**Hancock County Ag Association Minutes**

**June 12, 2023**

Present: David Wildman, Wyneta Duncan, Nicole Mann, Barb Pescitelli, Rachelle Kihlstrum, Lauren Conway, Mike Elsbury, Holly Plank, Chrissy Paxton, Jesse Melton, Mike Manship, Debbie Vansickle

Advisory: Amber Barks; Absent - Rob Barnhart

Meeting called to order.

Guests: None

Meeting Minutes from May – Holly Plank motioned to accept the meeting minutes and Chrissy Paxton seconded – Motion Carries.

Financials – There is $456,101.32 in our account and we had $222,134.00 in income, $101,327.00 from tourism and $99,000.00 from the tax levy were deposited for this month and $14,341.50 in expenses for the month of May. YTD $165,337.07 in income and $97,337.07 in expenses. Holly Plank motions to accept the financials and Rachelle Kihlstrum seconded – Motion Carries.

Mike Manship has set up a Venmo & Square account so that we can take debit and credit cards, we will use that for the carnival bracelets and for future events at the fairgrounds, he will get that to Barb Pescitelli to use for carnival bracelet payments.

Building and Grounds

The fans for the pioneer building will be put in by Jesse Melton before fair.

Set up is going well.

Wash racks – Charlie Joyce has submitted a bid to get water to the area at $4,000, members were uncomfortable with that idea and wanted another option. It was decided Jesse Melton and Rob Barnhart will work on getting water to the new wash racks. Mike Elsbury will work on getting gates to put around the new area all before fair.

It was motioned by Jesse Melton to get more fans for the cattle and hog barns up to $2,500 to be done hopefully by fair and Holly Plank seconded – Motion Carries

It was motioned by Holly Plank to get gates for the new wash rack area to finish it, up to $1000.00 before fair and Jesse Melton seconded – Motion Carries.

It was motioned by Jesse Melton to plumb water to the new wash rack, up to $1,500 and Lauren Conway seconded – Motion Carries.

Mike will contact the carnival to make sure they are on schedule and if they need anything from us.

The auction stand that is not used anymore will be given to Marc Huber.

The Wi-Fi password will be 2023FAIR! and will be set up later this week.

There is a need for a 30-yard dumpster to deal with pre fair clean up and it was motioned by Holly Plank to get one ordered for pre fair clean up and Rachelle Kihlstrum seconded – Motion Carries.

Amber Barks – Extension Educator:

Currently there are 811 4-H members an increase from last year of 37 members.

June 13 will be exhibit hall building set up at 5 pm.

Verbal communication judging is on Thursday, and exhibit hall project judging will begin on June 19.

They are wanting to find a way to honor Claire Bishop during the 2023 fair for her time as the Indiana State Fair Queen. Amber would like to request $83.87 to cover the cost of the photo to be displayed on the fairgrounds for the week of the fair. Chrissy Paxton motions to pay $83.87 for the picture of Clair Bishop to be displayed at the 2023 fair and Rachelle Kihlstrum seconded – Motion Carries.

June 17th is fairgrounds clean up day at 8 am

Campsites are almost finished, and it is believed they will be ready to go before the fair starts.

Insurance – after 2 quotes it was decided what we have right now is our best option.

Carnival Bracelets – we will sell them during exhibit hall project turn in and during the first few days of the fair opening.

June 19th – 9 am to 12 pm and 2 pm to 6 pm in the exhibit hall

June 20th – 9 am to 12 pm and 4 pm to 6 pm in the exhibit hall

June 23rd – 9 am to 12 pm and 5 pm to 9 pm in the commercial building

June 24th – 1 pm to 9 pm in the commercial building.

Chrissy Paxton is working on getting the numbers for the exit doors and will have those put up on the June 17th cleanup day.

Lilly Endowment Grant – Debbie said Purdue sent out a survey of what was the opinion of how the money should be allocated. Debbie filled it out but felt that it was slanted towards Purdue education projects and not fairground projects. She is not expecting to hear much until the Fall.

Holly Plank – Sponsorships are all good and everything has a sponsor. They will get the invoices submitted to tourism for the Pioneer Building and campgrounds once they have all the invoices.

Golf Fundraiser – Mike Elsbury and Holly Plank met with Heather from Arrowhead golf course and all things are set for the July 15th golf fundraiser at 8 am. There will be a beverage cart but it will only have snacks, water and sodas. A dinner will be served. Silent auction will run from 8 am to noon. Still working on hole sponsors and golf teams. They will put out information at the Exhibit Halls hostess table during the fair. Would like to charge $75 per person/$300 per team of 4 and $100 for hole sponsorship. Max is 144 golfers/36 teams. All the monies raised will go towards the new building. It was motioned by Nicole Mann to charge $100 for hole sponsorship and $75 per person/$300 per team and Wyneta Duncan seconded – Motion Carries.

Commercial Building – Nicole Mann – 24 vendors are paid, but will have enough to fill the building by the fair.

Food Vendors – Rachelle Kihlstrum – Have contract, payment and insurance from all the food vendors and they will be setting up 8 am to 8 pm on Thursday, June 22, 2023.

Chrissy Paxton – Advertising – fair promotions are done and the fair schedule needs to be printed to put up on display during the fair which will cost up to $40. Holly Plank motions to allocate up to $40 to get those printed and Rachelle Kihlstrum seconded – Motion Carries.

Fair set up sheets have been received from everyone but the Boer goats.

Hall of Fame Committee – Everything is ready for the dedication ceremony on June 18, 2023 at 6 pm.

Mama Town – Delaney Melton – She has had to scale back because of lack of volunteers. Will still have animals on display but just not as many as she was hoping to have.

Mini Princess – will be Friday the 23rd at the bowl, but if it is raining it will be in the pioneer building. 10 kids are signed up.

New Business

None.

Old Business

It was brought up that the cleaning crew during fair week may need to be here more than 1 pm and 11 pm. It was decided that we would see how the first few days went and if it was decided that we need them here more we will make that call then.

Mike Manship motions to adjourn and Holly Plank seconded – Adjourned

Next working meeting is June 5th at 7:30 pm and the next regular meeting is June 12th at 6:30 pm in the exhibit hall.