**Hancock County Ag Association Minutes**

**May 15, 2023**

Present: David Wildman, Barb Pescitelli, Rachelle Kihlstrum, Mike Elsbury, Holly Plank, Chrissy Paxton, Jesse Melton, Debbie Vansickle, Mike Manship

Absent: Wyneta Duncan, Nicole Mann, Lauren Conway

Advisory: Amber Barks, Rob Barnhart

Meeting called to order.

Guests:

Steven Elsbury – Sheep Superintendent – they would like to allow the sheep committee members with 4hers and those 4Hers who have both sheep and beef to be able to come in on Monday, June 26, 2023 at 3 – 4 pm. It was also brought up to let the kids who have goats to do the same. It was agreed to that they would be aware that it is a Kid’s Day at the Carnival so they will need to be sure to watch out for the public. Their trailers have to be off the fairgrounds by 4:30 pm with the gates closed and that was agreed upon. Holly Plank motioned to allow, for the 2023 fair, this change and Chrissy Paxton seconded – Motion Carries.

Steve Wilson – Beef Superintendent – They would like to have the gravel that is being taken out of the Pioneer Barn spread through the main isle going East and West and North and South of the cattle barn. Holly Plank motioned to put the extra gravel in the Cattle Barn and Rachelle Kihlstrum seconded – Motion Carries.

End of Guests

Meeting Minutes from April – Jesse Melton motioned to accept the meeting minutes and Mike Manship seconded – Motion Carries.

Financials – There is $286,885.21 in our accounts and we had $5,162.76 in income and $9,596.67 in expenses for the month of April. YTD -$42,455.84 in income and $83,050.55 in expenses. Rachelle Kihlstrum motions to accept the financials and Holly Plank seconded – Motion Carries.

Building and Grounds – Rob Barnhart

Pioneer Barn Update – The project started 5/15/2023 am and they expect to have concrete poured 5/18/2023, no problems so far.

Commercial Kitchen in the Exhibit Hall – Will be working on that after the fair.

Ninestar Sound System – Still waiting to hear back from them.

Cleaning for the Fair – Our cleaning company has had to back out of this year’s fair, will start the process of finding a new one.

Lift station – Soil borings were done May 10, 2023.

Flags – They are here and will be put up before fair.

Wash Rack Concrete – The quote to extend the wash rack is $1100.00. Rachelle Kihlstrum motions to extend the wash rack concrete for the quoted amount and Jesse Melton seconded – Motion Carries.

Campsite Poles – Jesse Melton – Doug Rodebeck was able to get the supplies that we need here before fair and that project should be done before fair. There may be some overages because of the supply chain issues and the time crunch, but will not know that until later.

Insurance – Jesse Melton and Lloyd Arthur – They were able to get people out and now it is with the underwriters and will know more when they are done.

Amber Barks – Extension Educator:

Today is the Drop/Add Deadline for all projects as well as the hard deadline for all livestock to be entered on 4Honline.

Today is the last day to order 4-H shirts

Still have some trophies without sponsors mainly Dairy Cattle and Cats.

Finalizing judges and hope to have all of them confirmed by the end of the week.

There’s 5 youth and 1 adult chaperone going to 4-H Academy and 1 youth going to 4-H Round-up.

49 youth going to 4-H camp.

Intern is Emma Branham she has started in the Extension Office.

The Purdue Extension Office will be under renovation after the fair.

4-H Poster Workshop May 23rd 5-6pm

The Jr. Leaders will be collecting items to donate to the Life Choice Care Center during the fair.

Lilly Endowment Grant – Debbie Vansickle submitted the grant and asked for $693,000 in capital improvements. There was no information on when they will make their final determination, but she believes we will know in the Fall if we receive anything for the projects submitted.

Carnival Update – Waiting for the email to put our data in so that the poster can be made by the carnival company. Barb has reached out to Signarama to get the cards for the 4H carnival ride special, will keep us updated.

Fundraising Committee – Golf Tournament – Holly – we have a few sponsors already, but will have signs up promoting the Golf Tournament during fair. We will need to decide what this fundraising money will go towards, so we will need a project.

Tourism – Holly – We submitted 3 items for 2023 – Campground Poles for $12,000, Concrete Pioneer Barn for $60,000 and Fair events, advertising and cleaning for $29,327. We were approved for $80,000 immediately, but the other $21,327 will need to be approved by the City Council at Tourisms next meeting so they will let us know the status on that as soon as they have their meeting with them.

Presenting and Day Sponsors – Holly Plank – Ninestar will be our Presenting Sponsor for the 2023 fair.

Hancock Health will be sponsoring the baby contest this year but not the Parade so we will need to find one for that.

Wanting to get signs thanking Circle M, IMI and Tourism for the upgrade of the Pioneer Barn; banner for stage; knowledge facts for the barns; golf outing fundraiser – no quote yet but do not see it being more than $1,500. Debbie Vansickle motioned to approve up to $1,500 to get all the signs and banners made and Chrissy Paxton seconded – Motion Carries.

The stage is $2,194 and Custom Exterior will be sponsoring $1,000 for the stage and will put up a banner, we need to come up with the other $1,194.00. They will set up the stage on Thursday June 22nd and tear down Monday July 3rd. Holly Plank motioned to pay the remaining balance for the stage and Debbie Vansickle seconded – Motion Carries.

Advertising – Chrissy Paxton – All the advertising went to the Daily Reporter and no changes can be made at this point.

Chrissy Paxton – Shirts and hats have been ordered.

Hall of Fame Committee – Signs have been ordered for the 4 buildings. There will be a ceremony at 5 pm on Sunday June 18th for the name reveals with a reception following in the pioneer building.

Commercial Building – Holly Plank for Nicole Mann – There are 19 of the 26 spots filled.

Eagle Scout Project – It is done and looks great.

New Business

None.

Old Business

Rachelle Kihlstrum motioned to allow the City of Greenfield the right away to do their soil boring tests in the two areas of the possible lift station on the North part of the property and Jesse Melton seconded – Motion Carries.

Holly Plank motioned to adjourn and Mike Manship 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.