

MONTHLY MEETING – BARRON COUNTY FAIRBOARD AMENDED MINUTES

August 22, 2023 – 8:00 pm

Barron County Fair Grounds

Board Members	Present	Absent	Board Members	Present	Absent
Loren Amdall	X		John Banks	X	
John Blaskowski	X		Heather Colburn	X	
Jerry Donath	X		Sarah Doyen	X	
Devon Laursen	X		Ken Kolzow	X	
Patty Mann	X		Cory Picknell		X
Russ Rindsig	X		Kevin Roske	X	
Jacque Schaffer	X		Dwight Thurs		X
Elora Repman	X				

Also Present: Sara Waldron, Sheila Kisling, Kristin Hanson

Meeting was called to order at 8:00 pm by Russ Rindsig.

MOTION by John Banks; seconded by Devon Laursen to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

MOTION by Jerry Donath seconded by Heather Colburn to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – MOTION made by Devon Laursen ; seconded by Heather Colburn to accept the treasurer's report and pay the bills. Motion carried. Attendance was up in 2023. Total regular gate and season passes was 28,142. Grandstand attendance was 4,471 for all four nights.

APPEARANCES – There were none.

OLD BUSINESS

2023 Fair Recap –

Vendors – We had complaints about the Gyro guy and prices were not posted to begin with.

Entertainment 2023-2024 – Should we have glass blower back. The consensus was to have them back. Grampa Cratchet can come back. We have the robot for next year, which is a strolling event.

Animals and projects – Would like to bring dairy in on Wednesday and bring their milk cows in on Thursday which would give Wednesday fair goers dairy to look at. Can we move horse to two days? We will look into doing a Friday/Saturday show. The bike give-a-way went well. Tractor ride went well. We have to reschedule mini rods. The drivers of the trucks were not happy. We need to run tractors, trucks, and then mini rods separately. We need to discuss this with the three groups.

Fairest of the Fair – Elora is present for the first board meeting. They went to the Wisconsin State Fair. They will continue with parades. They are looking into a Junior Fairest event by gathering information. Brat Shack will be September 15 and 16. They have several slots to be filled. Please contact Devon if you are able.

Accounting Program – John will be putting together pros and cons of each one and costs of each one. QuickBooks is trying to get everyone to go to the online version.

New Office – They are working on putting in the heating system and Kevin and Ken will be working on putting the sink in the conference room. The remaining \$40,000 will be used.

NEW BUSINESS

Fair Stock – There were none.

Truck Show – Are we going to donate the beer money to the truck show charity? The date is September 23. We will donate after expenses are covered.

Rodeo – Let Kevin know if you need tickets. The date is September 7, 8, and 9.

Building Damage – Insurance estimate is \$711,590.25 to replace every roof on the fairgrounds. They can do a spray coating which would be \$391,000 with a 20-year warranty.

Quilt – We take all the little squares and sew it into a quilt. Can we send it to auction off at the convention with the fairest of the fair. We will send it with the queen.

Grounds Manager's Report – Everything is gone from the fair. Rock and Gem went well.

Manager's Report – Rodeo is coming up and we will need people each night. We have to take care of the stall rental. Let Kevin know if you can volunteer. We need to pay \$500 to two people, one for maintaining the track and one for rebuilding the stalls.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

John has a suggestion about the main gate. There is walking traffic and driving traffic which needs to be looked at. We will look into it. We will look into a solution to the sound system for the grandstand. The speaker system in the show ring is not very good. The announcement to evacuate could not be heard in the show ring and the campground. Why are there no garbage cans in the camping area.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:11 pm. The next meeting will be September 13 at 8:00 pm. at the Fair Grounds.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacque Schaffer
Executive Secretary, Barron County Fair