

KENT COUNTY YOUTH FAIR BOARD MEETING
April 18, 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, Morgan Olin, Lindsay Bielema

Sr. and Jr. Directors Excused:

E.L. Phelps

Sr. and Jr. Directors Un-excused:

Thomas Pfaller

Areas Represented:

Beef, Goat, Horse, Cavy/Rabbit, Poultry

Areas Not Represented (excused):

Dairy, Swine

Areas Not Represented (unexcused):

Dog, Sheep

Others Present:

Bill Bowers, Jim Steketee, Sharon Jonker, Sarah Crosby, Mary Crosby, Monica Burt, Diane Brown, Jeff Haase, Bob Wallington, Tricia Wallington, Dave Simmonds, Pat Mager, Glenda Kilpatrick, Rob Vonk, David Pachulski, Terry Iler, Candice Russell, Maruszka Hufstader,

Call to order

The April 18, 2007 meeting was called to order by President Jason Hofman at 7:37 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 member excused, and 1 member un-excused.

2007-04-1 Moved by Dennis Brown and seconded by Morgan Olin to accept the minutes of the March meeting as presented. Motion carried.

2007-04-2 Moved by Dennis Brown and seconded by Dave Bielema to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion carried.

Current balances are:

Savings – \$13,010.85

Premium Checking – \$2122.06

Checking – \$13,023.72

Extension

Rob Vonk introduced the new 4-H agent, Glenda Kilpatrick.

The GRPS Collaborative Fair will be on Saturday, May 12. Volunteers are needed. If you are interested, please contact Rob.

Committees

Fair Manager/Buildings & Grounds/Midway - Ron Wenger

May 19 – Poultry Clinic and Show hosted by Barry County

June 2 – Beef Preview Show

June 30 – Blue and Gold Lamb Show sponsored by the Caledonia FFA.

These are all good chances to get in some practice before fair.

*The Buildings and Grounds committee met. The financial status of the state is not good. Governor Granholm has put a freeze on all state grants. Therefore, the committee will have to cut out some of the projects that they had wanted to do. Those that they do have to do are: Paint the roofs on the Horse and Beef barns, put in a water line, try to overhaul the Toro, work on the walk in cooler in St. Pat's booth, and replace the worn lumber on the bleachers. No big projects are planned at this time.

*The Michigan Community Blood Center holds a blood drive each month at the fire station. The fire station is no longer large enough to hold the blood drive. They are interested in using the King Building. In exchange they would acknowledge us as a sponsor of the Lowell Area Blood Center through promotions. Ron is going to work out a day that works for all of us. The day and time (12-7) would be the same each month. They do come with their own crew for set up and tear down.

*A Fair Animal Disease Prevention Workshop will be held at the MSU Pavilion on May 11, 10 – 1.

Beef – Jim Steketee

Are Project Superintendents required to be at meetings? Per the fairbook they are not to miss more than 3 consecutive board meetings without presenting a satisfactory excuse. A representative can be sent in their place.

Are they expected to attend both Leaders Meetings? We would like them there to answer any questions that pertain to them. Per the fairbook it states that they are required to attend the annual leaders meeting.

6/2 Preview Show is coming together. Fair Acre Show and Supply will be there to sell show supplies. They wanted to know if they could serve coffee for a donation or would they need a permit. A permit is only needed when preparing food on site.

Goats – Maruszka Hufstader

There will be a Goat Showmanship Clinic on July 14.

Horses – Dave Pachulski

Bob Wallington gave Dave pricing information for sound equipment for the Horse Area. The Horse leaders would like permission to do the horse barns and arena at their expense. **2007-4-3** Moved by Morgan Olin and seconded by Dean Olin to let the Horse Leaders get and pay for upgrades to the sound equipment. Motion carried.

Poultry – Mary Crosby

The clinic in Barry County is a very good clinic.

Swine - Their PQA meeting was on Saturday, April 14. Numbers are up.

Guest Services – Tricia Wallington

A copy of the letter and schedule for staffing the guest services office was passed out.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Old Business:

Performing Arts Superintendent – We are talking with Becky Winter.

Lease – Our lease was up on April 1. We have been told that their attorney is drawing it up. Once we get a copy of the lease we will review it.

Lowell Expo – With about 6,000 people going through it was the biggest expo so far. The Farmers market and Blue Grass joined us in the booth as well as B-93.

Horse Camp – Dave Pachulski

Dave is going to wait until 2008 to try to have a Horse Camp. Information on insurance had not yet been confirmed.

Bike Policy – It is already in the fairbook that no bikes, skateboards, or roller blades are allowed on the fair grounds. There are racks located at each end of the fairgrounds for the local kids to use.

Entertainment – Dawn Haase

The big stuff is all set and contracts signed. Still working on some of the small stuff.

Still Exhibit Judging – Dawn Haase

Working on the logistics for keeping the parents from the judges tables.

New Business:

State Funding – All grants have been frozen by Governor Granholm until the end of September. Matching money and premium money are part of the grant program with the state. We will get our final matching money payment for 2006 and did get our first matching money payment for 2007 before the freeze took affect. We may not get our final matching money payment for 2007 in 2008.

The 2006 premium budget was \$27,000.

The Department of Ag is suggesting to go with the programs as set. They are working on getting exclusions for the premium funds from the freeze.

We do also still get some premium reimbursement from the County.

It is stated in our fairbook that “premiums can be reduced” if we do not get the funding for them.

2007-4-4 Moved by Dave Bielema and seconded by Morgan Olin to put a letter in the leaders packet explaining the financial status and the affect on the premiums. Motion carried

Health Department Fees – Monica received new information regarding the fee for licenses. In 2006 the fee to get 1 license to cover all events was \$130. Now, it is \$405. A temporary license for each event is \$30. Ours is currently expired. During Fair we are under the Department of Agriculture jurisdiction. Events outside of Fair week are under the Kent County Health Department jurisdiction. We will be getting a temporary license for each event.

Grant Proposal - A grant proposal was sent to the Extension office from a developmental committee. We strongly encourage the different areas of the fair to apply for grants to help improve their area. However, ALL grants need to be coordinated with the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee does the grant applications and can roll your request in with others. To have multiple requests submitted from the same organization to the same grant fund could really hinder the amount that is given. Even though the fair has its separate areas, we are all still under the same umbrella known as

the Kent County Youth Fair and requests for grants should be submitted as one organization.

Rob brought the request that had been sent to Extension and gave it to Bill to see if Beth could roll it into the grant proposal that was due in two days.

Please get your requests in to the Finance Committee early so that they have time to put everything together.

Radios – We received a quote from TeleRad for \$20 per radio and it includes microphones and other accessories. Jason will prepare a list of who needs a radio to determine how many we need. The most important reason for having the radios is to coordinate the search of missing kids.

Brochure – Dawn passed out copies of the 2006 brochure. Please report any changes to her as soon as possible. She needs them by the May meeting in order to get the brochures finalized and to the printer to have them back by mid June.

Buildings and Grounds – If you need to use any of the buildings or grounds please contact Ron to schedule your time and location needed. This will ensure that he is there and has your event/meeting set up and that nothing else is booked for the same time. Please do not just schedule something and show up without verifying availability.

Blue Grass Festival – The Blue Grass Festival is scheduled for May 18, 19, and 20, the third weekend of May. Pat Mager is again coordinating the food booth for the weekend. Volunteers are needed. Please let her know if you can help at the May meeting.

Two items of correspondence were read. A thank you note from Clear Channel Radio for the booth at the Pet Expo and a thank you card from the family of Doug Clark.

2007-4-5 Moved by Morgan Olin and seconded by Lindsay Bielema to adjourn. Motion carried.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 9 at 7:30 p.m. at the King Building.

Respectfully submitted,
Nicki Patterson, Secretary