

KENT COUNTY YOUTH FAIR BOARD MEETING  
January 10, 2007

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Sr. and Jr. Directors Present:**

Dave Bielema, Dennis Brown, Bruce Doll, Kay Grinage, Dawn Haase, Kevin Haase, Jason Hofman, Gary Jonker, Jessica Marks, Nicki Patterson, Jim Crosby, Dean Olin, Steve Vickers, Luci Shaffer, Lindsay Bielema, Morgan Olin

**Sr. and Jr. Directors Excused:**

E.L. Phelps,

**Sr. and Jr. Directors Un-excused:**

Thomas Pfaller

**Areas Represented:**

Beef, Cavy/Rabbit, Dairy, Goat, Horse, Swine

**Areas Not Represented:**

Dog, Horse, Sheep, Poultry,

**Others Present:**

Beth Bowers, Bill Bowers, Rory Kidder, Nancy Kidder, Jeff Haase, Jim Steketee, Gordon VanLaan, Paul Meyer, Rob Vonk, Monica Burt, Maruszka Hufstader, Diane Brown, Patricia Wallington, David Pachulski, Dave Simmonds, Bob Crosby, Terri Gordon,

**Call to order**

The January meeting was called to order by President Jason Hofman at 7:30 p.m. at the King Memorial Youth Center and was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll call was taken with 16 directors present, 1 members excused, and 1 member un-excused.**

**2007-01-1** Moved by Denny Brown and seconded by Lindsay Bielema to accept the December 13, 2006 minutes as presented. There was one change – Remove “with no premium” on last page. Motion Carried

**Treasurer’s Report:**

**2007-1-2** Moved by Denny Brown and seconded by Gary Jonker to accept the treasurers report as presented. Motion carried.

**2007-1-3** Moved by Jim Crosby and seconded by Morgan Olin to pay the bills as presented. Motion carried.

Current balances are as follows:

Checking - \$5977.86	Savings acct - \$11,806.29
Premium Checking - \$2535.06	

**Extension Report:**

Club’s financial reports have been audited. Some of them do have some record keeping issues. Clubs need to stay up on their club forms and remember to fill out a form and get approval for fundraisers.

Interviews are taking place on Friday, 1/12 for the open agent position. Most of the participation fees are in and it has gone smoothly.

**The following committees/areas had no report:**

Exhibit Building, Still Exhibit Judging, Trophies and Ribbons, Camping, Parking, Safety, Publicity, Entertainment, Livestock, Guest Services, Technology, Beef, Dairy, Dog, Goat, Poultry, Sheep,

**Committee Reports:**

**Sponsorship/Commercial** – Monica Burt was introduced. Please have people who are interested in sponsoring or in commercial space contact her.

**Building and Grounds/Midway/Fair Manager** – Banquet RSVP's are due tonight so a count can be given to the carnival company. Elliot Amusements is going to purchase our tickets for the banquet.

We received a certified letter from AJ Carl Shows stating that they were not coming back to Michigan this year. In searching for a new carnival company we talked to 6, four of them wanted us to change our dates. After careful consideration we have chosen Elliot Amusements to be our new carnival company. We checked with other fairs that have Elliot and all gave good reports. They have approximately the same number of rides. There will be ride specials. They are interested in doing the reading for rides program but we will need someone to work on that with them. Going to see about doing the \$2.00 off coupon for Tuesday and Wednesday like AJ Carl did.

**Finance** – Please see the attached meeting summary.

**Swine** – Eugene Camps, who is in the sawdust business, dropped off a bag of sawdust for everyone to look over. He would like to make this sawdust available to the exhibitors during fair for bedding. The bags are larger than we currently get and will cost less. He would like to sell them to the exhibitors for \$3.00 per bag. This will help save the kids some money. He feels he can provide enough for us and would provide a container to keep it in. Maybe we could get a local business to bring in a van trailer as a “sponsor” to store the sawdust in.

**Rabbits/Cavy** – The State 4-H show is January 27 at the MSU Pavilion. About 15 – 30 kids usually participate from our county.

**Horse** – There was a good response with some good ideas for the survey that was sent out. They do need to do something about the space issue and safety concerns. They would like to move the walk/trot classes to Friday and Saturday before fair and there would be 50 – 70 horses. They can fit it into 1 day if they start at 9:00 a.m. This could still be a premium class and will help to free up some space. There are plans to help make it special for the kids that would be involved since they would not be able to experience the full fair week of showing.

**2007-1-4** Moved by Lindsay Bielema and seconded by Jessica Marks to allow the walk/trot classes to be moved to Saturday starting fair. Motion Carried.

It was mentioned that they would like to get a fast pass for the kids that will be showing their horses that day for their still exhibit judging. Maybe they could take a one hour lunch break for the kids to get judged on their still exhibits. Details to be worked out.

**Public Comments:**

Rory – Suze Phelps, E.L. and Wannetah's daughter, passed away just before Christmas. E.L. and Wannetah are doing as well as can be expected.

**Old Business:**

**Holiday Party** – Invites have been sent out. The party is January 27. Meat will be provided. There will be entertainment.

**Performing Arts Superintendent** – We still need to find someone to fill this position. If anyone knows of someone that would be good for this position, PLEASE let the board know. Dawn has brought back the stuff for this area. Dawn and Nicki to look into writing something up for the volunteer opportunity section of the GR Press.

**Lease Update** – There will be a meeting on January 17 at City Hall. All of the organizations that use the parks were invited to attend. We do not know what to expect at this time. We will have more info to present at the February meeting. Our lease has been extended to March 30, 2007 and will continue to be extended until the new one is finalized.

**New Business:**

**Leaders Meeting** – Will be held on Thursday, April 26 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, April 28 at 10:00 a.m. Leaders only need to attend one of the meetings.

**Seymour** – Had surgery on January 9 and will be laid up for 10 – 14 days. The disc was diseased instead of herniated.

**National Animal Identification** – Some people have received a survey regarding the National Animal I.D. This is a way for the government to track livestock from farm to table. Part of that includes Sheep, goats, cattle, and maybe swine. Right now it is voluntary at the Federal level. MDA is making it mandatory for some. Goats are still under the state law. Cattle goes into affect March 1, 2007. There are plans for every animal in the food chain. There is more information on this at [www.michigan.gov](http://www.michigan.gov) under the agricultural section. Convention is also having a workshop on this topic.

MDA will help with ordering the tags and they were picking up some of the cost until January 1, 2007.

**Convention Basket** – Pictures of the basket that was donated to the silent auction for the convention was passed around. Ron is not re-running for the MAFE board.

2007-1-5 Moved by Jessica Marks and seconded by Jim Crosby to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 14 at 7:30 p.m. at the King Building.

Respectfully submitted,  
Nicki Patterson, Secretary

**FINANCE COMMITTEE SUMMARY**  
**January 9, 2007**

Attendees: Jason Hofman, Ron Wenger, Jessica Marks, Kay Grinage, Kevin Haase, Bill Bowers, Dave Bielema

The Finance Committee met on January 9, 2007. Jessica reported that she is hoping to hear next week from the Lowell Area Community Fund Grant. She was not sure when we would hear from the Lowell Community Grant (a.k.a. United Way Grant) regarding our application for paving the Carnival Area and the road between the Horse Barns & Small Animal Barns.

With no further business coming forth the next Finance Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 6, 2007 at 7pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kay Grinage  
Financial Secretary