

## Floyd County Fair Society Annual Meeting

July 21, 2024

The annual meeting of the Floyd County Fair Society was called to order by President Kelsey Uetz at 1:06 PM. There were 63 members in attendance.

The secretary's report from the 2023 annual meeting was given. Jeff made a motion to accept the report, which Matt seconded. Motion passed.

Melissa gave the treasurers report and shared that the current balance in the general fund was \$91, 000. Matt made a motion to accept the report, seconded by Renee. Motion passed.

Kelsey reminded everyone of the change that was made to the bylaws last year, and it reads as follows:

Attendance Policy: The Board of Directors is expected to attend at least 50 percent of scheduled meetings and events. Events may include work nights, fundraising events, or any other assistance needed throughout the year. If a member finds that they are unable to participate to the extent necessary, they should consider resigning from the Board. Fair Board members are expected to be present on the grounds daily Wednesday-Sunday of the Fair.

A fair board member did not meet this expectation this year. Renee made a motion to remove Rod Schmitt from the board, which was seconded by Mike. The motion passed.

We have eight names currently added to the ballot, with five full-term openings, one two-year opening, and one one-year opening. Renee Knapp, Dustin Howe, Jeff Harris, and Melissa Merriss are up for re-election.

Also running were Ben Kisch, Dan Swartzrock, Shau Landt and Blake Frascht

Amy Staudt and Jen Schmitt were especially thanked for their years on the board. President Kelsey then called for nominations from the floor. None were received, and a paper ballot vote was taken.

The election results were as follows:

Shau, Ben, Blake, Melissa, Dan, Dustin, and Jeff. Blake will fulfill the one-year term, and Ben will fulfill the two-year term. Shau and Dan will begin with three-year terms.

Fair Wrap-up: A special thank you to our Fair board Families and our 4-H and FFA groups for volunteering extra hours to prepare the grounds for the Fair.

### Old Business:

#### Updates and improvements:

1. Sidewalks, fencing, and landscaping
2. Grain bin gazebo – countertops
3. Grandstand sound system
4. TVs in the SCC - thank you to Floyd County Farm Bureau
5. New rabbit cages
6. Mulch in the playground
7. Additional picnic tables and umbrella shade
8. Additional gates for the horse barn

### New Business:

1. By-law and rule book update proposals:
  - a. Renee made a motion as follows: All rule book changes and additional classes must be approved by the Fair Board. Any changes need to be submitted to the Extension Office by November. The Fair Board will vote on the changes in January. Final approval for print will be issued in February. Amy seconded the motion. The motion passed.

- b. Drew made a motion as follows: Animals leaving the Fairgrounds for early release will need to be submitted to the Superintendents to present to the Fair Board for final approval in writing at least one week before the fair. Seconded by Melissa, the motion passed.
  - c. Melissa motioned: A written notice must be submitted to the Fair Board if superintendents wish to step down. A replacement can submit a letter to the Board. Due to background checks, we will allow a maximum of 2 superintendents per species. Matt seconded the motion. The motion passed.
2. An open discussion was held with members of the fair society.
- a. The board was asked if the rule book changes would be given to exhibitors, and it was agreed that this information would be included in the exhibitor letter each year.
  - b. Tim Mitchell praised the board for the sidewalk system and reiterated the need for a better gate system for beef in the picture area.
  - c. Mike Quade mentioned connecting the sidewalk system to the horse area.
  - d. Teresa Stevens-Marth presented ideas on behalf of the Double C Saddle Club and 4h on a new horse area that would include a new barn with 40 box stalls, a year-round arena (that could also be used for cattle shows), wash bays, bleachers and more to host winter shows. She shared that both entities would be willing to meet with the board and discuss at any time.
  - e. Lyle Staudt shared that they cannot often hear what is happening when fire and ambulance crews are needed during grandstand operations. A discussion was held, and a walkie-talkie radio may be required to communicate with emergency personnel.
  - f. Laura Paplow shared that herdsmanhip was great this year; families are curious to know how it was rated or scored.
  - g. Becky Mayer prepared correspondence regarding ways to make the LH building run smoother. She requested that the open show be included in all fair advertisements in hopes that it will continue to grow and be seen by more people.
3. Improvements to be made:
- a. More outlets in the barns

Melissa moved to destroy the ballots used to vote for the fair board, which was seconded by Mike. The motion passed.

**Fair dates for 2025 will be July 16-20**

Melissa moved to adjourn the meeting, which Matt seconded. Kelsey adjourned the meeting at 1:39 PM.

The board members in attendance were Jen Schmitt, Mike Quade, Melissa Merriss, Kelsey Uetz, Amy Staudt, Kurt Thorson, Dustin Howe, Jeff Harris, Matt Stille, Drew Mitchell, Renee Knapp, Ron Hillegas, Rich Tynan Ryan Wegner, and Kiersten Heim.

Minutes submitted by Secretary Jennifer Schmitt