# CENTRAL WISCONSIN STATE FAIR BOARD MINUTES September 19, 2011 7:30 PM

Meeting was called to order by President Wayne Schulz at 7:30 p.m.

#### **ROLL CALL:**

<u>Present:</u> Board Members: Wayne Schulz, John Garbisch, Bob Ashbeck, Gary Bymers, Ron Meyer,

Bruce Thorson, Melissa Gerlach, Dennis Stroetz, Ed Wagner, Tim Heeg, and Larry Gilbertson

Executive Secretary/General Manager: Carol Kerper

Absent: Board members: John Spiros, Dan McGiveron, Bob Halle, Alanna Feddick, Todd Anderson,

Mary Jo Wheeler

Guest: Police Chief Gary Jepsen

Motion was made by John Garbisch, seconded by Dennis Stroetz to accept the August 15, 2011 minutes. Motion carried

#### **Committee Reports:**

# Junior Fair/Market Animal Report – Larry Gilbertson Junior Fair:

A meeting was held on August 24. The PALS will sponsor a Junior Fair Fun Facts Contest and the Kiss A Critter during the fair. New signage was made and was hung in the Junior Fair Expo Building. Twenty-two youth with thirty-five dairy animals went to State Fair. Of the thirteen projects taken to State Fair, five of the projects received Awards of Merit. Two youth showed llamas, one family exhibited beef and swine, sheep were exhibited, and a few youth worked in the Active Centers.

#### **Market Animal:**

A weigh-in was held on August 23. Three rabbits were sold at the Market Animal Sale with the proceeds going to Junior Fair. A carcass show was held on September 8.

#### **Draft Horse - Dennis Stroetz**

No meeting. The Draft Horse Show went well overall. The show was held in the Jer Lang Show Palace for one day because of rain.

#### Buildings/Grounds/Long-Term Planning Committee - John Garbisch

No meeting. Grounds cleanup is still underway. The parking lot ruts have been leveled and Dennis Stroetz will seed those areas shortly. The goat and llama tent pad will need to be extended and the new road that was made needs to be rolled. The campground area needs to have some areas filled. Suggestion was made to invoice the Friends of the Dog Park for road maintenance because of the high usage by people using the dog park and the necessary upkeep caused by the usage.

#### **Advertising Committee – Gary Bymers**

No meeting. Laura Westenkirchner served as the fair photographer this year and will have a DVD of photos available shortly.

#### Sanitation/Safety Committee - Dan McGiveron

No meeting. The manure bunker located on the south side of the Round Barn was damaged during barn cleaning for Open Class show. A side wall was broken off. Ed Englehart has been made aware of this and will determine what the best course of action for repair is.

# Signage/Parking Committee – Wayne Schulz

No meeting.

#### **Livestock Committee – Tim Heeg**

No meeting. Livestock shows went well during the fair. Entry numbers were down slightly because of the Minnesota State Fair taking place at the same time and accepting cattle entries from Wisconsin. The beef show went very well also. A thank you was extended to those Board members who did cleanup of the barns and grounds. There are a number of animal tie rings missing from the Round Barn wash rack. An individual is willing to donate funds for the replacement of the rings. There was an issue with an exhibitor parking their vehicle by Pat's Barn for an extended period of time during the fair. The standard plate count for milk from the Junior Fair was high. A meeting was held to determine the best course of action for eliminating this problem in the future.

#### **Vendor Relations Committee – John Garbisch**

A meeting was held on September 15. Vendor maps will be redone according to scale before the 2012 fair. Letters will be mailed to both food and outside vendors to request accurate dimensions of the booths and trailers, including hitches and bumpers. The letter will state that we may be unable to accommodate them if we are not provided with the correct size of their booths. A&P Enterprises will be asked to locate their food stands away from the area next to our food vendors. Discussion was held on locating non-merchandise commercial vendors in the Expo II building, as these booths are not staffed. This would alleviate the problem of severe shortage of electrical power in the Expo II building. The parking area for vendor supply vehicles must be clearly marked. No cattle trailers will be allowed in those spaces allotted for supply vehicles. Vendors will be notified that the Central Wisconsin State Fair Association will not be held liable for damages that may occur to their trailers or booths if we must move them because they arrived early and set up on their own. The annual letter that is mailed to vendors will state that rules in the Concessionaire Manual will be enforced. Lack of enforcement with vendors who violate the rules is not fair to those vendors who abide by the rules. Booth space rental rates will be looked at for 2012. It is felt that rental prices are too low compared to other fairs and festivals. Minimum food and beverage prices will be established for some items that are sold by vendors. This will eliminate unfair price competition among vendors during the fair.

# Non-Fair Activity Committee - Carol Kerper

No meeting.

#### Fairest of the Fair Committee - Carol Kerper

A meeting was held on September 14. Discussion was held on the Fairest program for 2011 and suggestions made to improve the program in 2012. The cake auction will be held again in 2012. A Mary Kay presentation will no longer be held in consideration of those Fairest candidates whose beliefs are not conducive to wearing makeup. A letter will be sent to all Fairest applicants explaining what will be expected of them as either the Fairest, the runner-up, or as a contestant. The first runner-up will be asked to make some appearances at the fair.

#### **Youth Activity Committee – Gary Bymers**

No meeting. The pedal tractor races, which were a new children's activity this year, went very well. Dan McGiveron was thanked for helping with the event. Both last year's and this year's Idol Vocal winners did an excellent job performing before grandstand shows.

#### **Entrance Gate Committee – Bruce Thorson**

No meeting.

### Jer Lang Show Palace Committee – Melissa Gerlach

No meeting.

#### **Grandstand and Other Entertainment Committee – Carol Kerper**

No meeting. It was suggested that the live bands that perform in the Schneeberger tent on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings begin their performances earlier. The boxing show had a large audience and received very favorable comments. Concessions and having more bleachers available for seating will be looked at for future years.

Motion was made by Ron Meyer, seconded by Bruce Thorson to accept the committee reports. Motion carried.

## Manager's Report: Carol Kerper

The fair office had an attempted break-in on Monday, September 12. A person or persons climbed onto the merchandise canopy located at the back of the office building and cut two screens in an attempt to gain entry through the windows. A police report has been filed.

The Wisconsin Trappers Rendezvous was held September 8 - 11.

The Fresian Keuring is taking place September 20 and 21. The outdoor horse arena will be used provided there is no rain. The Jer Lang Show Palace is ready for use in case of inclement weather.

The Wisconsin Association of Fairs District I meeting will be held on October 6 at the Mohican North Star Resort and Casino in Bowler. Anyone wishing to attend can inform Carol Kerper.

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

#### **Treasurer's Report:** Carol Kerper

Checking account and line of credit balances were reported.

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

#### **Old Business:**

# Fair Commission Update - Carol Kerper

No meeting.

#### **Other Old Business:**

The flow of water from the Round Barn sump pump should be looked at and the direction of flow changed if possible. Because the road grade of Vine Way is too high, the west door entrance of the Round Barn and west door of the Expo I building have major flooding during rain. This should be reviewed and taken care of before the 2012 fair.

# **New Business:**

Police Chief Gary Jepsen gave an overview of the billing, services, and duties performed by the Marshfield Police Department during the fair. A question and answer session then took place.

# Fair Preliminary Results:

Wrap-up of the 2011 fair continues. There are outstanding invoices that the Association will be receiving payment on and outstanding bills to be paid. The weather and economy affected fair attendance in 2011. Some funds may need to be withdrawn from the line of credit before the end of the fiscal year.

Motion to adjourn was made by John Garbisch, seconded by Bruce Thorson.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Monday, October 17, 2011 at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Carol Kerper