

**CENTRAL WISCONSIN STATE FAIR**  
**BOARD MINUTES**  
**May 19, 2014**  
**7:30 PM**

Meeting was called to order by President Larry Gilbertson at 7:47 pm in the Fair Office meeting room. Meeting was delayed for members in route.

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Board Members: John Garbisch, Marilyn Heiman, Jeff Viergutz, Alanna Feddick, Andy Keogh, Ed Wagner, Carol Berg-Kappel, Bob Ashbeck, Larry Gilbertson, Dan McGiveron, Chris Jockheck, Gary Bymers, Keith Kay, Kathy Banks  
Interim General Manager: Heidi Born-Smith

Absent: Melissa Hanke, Dennis Stroetz, Tim Heeg

Meeting began with President Gilbertson welcoming our newest member Alana Feddick (city rep) to the board. Chris Jockheck (city rep) stated he was now official and was also welcomed to the board.

**Minutes of April 21, 2014 Regular Board Meeting** Andy Keogh moved to approve the minutes as presented, John Garbisch seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Marilyn Heiman reported the balances. Ed Wagner inquired where the healthy revenue balance is coming in from. Manager Heidi and John Garbisch responded. John Garbisch moved to approve, Chris Jockheck seconded, motion carried.

**Manager's Report:** Heidi Born-Smith reported on the continued search for a replacement for Shirley's position following her retirement after the fair; a summer person has been hired. She requested board members to step up and volunteer to raise sponsorship; sponsors. Heidi reported on the displays at the fair this year. The grandstand will be named Russ Wenzel grandstand this year.

**Committee Reports:**

**Junior Fair:** Melissa Hanke Larry Gilbertson reported for Tim Heeg and Melissa, no meeting in April. March 19<sup>th</sup> meeting was fair book changes and a revisit of the environmental fee. The Junior fair will pay the association \$1500 to cover the waste disposal and will revisit this issue in the Fall. The Junior Fair Board will meet the 21<sup>st</sup> of May.

**Market Animal: Larry Gilbertson** reported on the youth educational meeting held Saturday in the Hockey Building. Approximately 78 youth attended. The last Adult meeting was held on April 23. Discussed were a digital sign; trip offering to State Fair for educational purposes; sheep weigh in on June 7; which auctioneer for the sale; and educational meetings.

**Draft Horse: Dennis Stroetz** Larry Gilbertson reported there was a meeting on Friday April 25 at 7:30 pm at the Fair office. Sponsorships and planning for this year's show were discussed.

**Building & Grounds: John Garbisch** reported on the meeting held April 25. (See committee minutes) Marilyn Heiman commented on the preparations she proposed to bring the Red Cross room to a pleasant condition to be used as a first aid room.

**Advertising: Jeff Viergutz** noted when the brochures will be available, sponsorships of grandstand acts, stated the committee is staying within budget, and social media.

**Parking & Signage: Dan McGiveron** No meeting

**Livestock: Larry Gilbertson** No Meeting

**Vendor Relations: John Garbisch** No Meeting

**Non-Fair: Heidi Born-Smith** No Meeting

**Fairest of the Fair: Marilyn Heiman** No meeting

**Entertainment: Heidi Born-Smith** stated a meeting will be held.

Motion was made by Marilyn Heiman and seconded by Ed Wagner to accept the committee reports. Motion carried.

**Fair Commission Report: Bob Ashbeck** reported a meeting is scheduled for Wednesday.

**Old Business:** Ed Wagner commented on a discussion he had with Lance Pliml from the county board in connection with the discussions of our last month's board meeting. It was suggested we set up an exploratory committee to develop options. Debate followed.

Andy Keogh moved that the chair of the Fair Association Board put together an ad hoc committee made up of board members and whoever else from the city and the county seems appropriate, to examine the future of the fair and to come back to this board and the city and the county with alternatives that would represent a stronger future for the fair. Motion was seconded by Ed Wagner. Discussion followed. Motion carried, however one dissenting vote.

**New Business:** no new business.

**Manager Position:** President Larry Gilbertson began the discussion stating the interview committee received eight or ten applications of varying degrees. The committee agreed to interview four applicants. Three were interviewed and one declined. Kathy Banks gave the recommendation of the interview committee and led the discussion. Kathy reviewed the recommended applicant's qualifications with comments by the committee members. Following some discussion Gary Bymers moved to approve the recommendation of Duane Blanchard. John Garbisch seconded the motion. Additional discussion followed. Kathy Banks stated we have a difficult board and the committee felt Duane can fight back. Andy Keogh called the question. Objection, further discussion. Andy moved the previous question. All agreed to stop discussion and vote. The motion to offer the position of Fair Manager to Duane Blanchard carried unanimously.

The position is defined as part time, current salary of \$25,000 per year; hours are whatever it takes to get the job done. Start date of approximately June 1, 2014

It was stated that the office support staff are awesome, which is an important asset to the Fair and the new manager.

Larry Gilbertson instructed the board members out of respect to Duane Blanchard to hold their tongue about this decision until Duane receives our offer and has accepted or declined the position. Larry will inform Mr. Blanchard of our decision and as soon as an answer is given, the board will be notified by Email or phone.

John Garbisch suggested the News Herald be notified if the position is accepted. Board agreed.

John Garbisch moved to Adjourn. Motion was seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:54 pm.

The next meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on June 16, 2014 at the MACCI office, 700 S. Central Avenue.

Submitted by Larry Gilbertson

Special thank you to Heidi Born-Smith for taking the meeting notes.