



THE DEFIANCE COUNTY FAIR AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, INC  
P. O. BOX 184  
HICKSVILLE, OHIO 43526

John Fifer  
President

Carol Sines  
Vice President

Paula Fairchild  
Secretary

Alliance Tax Services  
Treasurer

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June 11, 2013 Meeting Minutes

President John Fifer called the May director's meeting to order at 7:30 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

**Roll call was taken, those present:**

Ann Beach, Mary Bishop, Brian Chittenden, Deb Cocke, Rusty Detray, Paula Fairchild, David Ferguson, John Fifer, Corey Maassel, Doug Moog, Don Retcher, Larry Retcher, Jeff Rohlf, Francis Schindler, Carol Sines, Joe Stotler and Mitch Troyer

**Not present:**

Mitch Troyer (A), Yvonne Blosser (E), Earl Klepper (E), Angie Etcher (E), Jerry Sanders (E) Dave Fine (E) and Earl Klepper (E).

**Secretary's Report:**

Carol Sines called for the Secretary's Report. Larry Retcher made a motion to abstain from reading the report at this time; second by Dave Ferguson, all in favor.

**Guest attending meeting:** Teresa Johnson, 4-H; Scott Martin, Allied Waste; Bruce Silcot, Hicksville F.D.; Scott Wirth; Sheriff's Office; Commissioner Otto Nicely and Commissioner Jim Harris

**Scott Martin** from Allied Waste presented the fairboard with a proposed bid for trash pick-up during the fair. The Fairboard received a copy for their review. Commissioner Harris asked which landfill the trash will be taken to; Williams Co.

On behalf of the Hicksville Fire Department, **Bruce Silcot** is requesting use of the fairgrounds in 2015 to host a Fireman's Convention. This convention will take place the third weekend in July, 2015; Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. They will be looking at roughly several hundred campers from all over Northwest Ohio and Northeast Indiana; other local Fire Departments will also be assisting. Hicksville Fire Department will need to know the cost as soon as possible in order to begin the process.

Motion was made by Joe Stotler to rent the fairgrounds to the Hicksville F.D. with discussion of price at the end of meeting; second by Don Retcher, all in favor

**Commissioners**

Commissioner Harris wanted to make the fairboard aware that that not only do we own the county Landfill, we have never raised their rates; referring to the Allied Waste proposal. John Fifer stated that we have also received a trash proposal from Werlor's and they were cheaper.

Commissioner Harris asked Lavon if the electrical work has been completed. It has not been completed as of yet and Lavon will bring them the invoice as soon as it is completed.

Commissioner Nicely suggested the fairboard get ahold of the Engineers to help fix the cuts in the roads on the grounds. Currently concrete is cheaper than asphalt.

**Teresa Johnson** introduced Scott Wirth who will be at the horse announcer's stand. Because there is no Horse Committee, he will be providing the food concession all week. He will be serving breakfast burritos in the morning for the 4-H kids and then pulled pork, chicken wings and ribs. Teresa said he will be working out of the building. Teresa passed out the Junior Fair and the Kid's Day Schedule for review. Quality assurance: the kids finished up all of their sessions. Thanked the Sheriff's Office – Chris Clawson, Ron Cereghin and Commissioners office for their help during tagging. Tagging was about the same as last year; 86 feeder calves came to fair, 106 were tagged. 37 market steer from last year and 28 were tagged. Sheep: 52 come to the fair and 52 were tagged. Goats 53 market come to the fair and 63 were tagged (extras were tagged). Swine 171 last year at fair and 185 were tagged. The Cooper donation for \$5,000 will be in soon. Jerry will be completing his ODA paperwork this week. Teresa got a quote for Brian for the antique tractor dash plates, they will be \$81- \$ 100.

Lavon Wiles made motion to approve purchase of the dash plates; second by Mary Bishop, all in favor.

Teresa asked Lavon if she could have some of the extra landscape bricks for flower beds. July 8<sup>th</sup> is the skill-a-thon; Teresa asked if anyone would be willing to help.

**Sheriff's Office:** Deputy Fitzwater had nothing for the fairboard. Joe Stotler asked if the Sheriff's Office could prepare the security contract so the committee can get it signed.

**Correspondence:** None

**Treasure Report:**

We are doing pretty well on finances. Denise will need to move some money around in the designated accounts to cover expenses in the checking account because we are down to \$13,000. We are doing really well on some sponsorship's such as Integrity and NWO Beverage, but the overall sponsorship is down, so the fair will not make the money it is expected to make. It is important for each Chairman to make one or two calls for any sponsorship they will be able to obtain.

We have sold 157 VIP Gallagher tickets, 85 general admission, 9 sold at pond shop function.

Denise is requesting the approval of \$18,041 in checks. Some of the bigger checks: \$10,000 for the Goat Barn pens, \$1639 electricity, \$1,448 picnic tables, \$896 fuel. We did receive the VLT funds as Bill Peters explained. There has been an issue with people not giving the correct amount for rental of the multipurpose building. It is important for anyone that is inquiring rental information, to either go through Tax Alliance or Lavon.

Joe Stotler inquired on the account payables that still shows we owe the Fair Foundation, have we not paid them off. According to Denise, we still have one more payment; the amount was to be split and paid over 3 years and there was one year that we skipped.

Motion was made by Carol Sines to approve checks for payments; second by Don Retcher, all in favor.

Larry Retcher asked if we had a backup plan if it rained. John Fifer said it is rain or shine. Denise informed the committee that every person who purchases a Gallagher ticket also receives a disclaimer "nonrefundable, rain or shine, final sale".

Denise asked the board if a 4 year old should be charged or not if they sit on someone's lap. John Fifer expressed if they are going to buy a VIP ticket then they should pay for that extra seating; there was no other discussion.

Motion was made to accept Treasurer report by Joe Stotler; second by Carol Sines, all in favor

**E-Board Report**

A second notice went out in the paper for bids on Gates/Tickets and Janitorial. We have received a Gate/Ticket bid from HHS, which was \$350 lower; Bid was at \$4650. We have received no other bid. E-board has recommended we accept this bid. The number of people at each gate was dropped.

Motion was to accept Gates/Tickets bid from HHS 2016 for \$4650 by Joe Stotler; second by Don Retcher

3 bids were received for Janitorial:

Floyd Esquivel	\$4500
Professional Jan. Serv	\$3500
J&R Floor Care	\$2500

Carol called J & R Floor Care to be sure they understand the job description as it states daily duties. She wanted to be sure that we need them here all day not just once a day. They do have several recommendations.

Professional Janitorial Services performed services last year.

The board has agreed to choose between the \$3500 and \$2500. There was much discussion on saving \$1000 and taking a chance of someone new or going with the \$3500 bid from Professional Janitorial Services, which did a great job last year.

It was suggested that J&R be contacted and be sure they are aware they need to be here for several hours. Then email everyone to get a vote.

John revisited the proposals from Allied Waste and Werlors reviewing the cost. The board has agreed to keep Werlors.

Carol read a letter that was received by the Area Horsemen Association regarding their mission to put more "seats in the seats". As stated, "We are hoping to give away five televisions each night of racing to purchasers of grandstand seats".

We have also contracted the Bud Widmer Rube Band again to play during Tuesday's races, and would like to hire a live band for Friday night, College Night at the Races". "The fact that high school football doesn't conflict with this year's Friday night races should generate a larger attendance". "We will do the tee shirt toss and invite radio celebrity Rick Small to emcee the grandstand as well".

"With the money raised we are offering larger purses and will attract more and better quality horses. This will increase your gate receipts and attendance which generates more money spent on the midway".

Again this year we are seeking eight major race sponsors at \$1000 apiece to be honored in the winner's circle of designated races. These eight stake races will portray a banner and a trophy blanket with the donor's name. Additionally their name will be announced and displayed prominently in each program".

We appreciate your continued support of our efforts and request that you consider being one of our eight major sponsors so that we may recognize that commitment".

The E-board is in favor of being one of the sponsors; the horsemen association has come a long way and they are trying to bring more money into the fair. The board must make final decision

There was much discussion regarding the \$2800 we turned over to them along with the \$600 they will give us from Senior Citizen night. Denise explained to Deb how the \$2800 was requested to be used by the horsemen association as seen fit and the profit the fair made from the 2012.

Deb Cocke made a motion to decline sponsorship; second by Mary Bishop, all in favor

### **Finance Committee**

The Finance Committee would like to meet on June 19<sup>th</sup> or 26<sup>th</sup> to review what sponsorship funding has been received and what we are expecting. Would like to review where we are with the budgets. The finance committee continues to review the financial statements and end of the month banking statements that are provided by Denise. Paula Fairchild asked if everyone is still receiving the end of the month reports. Doug Mood requested a copy be mailed to him.

### **Committee Reports:**

Because we are getting close to fair time, John has requested reports from every committee.

Advertising: Dave Fine is not present

Ag Building: Mary Bishop: We have information ready to turn into Larry. Revised list of classes to what people can enter. Also added some new classes: furniture recycling, furniture refinishing and reupholstering. Working on getting judges. Creative Design and stain glass project.

Fine Arts: Carol Sines: There are several quilts coming in for the "Wounded Warrior Quilt project" It was suggested another article be placed in the paper.

Campground: Larry Retcher: campground if filled up with 4 on the waiting list. There have been no cancellations.

Cheerleading: Angie Etchen not present

Concessions & Rides: Carol & Lavon: Concessions are coming in with letters going out to remind them. There are a couple new ones, so we will be crowded again this year. We will have a tent up in the midway with tables in it for an eating area. We are receiving sponsors for the picnic tables.

Tickets: Dave Fine is not present

Fair Tab: Larry Retcher: Larry requested an article about the quilts. Larry will contact Eric Crall to go over tickets.

Grounds: Lavon Wiles: The Fairboard received a donation of \$2000 from Mrs. Metz to put a partial roof on the horse barn with provisions that the fairboard would match. Lavon is requesting a motion to buy that much roofing. Motion to purchase \$200 of roofing made by Rusty Detray; second by Corey Maassel, all in favor

Riding arena needs 2 more loads of sand for the kids to exercise their horses; will cost \$800 for 2 loads. Motion was made to purchase sand by Rusty Detray; second by Joe Stotler, all in favor

Carol reminded the committee that the Fairboard needs to approve the vet, Dr. Bowen. Carol made a motion to hire Dr. Bowen as fair Vet; second by Dave Ferguson, all in favor

Kids Day: Doug Moog: Nothing yet. John talked to Lowe's; they will be having a Kids Clinic.

Merchants building: John Fifer: There are about 4-5 spots. We will not see some of the regulars this year. The cost is \$100 for a 10x10, \$10 for electricity and one fair pass. We are need of a Pampered Chef vendor.

Outside Ag: Lavon Wiles: We have a few coming in.

Radios have been ordered and sponsored by Defiance Metal Products.

Teresa is in need of a camera system in the swine barn, there have been too many issues with the animals. John suggested getting with Jerry to see how many they will need.

Rentals: Lavon: Sanitation, Lavon has already ordered. Teresa asked Lavon about hand washing stations. It has been recommended by ODA to have a hand washing station at the swine barn. It would be good to have one for each show arena. Larry will get 4 hand washing stations for Teresa.

Security: Joe: Joe asked the Sheriff's Office earlier about this year's security contract. Guessing it will be the same amount of \$4500.

Per John, Promedica will be covering as EMS again. John will be talking to Chief Cramer to see if Hicksville Fire Department will be back up.

So far Joe has 4 volunteer Fire Departments who will be available to assist during the Demo and Truck pulls.

Senior Day: Carol Sines: We will be paying for lunch this year with our donations. We have a banjo player, Bingo, a style show and a band "Memory Lane" from 3-5. If there is enough money left from donation, Carol may have Memory Lane play from 6-8 in the Senior tent.

Golf Carts: Mary Bishop: We have the regular shuttles as last year. Mary needs to know if there is anyone else who wants to rent a shuttle. Denise needs one for her secretary. Price is the same as last year. This is our 2<sup>nd</sup> year of a 3 year contract with the golf carts. Because Earl Keppler always looks for volunteer shuttle drivers, Carol and Mary asked Rusty Detray if he would be available to volunteer.

Special events: Denise Sutter informed the committee the organizer for the Auto Show moved to S. Carolina. Mary offered to call around to see if she can find one. Someone suggested to contact Maumee Valley Car Show.

Truck Pulls: Joe Stotler suggested to increase the spots where trailers park for the truck pulls from \$10 to \$20. This area marked off provides 29 spots.

Motion was made by Carol Sines to increase to \$20; second by Mary Bishop, all in favor

John informed the committee there were 25 loads of dirt hauled in for the truck pulls. This dirt contains a lot of junk such as wood, wire and concrete. We have two people who will level and clean out. It was mentioned to have Jeff Holtzberry to come in with a dozer to level out.

Doug made a motion to have Jeff Holtzberry be in charge of pull track and level out; second by Lavon Wiles, all in favor

Veterans Day: Carol Sines: Received a \$500 sponsorship from John Manville. We will still have bean soup and beef and noodle. This will be on Wednesday at 4pm.

### **Old Business:**

Picnic tables have been purchased and some assembly is required. Lavon will have a work day.

John asked if the trailer, which was left stranded, had been fixed yet? It was mentioned that Charlie brought it in and that it belongs to some church. It was suggested that the Fairboard put the trailer in the Fair Foundation Auction that is taking place on June 29<sup>th</sup>.

Carol made a motion to place trailer in auction as is; second by Dave Ferguson, all in favor with a show of hands

### **Ticket booth and air conditioner:**

Joe informed the committee the window for the ticket booth is \$94 and insulation is \$19. It was approved at the last meeting to go ahead and fix the ticket booth. He also received prices for an air compressor: 10 gal stand up for \$190 & 26 gal stand up for \$230. It was mentioned that the old air compressor switch is bad and should be able to fix. It was decided to see if Dave Ferguson can fix the switch on old compressor. This will be tabled till next meeting.

**Company Picnic:**

Dave Fine has been talking to a company regarding a "company picnic" the first Saturday. They already have a \$10 price for the rides and looking at \$8 for a pork chop dinner, or to spend on midway. Looking to have 120- 160 people. This is all up in the air; we are still tossing prices around since it is our first company picnic.

At 9:45 pm, motion made to adjourn meeting by Dave Ferguson; second by Rusty Detray, all in favor.

**Reminder: August meeting has been changed to Monday, August 5<sup>th</sup>.**

Next Fairboard Meeting: Tuesday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013  
Secretary's Building 7:30