

MONTHLY MEETING – BARRON COUNTY FAIRBOARD MINUTES

April 17, 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: Sara Waldron, Kristin Hanson

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

**MOTION** by Dwight Thurs; seconded by Devon Laursen to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

**MOTION** by John Banks seconded by Dwight Thurs to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Motion carried.

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

**APPEARANCES** – There were none.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- a. **New Roof Progress** – The roofs are done and we just need to clean up. We are offering the steel for sale and anything still here this weekend will go to Hanson & Young Auction.
- b. **Beer Garden Progress** – The cement got poured. Rice Lake Tech Ed is building it. Kaufman’s gave us the materials for cost. We are using the rest of the grant money to complete this project.
- c. **Accounting Program** – John Blaskowski explained the new program and showed several reports. Fair board members will receive three reports prior to the meeting when they are emailed the agenda.
- d. **Fairest Update** - Elora reported she attended the talent expo last weekend. She is moving forward with the painted rocks and has sent information to schools in Barron County. She is also printing and putting on public bulletin boards and will potentially have information at the Dairy Breakfast. September 6 & 7 the fairest will have the Brat Shack at Louis Finer Meats. We will discuss when the new fairest will be crowned each year after we have had a chance to look into possibilities.
- e. **Repair Update** – The horticulture building has boards replaced at the bottom. We are waiting for warmer weather and then will jack up the concrete to make the floor even.. We are redoing the counter tops in the women’s bathroom in the expo building and remodeling ladies showers in dorms.

- f. **Sale of Steel** – Going to Hanson and Young Auction.
- g. **Naming of Buildings (Memorial) –MOTION** made by John Blaskowski to form a committee with Dwight Thurs, Kevin Roske, Russ Rindsig, and John Blaskowski to discuss ideas and plans for naming buildings and/or displaying memorials; seconded by John Banks. They will bring ideas to the next meeting. Motion carried.
- h. **Stock Transfer** – Transfer to Jennifer Haggert from Beverly Vought.
- i. **Flea Market Report** – Sign up forms are on Barron County Fair web site. John has five vendors so far. The date is May 10 and 11.
- j. **Fair Time Chapel** – There will be an event here in the Fair Time Chapel on May 4 at 3:00 which will be a blessing of the seeds and plants. There will potentially be a service on Thursday night for Larry Jerome. There will be a mass on Saturday night and an Ecumenical service Sunday morning.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **District Meeting Recap** – We had good information and we felt that a lot of fairs were wishing for things that we already have. We feel we have a good fairground. There are only half as many carnivals as there were five years ago and the problem is they cannot get workers. They are also bringing rides which can be operated by only one person. Federal law does not designate carnivals as entertainment and they are hoping to get that changed so that it would affect employment. We will get more state aid next year.
- b. **Manager Report** – Kevin has not worked on the livestock agreement yet. Rodeo is coming along and will be Friday and Saturday night on June 14 and 15. There is an advertising sign on a semi truck. There will be a sign on 53 south of Eau Claire going up on June 1. Money for these signs has come from Rice Lake Tourism. The food vendors are coming along but we will have a different Gyro. Kevin would like to purchase cameras which are on sale right now. The cost would be \$350 for three cameras and they would be permanently installed in the show arena so that we would not have to take iPads in each time we wanted to livestream a show. **MOTION** made by Cory Picknell; seconded by Lauren Amdall to purchase three cameras for \$350. Motion carried.
- c. **Groundskeeper Report** – We had a broken water line near the ticket booth. It was fixed yesterday morning. Several buildings have their own meters but now wires have been placed in the ground so that they can all go on one meter.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Dwight has extra stickers if anyone would like to pass them out.

The next meeting will be May 8, 2024 at 8:00 pm at the fairgrounds. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacque Schaffer  
Executive Secretary, Barron County Fair