

Floyd County Fair Board Meeting
09/17/2025

Called to order at 7:02 pm

Members present were: Blake Frascht, Ben Kisch, Dan Swartzrock, Dustin Howe, Jeff Harris, Kierstin Heller, Kurt Thorson, Matt Stille, Melissa Merriss, Mike Quade, Ryan Wegner, and Shau Landt

Secretary Report: The minutes of the September meeting were read. Blake made a motion to approve, seconded by Kierstin, the motion passed.

Treasurer Report: Melissa gave an update for all checking and savings accounts. Matthew made a motion to approve, seconded by Blake, the motion passed.

Committee Reports:

- FFA Instructors:
 - Charles City FFA
 - Farm Safety Day camp will be held next week.
 - 10/31 at 6 pm - Brady Frascht is up for an American Star Farmer award. You watch it on RFD TV.
 - A sponsor has reached out to donate to the Bacon Buddies program. Looking at a different day/time to get more participation. Had 3 participants in 2025.
 - Rockford FFA
 - Gave a \$500 sponsorship to the horsebarn.
- Extension/4-H County Committee:
 - Jayden Jorgenson has resigned.
- Rentals:
 - Full as of now and will go from there. Over 100 letters were sent out.
- Auction:
 - The 2025 auction went well. All species sold for more than last year.
 - Rod had changes to move the max pay weight for swine to 350 with the top at 375 pounds. Right now anything 300 and above doesn't get paid. With this change it would be 350 pounds.
 - Melissa shared Brock was interested in auctioning off the grand and reserve market pen of 3 rabbits. The board agreed this would be OK if there was an outlet for them.
 - Looking at removing the top end of beef. Right now it's at 1,600 pounds.
 - The board discussed if auction results should be listed in the paper, even if it was just the top species. Will be discussed more later.

- Building & Grounds:
 - Tile Project / Installation - nothing went as planned or was where the maps said it was supposed to be. Schwartzrock helped make a donation. A KMZ digital file is being sent to the YEC email and they have a paper hand drawn map. Ground work will be taken care of after installation is done.
 - Grandstand Lighting - The breaker was hot during the fair. We fixed the pits prior to the fair. Stanton is getting a quote to replace 10 lights in the grandstand.
- Entertainment:
 - Reaching out to bigger entertainment options. Keeping similar kids games.
 - Grant application is due at the end of the month.
 - It was discussed to look at a Facebook post asking for the public's input on what they want to see. Making it known there will not be a carnival.
- Fundraising:
 - 11/21/2025 - Comedy Night. 81 tickets sold so far, 200 is the maximum available. The ticket includes a free drink, appetizers and potato bar. Dave's catering will be doing the food. Tickets are \$50 per person and \$100 to reserve a table.
- Security:
 - Breakers are getting flipped and stuff taken from the horse crows nest. YEC/SCC has security on a hard drive / disk system. The outdoor cameras are kind of spotty. Should we be looking into something better? Security lights are also being shut off.
- Off Fair Events:
 - Figure 8 races in August went well. There was a good car count and attendance.
- Building Rentals:
 - Looking at making changes to the agreement. Had a wedding that was canceled for the following weekend.
 - Cycle through tables, etc in small amounts. Need to update as some are getting damaged. Matt made a motion to purchase 10 tables, seconded by Kierstin, motion passed.
 - Jeff made a motion to have Robin M paint the entire interior of the YEC over the winter. Dustin seconded. Motion passed.
 - The food pantry has been good to work with but it has been asked they get their own pallet racking vs using the YEC tables as they are getting damaged from being overloaded.

- Jeff is obtaining a second quote for Handicap doors. The first quote came in at \$7,500.
- Superintendents
 - Alyssa Staudt has stepped down as dog superintendent. There was interest from two individuals so far. It will be posted on Facebook to encourage all interested parties to apply.
- Royalty:
 - We had positive feedback. Looking at doing different activities in 2026.

Correspondence: Shared thank you cards from the 2025 fair.

Old Business:

New Business:

- Donations for the horse barn are coming in and they are working with entities in the area. Ben made a motion, Blake seconded to increase the fair donation by \$30,000 for a total of \$50,000 donated. Motion passed.
- Robbie Schmitt and John Ruzicka joined the meeting to express their concerns with the 2025 Beef show. The board listened and discussed their concerns.
 - Melissa suggested there be a rulebook committee added to review the entire fair rule book. Blake Frascht, Matthew Stille, Dustin Howe, Brett Spurgin (FFA representative), and Joe Paulus all volunteered to be on the committee. A member representing 4-H will also need to be added. Changes and concerns can be presented to and voted on by the board.
- Should the FFA rulebook be updated to include age up to 21 or 18? Right now it states an active FFA member. FFA members can be active until age 21.

Other Business:

- District meeting report presented by Matthew.
- AIF Conference December 12th - 14th. Melissa will be attending. Please let her know if anyone else is interested in attending. The cost is approximately \$150/attendee and includes meals.

Kierstin moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Jeff, the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

The next meeting is set for Wednesday, October 29th at 7 pm in the SCC.
Minutes submitted by Melissa Merriss