

CENTRAL WISCONSIN STATE FAIR
BOARD MINUTES
December 10, 2012
7:30 PM

Meeting was called to order by Vice President Gary Bymers at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: **Board Members:** John Garbisch, Bob Ashbeck, Gary Bymers, Larry Gilbertson, Bruce Thorson, Tim Heeg, Dan McGiveron, Ed Wagner, Andy Keogh, Dennis Stroetz, and Gary Cummings

Executive Secretary/General Manager: Carol Kerper

Absent: **Board Members:** John Spiros and Jeff Viergutz

Board members gave a short introduction of themselves to new Board members Carol Berg-Kappel, Marilyn Heiman, and John McPherson.

Motion was made by John Garbisch, seconded by Dennis Stroetz, to accept the November 19, 2012 minutes. Motion carried.

Vice President Gary Bymers called for election of new officers.

President: Motion by Dennis Stroetz, seconded by Andy Keogh, to nominate Gary Bymers for President. No other nominations were made. Andy Keogh moved to close the nominations. Motion carried.

Vice President: Motion by John Garbisch to nominate Dan McGiveron for Vice President. Larry Gilbertson declared that we would run for Vice President. Dennis Stroetz moved to close the nominations. Motion carried.

Treasurer: Motion by Larry Gilbertson, seconded by Dennis Stroetz to nominate John Garbisch. No other nominations were made. Tim Heeg moved to close the nominations. Motion carried.

Carol Kerper and Carol Berg-Kappel served as ballot clerks for the election of Vice President. Gary Bymers was declared President, Dan McGiveron was declared Vice President, and John Garbisch was declared Treasurer.

Treasurer's Report: John Garbisch

Checking account and line of credit balances were reported.

Motion was made by Ed Wagner, seconded by Bruce Thorson, to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Ed Wagner verified that he and Andy Keogh performed a review of the Fair Association's financial books and records and found them to be proper and in balance. Suggestions were made to request invoices for all payments to be made, regardless of the amount to be paid.

Committee Reports:

Junior Fair/Market Animal Report – Larry Gilbertson

Junior Fair:

A meeting was held on November 28. Discussion took place on the printing costs of the Junior Fair premium book. It was decided to publish the premium book online in 2013 and print a limited number of premium books for anyone who requests a hard copy. This subject may be revisited, as the printing costs are paid for with sponsorships. The Junior Fair Christmas party took place on December 7. An audit committee was appointed. Elections of officers took place with the following results: President - Ron Meyer, President-Elect - Tim Heeg, Recording Secretary – Romelle Bymers, Judge Secretary – Kitty Bymers, Treasurer – Jodi Griepentrog.

Market Animal – Larry Gilbertson

No meeting or activity.

Draft Horse – Dennis Stroetz

No meeting. A meeting will be held on Friday, December 14.

Buildings/Grounds/Long-Term Planning Committee – Gary Bymers

No meeting.

Advertising Committee – Gary Bymers

No meeting.

Sanitation/Safety, Signage/Parking Committee – Dan McGiveron

No meeting.

Livestock Committee – Tim Heeg

A meeting was held on December 3. Discussion took place on bedding clean-up costs for the 2012 fair and how to reduce those expenses. A letter will be sent to exhibitors with their entry passes to explain the situation and suggest that their bedding amounts are kept as low as possible while still making the displays look attractive. A request to keep the outside of buildings clean and free of bedding or hay will be included in the letter also. Volunteers will be needed for clean-up the day after the fair. Departments were asked what changes they would like to see in the future. The Friday schedule should be modified so that there is more time allotted between Junior Fair release and Open Class entry. Suggested release time on Monday of the fair is 5:00 p.m. for those exhibitors traveling over 50 miles and 5:30 p.m. for those exhibitors travelling within a 50 mile radius. All department superintendents will be made aware of the release times and will be required to follow them. Discussion took place on the proposed wash rack. Consensus was that the wash rack is not needed at this time, based on the current needs at the fair. It is felt that additional long-term planning should be done pertaining to future construction of a livestock building and new wash rack placement.

Vendor Relations Committee – John Garbisch

No meeting.

Non-Fair Activity Committee – Carol Kerper

No meeting.

Fairest of the Fair Committee – Carol Kerper

A meeting was held on November 29. The newest member of the Fairest Committee is Shari Tieman. Shari was a judge at the 2012 Fairest competition. Leeann Klapatauskas has purchased a number of decorations from the former Bows and Boards Floral to be used for future Fairest coronations. The 2013 personal development workshop is scheduled for August 1. Personal interviews will take place on August 5. In order to increase attendance at the Fairest coronation, the banquet will be replaced with a reception and social hour with punch, desserts, and cheese/sausage served. Local entertainment will be provided during the social hour. The cake auction will be held only if there are enough Fairest contestants to provide desserts for the auction. The public will be able to attend this event for no charge.

Grandstand and Other Entertainment Committee – Bruce Thorson

A meeting was held on December 6. Brian Sauer with the Vox Concert Series, proposed using his services to book grandstand entertainment for Sunday evening of the fair. Discussion took place on family entertainment options for Sunday such as a 5K run, a one-half mile childrens run, and a grandstand show that would have wide appeal for families members of all ages. Saturday grandstand entertainment was discussed. Motion was made by Dan McGiveron, seconded by Bruce Thorson, to submit an offer for Saturday evening up to \$35,000 with the option to review the Friday evening grandstand offer if the Saturday offer is accepted at the fully offered price. Motion carried. Grandstand stage construction or the purchase of a hydraulic grandstand stage was discussed. A number of factors such as insurance, backstage staffing, stage mobility, storage, and stage transport will need to be researched further. This subject will be discussed with other fairs at the state convention held in January. Andy Keogh volunteered to serve as a contact person for exploration of a Leinie's Lodge on the fairgrounds.

Motion was made by John Garbisch seconded by Dennis Stroetz, to accept the committee reports. Motion carried.

Manager's Report: Carol Kerper

The fair office has had a new door installed to access the north-east balcony in back of the building and a new roof installed.

The Annual Meeting held on December 5th had 89 people in attendance.

Carol Kerper is working on completing the 2012 State Financial Report. This will be notarized and mailed to the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection.

A meeting is scheduled with the Marshfield Parks & Recreation Department for review of 2013 non-fair events and pricing.

Motion was made by Ed Wagner, seconded by Bob Ashbeck, to accept the Manager's Report. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Fair Commission Update – Carol Kerper

No meeting. A meeting will be held on December 19. The Fair Commission will discuss the purchase of new windows for the upper floor of the fair office at the meeting.

Other Old Business:

Thirteen applications have been received for the General Manager position. The Executive Committee will interview possible candidates within the next two weeks. A special board meeting will be held after interviews take place to approve the selection of the new General Manager.

New Business:

Bill Case a long time fair supporter and exhibitor, recently passed away. Motion by Tim Heeg, seconded by John Garbisch to send fifty dollars to the memorial fund being established in Bill's name. Motion carried.

The 2013 board committee assignments will be completed shortly.

Other New Business:

Bruce Thorson attended the IAFE convention in Las Vegas. Pictures of billboards and posters were distributed to generate ideas for future fair themes and advertising. Bruce stated that a number of fairs conduct a survey of fair guests and email the respondents notices of upcoming fair entertainment, non-fair events, fair specials, etc.

Motion to adjourn was made by Bruce Thorson, seconded by Bob Ashbeck.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Monday, January 21, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Kerper