

MONTHLY MEETING – BARRON COUNTY FAIRBOARD AMENDED MINUTES

March 13, 2024 – 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: Kristin Hanson, Sheila Kisling, Sara Waldron , Chris Fitzgerald

Meeting was called to order at 8:05 pm by Russ Rindsig.

MOTION by Devon Laursen; seconded by Jerry Donath to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

MOTION by John Banks seconded by John Blaskowski to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Motion carried.

Treasurer’s Report – MOTION made by John Blaskowski ; seconded by Heather Colburn to accept the treasurer’s report and pay the bills. Motion carried.

APPEARANCES – There were none.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. **New Roof Progress** – The last four will be done by tomorrow.
- b. **Convention Recap** – It was a good convention with good speakers. Breakout sessions were good. Extensions told how they were trying to approve their relationships with fairs. Our queen got in the top ten. She did a great job with the auction.
- c. **Accounting Program** – Patty and John have been spending time on the new software. We have eliminated a lot of accounts. The new system will specify the income for the fair or any other event. They are getting close to getting everything organized. We are mostly in the new system at this time. Some workers will receive a 1099 instead of a W2 if they only work during the fair.
- d. **Fairest Update** - Elora made it into the top-ten. She said convention was a great experience. Her project is going to be a community rock snake. If anyone wants to paint a rock, they may bring it to Elora. The auction item went for approximately \$1,300. We are going to be adding a Junior Fairest this year which would be kids finishing Grades 5, 6, and 7. We would like to change the date and time of Fairest Coronation. They would like to do the crowning on Sunday afternoon prior to the 4-H graduation at 2:30.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Jacque asked if Molly could be paid for what she has been doing to help and we will let Patty know the split of the paycheck.
- b. **Storm Water Runoff Visit** – We have had a visit from the conservation department. They wanted to see the draining in the infield because they said it was polluting the lake. However, the drain has been covered. They said the seepage pond behind the rabbit barn has to be cleaned out.
- c. **Possible New Beer Garden** – There is money left from grants and we are looking to create a new beer garden under the grandstand. The college construction class has offered to build it for a donation. We are looking at a cost of \$10,000 total. **MOTION** made by John Blaskowski; seconded by Devon Lauren to spend up to \$10,000 to put the new beer garden under the grandstand. Motion carried.
- d. **Premium Book** – Ready to go to the printer. The cover and poster will all match this year.
- e. **Rodeo -June 14-15** – It is just a two-day rodeo this year. Vendors are coming and vendor forms are on the web page.
- f. **Approve New Dairy Superintendent** – Tony Pintens has agreed to be the new dairy superintendent. He will also become the head of the dairy committee. The fair cannot decide the head of the dairy committee. **MOTION** made Jerry Donath; seconded by Heather Colburn to be the new dairy superintendent. Motion carried.
- g. **Bathroom and Shower Remodel** – We are working on it and will be completed prior to the fair.
- h. **Road Sign, Truck Wrap (Rice Lake Tourism)** – There has been a road sign purchased with our fair dates from the first of May through June and then after the fair it will be the truck show. We will also spend some money on electronic signs. We will be buying ads on signs in Eau Claire. This will be done with tourism money.
- i. **Compeer Grant** – Kevin wrote the grant for cameras for live shows. If there is any money left over we will be purchasing large fans.
- j. **Dostal Memorial Funds** – We have received \$2,430 from the Dostal memorial donations. We could get chicken cages with that money. **MOTION** made by Heather Colburn; seconded by Devon Laursen to purchase chicken cages. Motion carried.
- k. **Grounds Manager's Report** – Ken keeps an eye on the fairgrounds and is thankful we didn't have a lot of snow this year. We will figure out what to do with the old steel.
- l. **Manager's Report** – All the vendor contracts have been sent out. There are more crafters this year than last year. The sale of the used steel could bring in money but we will use what we need first. A new food stand is Pharoah Gyro stand. Traveling robot will be at the fair as well as Tada will be coming back with pedal tractors. We will have Gramps Cratchet again. Chris Fitzgerald asked if the rides could start at noon instead of 1:00 and go the same number of hours. Kevin will check with the carnival.

- m. **District Meeting – April 16 – Barron Electric** – We will have to send a check prior to the next meeting. John, Kevin, Heather, Russ, Jerry, and Jacque plan to attend. The meeting starts at 10:00.
- n. **Report for Chapel Committee** – Russ went to the meeting. They are planning a memorial service for Larry Jerome on Thursday evening of the fair. The plan is to have programs each day from noon on except the Sunday service will start at 10:00. She would like to get music on Sunday afternoon. The Catholic service will be on Saturday night. They also plan a Blessing of the Seeds on May 4.
- o. **Stock Transfers** – None
- p. **Flee Market** – We are planning that for May 10th and 11th. We plan to rent out space. We will also have crafters.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Possible Rules for Naming of Buildings After Already Built – We have been contacted to name a building. The fair board needs to come up with some guidelines and were provided with a list has possible rules for starting points.

Understanding with the Livestock Committee – The goal is to have something in writing that can be reviewed every year. Each member got two copies to review prior to the next meeting. A meeting will be set up prior to the next livestock meeting.

The next meeting will be April 17. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacque Schaffer
Executive Secretary, Barron County Fair