



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

May 14, 2013 Meeting Minutes

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

Roll call was taken, those present:

Ann Beach, Mary Bishop, Yvonne Blosser, Brian Chittenden, Rusty Detray, Angie Etchen, Paula Fairchild, David Ferguson, Teresa Johnson, Don Retcher, Larry Retcher, Francis Schindler, Carol Sines, Joe Stotler, Mitch Troyer and Lavon Wiles

Not present:

Debra Cocke (E/W), John Fifer (E), Earl Klepper (E), Jerry Sanders (E) Dave Fine (E), Corey Maassel (E) and Doug Moog (E)

Secretary's Report:

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

Guest attending meeting:

Otto Nicely introduced **Sherry Carnahan**, Defiance County Administrator.

Sherry Carnahan has replaced Laura Howell.

Otto was very disappointed with the contractor that left the chunks of asphalt by the main gate after fixing the water line. He asked that we contact the responsible party to have them complete the job.

Lavon informed Commissioner Nicely of damage that has taken place on the fairgrounds do to vandalism. There was several windows broken out in one of the horse barns. Most of this vandalism has been happening between the hours of 3 and 8 pm. John has informed the village police and asked if they would patrol the area. Otto said he would talk to the Chief.

Teresa Johnson Saddle Slings had a horse show May 4. Teresa Thanked Lavon and Brian for helping. Teresa is waiting on final estimates for the swine pens. Teresa is looking for the following judges: Swine, Sheep, Beef and Dog.

Sheriff's Office, Fitzwater, suggested maybe they can place an unmarked car on the grounds for a few days during the hours the vandalism seems to be taking place.

Carol asked about the golf carts that are driving through the fairgrounds, she noticed they were driven by kids that looked younger than 16. Commissioner Nicely will talk to the Chief of Police.

Bill Peters with the Horsemen's Association, reviewed a hand out that was provided to the board:

"The Ohio Harness Association, in conjunction with the Ohio State Racing Commission, Chairman Bob Schmitz and Mountaineer Gaming (Scioto Downs), is pleased to present the enclosed check for \$15,100 to your fair board. If your fair does not conduct harness races, the enclosed check is for \$700.

These funds are from the Ohio Harness Horsemen's VLT funds. \$11,600 is to be used for purse support of Ohio Fairs Fund Races.

****Bill wanted to make it clear that these funds are not casino money; this money is from the video lottery terminals just at Scioto Downs. This money came from one track over 10 months. In 2016 funds will be generated from 4 tracks year round which means more money for the fairs.

The allocation for purse support is as follows:

1 colt pace-2 year old	\$1,450
2 colt pace-3 year old	\$1,450
3 filly pace-2 year old	\$1,450
4 filly pace-3 year old	\$1,450
5 colt trot-2 year old	\$1,450
6 colt trot-3 year old	\$1,450
7 filly trot-2 year old	\$1,450
8 filly trot-3 year old	<u>\$1,450</u>
Total Allocation	\$11,600

When combined with the Ohio Fairs Fund allocation of \$1,354, the base purse for the eight stakes races will be \$2,804. If any of the above races are cancelled, the funds for those races that allocated above must be returned to the Ohio State Racing Commission, and the funding that came from the Ohio Fairs Fund must be returned to the Ohio Department Agriculture.

The remaining portion of the check (\$3,500) is to be used for racing related expenses. In the area of racing related expenses, you may use these funds for overnight purses, track maintenance, barn maintenance, racing officials, or other expenses. If any of your races are cancelled, this portion of the allocation does not need to be returned.

Per an agreement between the Ohio Fair Managers Association and the Ohio Harness Horsemen's Association, the 29 fairs that do not conduct harness racing will each receive \$700. This allocation from the Horsemen's VLT funds may be used for general operating expenses of your fair."

2013 Sources of Money from the State of Ohio for Fairs

	<u>Ohio Fairs Fund</u>	<u>VLT's</u>
Purses for Colt and Filly Stakes:	\$6832.00	\$11,600.00
Purses for Non-Stake Races:	\$4000.00	\$ 00.00
Harness Racing Related Expenses:	\$1000.00	\$2800.00
General Operating Funds:	\$1301.48*	\$ 700.00
Totals:	\$13,133.48	\$15,100.00

*all 94 fairs receive this amount whether they have harness racing or not

Bill Peters would like for us to ensure the \$2800 goes to harness racing expenses.

Denise, as our treasurer asked if she could advise and interject with some numbers from last year. Last year the fair board donated a \$1000. They should get the money with some conditions; not to donate \$1000 this year and not to grandfather in, this amount may be flexible, maintain as a per year approval basis. Denise informed the board they cleared a profit of \$2,106.58 from harness racing in 2012.

Bill assured this amount is going to grow up to 2016. A board member asked of other expenses the fair pays.

According to Bill Peters, the only expensed the fair pays is the following:

\$200 membership that is refunded at the end of the year; a wash out

Bond-for racing permit; also refunded

Permit for pari-mutuels; this is not refunded, but the fair makes more than what the permit cost

The board is pleased of the working relationship between them and the Horsemen Association.

Motion was made by Dave Ferguson to set aside the \$2800 for harness racing expenses; second by Don Retcher

Jeff Rohlf arrived at 8:50

Correspondence: None

Treasure Report:

Denise asked if everyone received the end of month financial reports.

\$87,432.41 in account

\$12,700.00 Sales

Denise is asking for the approval of \$16,086.05 in checks. Some of the larger expenses include the NW showdown. This event has already taken place this year, instead of during the fair. The show did not go quite as well as they hoped. Couple of the larger checks also includes ground maintenance and AEP (electric).

The net income is showing a negative balance of \$4,207.49. Although you have to take into consideration we do not have all of our gates to balance out. We have had some nice deposits due to Gallagher. The Gallagher is coming along very well with 10 VIP seats sold at \$25 apiece, 61 grandstand and 10 for promotional. Advertising is coming along very well. Denise expects a lot of activity in the next month.

Because of the 10 free tickets to Gallagher, Carol thought it was a good time to mention what we may promote or donate as fair board members. It has been suggested that donations not be given in behalf of the fair board unless donation was approved by the fairboard committee.

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

Motion was made to pay bills by Mary Bishop; second by Don Retcher, all in favor

E-Board Report

Bid packets were opened up at the E-Board meeting. Electrician wants the same as last year plus he has already donated \$2,000 worth of lights in the multipurpose building and he will help Lavon with plumbing. His bid comes in at \$5,600 (Craig Vogelsong).

Motion was made by Joe Stotler to accept electrician bid; second by Brian Chittenden

We have received on Janitorial bid at \$4,500 with last year at \$3,000. After much discussion, it was suggested that more information was needed before bid was to be accepted. Lavon mentioned that this gentleman has

cleaned the multipurpose room in the past and has done a good job. Majority of the board feels they need more information and insurance documentation.

Motion was made by Mary Bishop to reject bid and to speak to him of what is needed and resubmit; second by Dave Ferguson; 1-opposed- Rusty Detray

Gates/Tickets: Once again, received only one bid by Hicksville Schools at \$5,000, which is an increase of \$500 from last year. There was much discussion of how many we need to have at each gate. The campground gate was added this year. Even though to bid packet was approved to state 3 was needed at each gate. It was noted that a correction be made to the listed gate numbers. One suggestion was to talk to them about the number needed at the gates and to be sure this is fulfilled at all times, which should allow for adjustment of bid.

Motion was made by Jeff Rohlf to reject bid, correct gates as listed and place 2nd ad in paper by; second by Mary Bishop, all in favor

Committee Reports:

Rusty provided committee information for Dave Fine who was not present. Dave is asking for volunteers to help and represent the Fair at a booth that will be set up at the Wooden Indian pond shop in Defiance on Saturday, June 8 from 10am – 5pm. Seth Gold from the Detroit Hard Core Pond, a show on TV, will be a special guest at the Wooden Indian Pond shop. Besides other events, they will be selling raffle tickets and a percentage of that will go toward restrooms at the fairgrounds. The Fair Foundation will also be present. Dave feels this would be good advertisement for the fair since Channel 13 News will also be there.

Dave is asking the board for approval of \$246 to go toward advertising. He would like to advertise in the Ft. Wayne paper that has a special section. This advertisement would reach more people. We budgeted \$10,500 for advertisement in which \$4000 will go to the radio station and \$946 is already spent.

Motion was made by Rusty to approve the \$246 for advertisement; second by Lavon Wiles, all in favor

Dave has been working on obtaining more sponsorships for the fair. He is looking at \$3,300 for extreme cheerleading and will be talking to Ohio Beverage. We will be receiving the following:

John Manville \$500
Citizen Bank \$500

Carol informed the committee that the Auditor of State would like to speak at the opening of the fair. Because we don't have an opening event, there was much discussion on the best time to have him speak and if anyone wanted to plan an opening ceremony. Teresa suggested the best time for him to speak is between the 4-H awards and the bands. It was decided to just have him speak on Monday night.

Lavon made a request to put concrete back where they wash the horses. Part of it had to be torn out to fix the water leak.

Motion was made by Brian to replace concrete; second by Rusty. All in favor

Lavon requested permission to purchase gravel for just what is needed to complete 3 approaches to the goat barn. The goat barn committee will be providing \$500.

Motion made by Brian to purchase up to \$1,000 for gravel; second by Yvonne. All in favor

Lavon requested funds to purchase black top grinding for the car show. The black top grinding will be placed just in the entry area of the infield.

Rusty made motion to make purchase of black top grinding; second by Joe, all in favor.

August meeting will be changed to Monday, August 5.

Carol informed the committee they plan on purchasing 12- 5ft picnic tables at \$119. Will be looking for sponsors to pay for tables and they will have their names placed on the picnic table. Picnic tables will be set up under a tent this year and utilized as an eating area. This has been requested in the past by vendors.

Larry Retcher left the meeting at 8:55; before he left, Carol asked about some upgrades that are needed at the campground.

Lavon informed the committee they will be working on the flower beds this week and requested assistance from any fairboard member who may be available.

Finance Committee:

They will be having a meeting in June to review the budgets and to see where they stand at this point.

Denise also interjected that the finance committee is also receiving the bank statements and the end of the month reports; these are being reviewed monthly. The finance committee is also receiving every transaction made for the Gallagher event. Copies are being kept for tracking.

Joe Stotler would like to buy a new air compressor because the one we have has not been very reliable. Carol asked him to bring prices to the next meeting.

Joe would like to complete the inside of the ticket building with insulation and paneling along with installing a 3rd window. Most of the supplies have already been donated. Lavon said a window would only cost about \$150. Joe made a motion to complete the inside of the ticket building; second by Brian, all in favor.

Joe asked the committee if they know who left a trailer sit on its tongue with the tires off the rim. He was upset that they left it there for Lavon to fix. If anyone knows who may have left the trailer, please inform them it needs to be fixed by the next meeting.

Brian Chittenden suggested a contract be drawn up for anyone wanting to use any of the 4-H buildings or areas, just as we do for the multipurpose building. The contract would cover responsibilities for the area and liabilities should there ever be any damage. A contract that would also include any equipment on the fairgrounds. Carol will take this information to the next E-Board meeting.

At 9:05 pm, motion made to adjourn meeting by Dave Ferguson; second by Joe Stotler, all in favor.

Next Fairboard Meeting: Tuesday, June 11, 2013
Secretary's Building 7:30