

**Cass County Fair Association  
Regular Meeting  
Gregarek Building  
December 9, 2024  
Minutes**

President Dave Bratton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Present:** President Dave Bratton, Vice President Daryl Keesler, Secretary Sara Johnson, Treasurer Diane Skibbe, Executive Secretary Brenda Smego, Directors Rodney Waldschmidt, Jim Teter, Mike Frushour, Rob Eubank, Neil Bowman, David Gleason, Stephanie Bender-Bresemann, Zelda Cloud, Gail Peterson, Shane Harris, Ben Waldschmidt, Recorder Stephanie Knepple, Guests Tim Miller, Pauline Harris, Mackenzie Hartsell, Jeremiah Hartsell, Erica Boulanger, Nick Dussel, Preston Barton, Vicki Schoetzow, Karen Wright, and Jon Blough.

**Minutes:** Zelda Cloud moved to approve November 2024 Board Meeting Minutes, supported by Rob Eubank. Motion carried.

**Financial Report:** Zelda Cloud moved to approve the Financial Report, supported by Daryl Keesler. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:**

- Mackenzie Hartsell: Asked the board if there is a set budget for judges for approval. Hartsell shared that other fairs the base for judges is \$500.00.
- Karent Wright: Presented a check from Niles Scream Park 13 people volunteered and raised \$7,850.00 for 900 volunteer hours. Proceeds will go towards the Beef and Goat Barn Projects.
- John Blough: Requested a receipt showing that the rabbit barn invoice was paid. Blough also inquired how much beer tent volunteers get paid.

**Old Business:**

- 2025 Budget
  - Shane Harris moved to approve the 2025 Budget, supported by Zelda Cloud. Motion carried.
- Golf Carts
  - Brenda Smego shared an update of the quote from the U.S. Golf Cart increased. Will look into buying lights from Amazon to attach to the golf carts.
- MAFE Convention
  - Board Members that are taking spouses. A Gun Lake Casino Trip is being offered for spouses for the amount of \$25.00 per ticket.
- Beer Garden
  - Raised \$833.00 in tips and sold \$8,500. Twelve groups volunteered at the Beer Garden.
    - Rodney Waldschmidt moved to approve \$1,200.00 and pay \$100.00 per group that volunteered, supported by Shane Harris. Motion approved.

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**New Business:**

- Shane Harris recommended radio advertisement B100 and 95.3 for \$6,000.00.
  - Zelda Cloud moved to approve B100 & 95.3 radio advertisement for the amount of \$6,000.00, supported by Gail Peterson. Motion approved.
- President Dave Bratton requested to have research and analyze the need and income to buy more horse stalls. Currently there are 144 stalls. Sara Johnson will lead the committee.
- Shane Harris moved to approve Callie High and Jenna Bradley as sheep superintendent assistants, supported by Zelda Cloud. Motion approved.

**CCF Board Workshop November 16, 2024 Updates:**

- 2025 Ticket, Gate, & Camping Pricing
  - Ticket prices have not increased in 10 years
  - 2024 pricing was \$7 for 12 and over, \$2 for 6-12, 5 and under free; Season pass was \$25
  - Open class passes in 2024 were \$10
  - Zelda made a motion to increase 2025 pricing to \$9 for 12 and over, \$3 for 12 and over, and Season passes to \$30. Daryl seconds. Motion carried.
  - Zelda made a motion to increase 2025 open class pricing to \$15. Stephanie seconds. Motion carried.
  - Camping pricing in 2024 was \$250 and it came with two season passes. Mike Smego suggested prices be increased to \$275 with two season passes. This will be for campsites paid for in 2025 for the 2026 fair year camping.
  - Early camper haul-in for the 2024 fair year was \$25 per extra day.
  - Daryl motions to increase fair camping prices for 2026 camping to \$275 with two season passes and early haul in \$30 per day. Stephanie seconds. Motion carried.
- Saturday Livestock
  - Discussion on whether buyers are getting tapped out with how many small animals are running through the auction. Shane suggests a change in how the auction is done. One option would be to reduce how many animals youth can sell, allowing them to only sell one animal per species. Another option would be to sell by the pen which would keep the number of animals but speed up the sales. Shane felt the impact of selling per pen could impact the overall sales at 20%.
  - Daryl motioned for all small animals to only sell one per species with a limit of three lots for 2025. Stephanie seconds. There was one nay from Neil. Motion carried.

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- Dairy Feeder Resale Plan
  - What should the cut-off date before closed bids come in? Shane gives the example that current bids would be retrieved the week prior from a nearby auction. Closed bids then would be accepted until the day before the auction. The starting bid amount is set by the market price.
  - Sealed bids would give the bidder one chance to bid.
  - Shames makes a motion to change dairy feeders to closed one-time sealed bids due the Wednesday morning before the auction at 9 am. Motion carried.

**Adjournment:**

8:02 p.m.

Mike Frushour, moved.

Shane Harries, supported.

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Knepple