose Arena – Lloyd Arthur, chairman; Josh Myles, Ryan Bodell and Debbie Vansickle
 - Hall of Fame – Debbie Vansickle, chairman; Holly William, Wyneta Duncan and Lauren Fogle
 - Advertising – Holly Plank, chairman; Brooke Green and Penny Hunt
 - Sponsorship – Holly Plank chairman; Michelle Hasty and Olivia Bates
- New membership to the Ag Association was presented. Debbie Vansickle moved to accept Olivia Bates' membership to the association. Jesse Melton seconded the motion and the motion passed
- Discussion was held regarding a Christmas Gift for Jerry. In 2023 we did \$1100 in gift cards to show our appreciation for his help with the fairgrounds. Jesse Melton suggested increasing the amount of gift cards to \$2,000. Matt Joyce moved to purchase \$2000 in gift cards for Jerry. Jesse Melton seconded and the motion carried. It was suggested to check with St Michaels to see if they are doing their gift card program again and if they are, go through them to purchase the cards.

Next Meeting Dates

- The Fairs & Festivals Convention is January 4th from 2 - 5pm
- Working Meeting is January 6th @ 5:45 PM
- Monthly Board Meeting is January 20th @ 6PM

Penny Hunt moved to adjourn the meeting and Jesse Melton seconded the motion. The motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Debbie Vansickle, Secretary