

MINUTES

White County Agricultural Association Meeting Tuesday, August 21, 2018, 8:00 PM 4-H Building, Reynolds, IN

Comments Regarding the Fair – Members of the public and Ag Association directors offered compliments and suggestions on a wide variety of topics. These comments were recorded on large sheets of paper. At 7:58 pm, all comments had been heard, and Joe Demerly called a short break before the regular meeting convened.

Present – Suzette Alma, Brandon Bell, Ron Byrd, Cindy Campbell, Laura Chapman, Andrea Cole, Chad Dahlenburg, Joe Demerly, Samantha Foutch, Luke Furrer, Cindy Griffin, Rodney Hall, Rodney Hornback, Mark Helms, Joann Hoyt, Phil Hunt, Denise Schroeder, Sara Shelton, Baily Tanner, Jon Tebo, and Andrew Westfall.

Absent – Brandon Foutch, Randy Freshour, Bill Geisler, Kevin Kelly, Marleta Misch, and Kena Phimmasen (Junior Leader Representative).

Guests Present

- **Comment Portion** – Kyle Arvin, Deb Foutch, Scott Griffin, Stefanie Hall, Trent Hall, Brian Pilotte, Kim Stockment, Steffanie Warren, and Don Wright.
- **Regular Meeting** – Deb Foutch, Scott Griffin, and Don Wright.

Call to Order – Joe Demerly, Vice President, called the regular meeting to order at 8:07 pm.

Secretary's Minutes – On a motion by Ron Byrd and seconded by Brandon Bell, the minutes of the July 16, 2018 meeting were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report – Cindy Griffin presented the Treasurer's report. As the compilation report had been completed (see notes below), the Board could vote to approve the report. On a motion by Joann Hoyt and seconded by Cindy Campbell, the report was approved as presented.

- **Accounting Services** - Susan Mrzlack has resigned as the Board's accountant, and Baker-Milligan has agreed to take on the task. With Baker-Milligan's guidance, all accounts have been reconciled and streamlined as of July 1st. Baker-Milligan would like to do a quarterly check of the accounts to make ensure all accounts remain in order moving forward. Cindy Griffin has asked them for a fee schedule and will meet with them to discuss the scope of services. She has also received the compilation report from Baker-Milligan at a cost of \$3630. \$2000 from the Tam fund was previously approved for this report as an estimated cost. Cindy Griffin moved to take an additional \$1630 from the Tam fund to pay for this service. Sara Shelton seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- **Thank You Notes** – Cindy Griffin passed around some thank you notes from 4-H'ers.
- **Family Fun Zone** – The expenses and proceeds of the Family Fun Zone were discussed. Some believe the line item should be moved from Commercial to Entertainment as it seems to fit in better with musical acts, woodcarver, hypnotist, etc. Ticket sale money was turned over to Cindy Griffin before the meeting. Cindy Campbell questioned how the money was handled and said it should have been counted by two people and given to the Treasurer nightly instead of being held off-site for four weeks.
- **Landscaping around the 4-H Building** – Rivers Edge Lawn & Landscaping cleaned up the landscaping and laid down new mulch around most of the 4-H Building shortly before the Fair and landscaped an area around the campground entrance. They placed several signs advertising their work in these areas. Rivers Edge has since submitted invoices for \$1950 for the work around the 4-H Building and \$450 for landscaping at the entrance to the campground. They are asking to be paid a total of \$1400 (\$950 + \$450) and are waiving \$1000 of the fee as payment for a day sponsorship as they received a lot of advertising from their work. Although the landscaping looked very nice, most were surprised by the invoices as it was implied at the March meeting that the landscaping would be done as a donation in exchange for free advertising. No proposal was ever presented to the Board, and no expenditure was ever discussed or approved. Rodney Hall also noted that Prairie Township 4-H Club had landscaped an area on the west side as part of the Adopt-A-Spot program as they always do, and they were not informed beforehand that another entity would be landscaping around the building. Luke Furrer moved to not pay these invoices from Rivers Edge. Rodney Hall seconded the motion. Motion passed. Luke will discuss it with Brandon Foutch, who had the initial conversation with Rivers Edge, and Randy Freshour will be asked to follow up with Rivers Edge. Chad Dahlenburg suggested the Board hire a firm to take care of the landscaping around the 4-H Building year-round.

Jr. Leader Report – Per Andrea Cole, junior leaders worked at various events before, during, and after the Fair. There was no meeting in August, and they will hold a call-out meeting in September.

4-H Enrollment Update – Per Andrea Cole, enrollment begins on October 1st.

Committee Reports

- **Grounds – Luke Furrer – Nothing to Report**
- **Event – Sara Shelton**
 - **Vendors** – Sara hopes to hold a meeting with vendors before next year's Fair to discuss concerns, locations, etc. She would also like to rework vendor pricing for next year and possibly grant a rent-free year to a vendor if they agree to update or repair their building. She is also considering free spots to non-profit groups who do

not sell anything, but they would not get prime spots on the main road. Some vendors have also offered to help her price check tent suppliers for next year.

- **Fire Department Parking** – Joann Hoyt noted that parking the fire trucks near the stage was not ideal and should be avoided in the future.

- **Development – Kevin Kelley – No Report Available**
- **4-H Programming – Suzette Alma – Nothing to Report**

Unfinished Business

- **Commercial Building** – Suzette Alma spoke to Mike Smolek, Cass Township Trustee, regarding a possible donation from the township. There is money available, but Mike would like to see some issues resolved before a donation is made. Suzette has a list of these issues. Joann Hoyt suggested we seek a grant from the Sisters of St. Elizabeth who have considerable resources. Sara Shelton mentioned that Keli Whitaker has offered to help with grant-writing and should be contacted. Mark Helms volunteered to check into this grant opportunity.
- **Separating the Board** – Cindy Campbell presented a preliminary report of her findings from discussions with other counties and research on tax statuses. She expressed concerns that the separation process would be very lengthy and complex, and the side that would not include 4-H Council duties would have very little income until a regular income stream could be developed. Arguments were made for and against separation. An exploratory committee comprised of Cindy Campbell, Joann Hoyt, Chad Dahlenburg, Phil Hunt, and Samantha Foutch was formed.
- **Purchasing Tables and Chairs** – Additional tables and chairs are needed. Joann Hoyt located some chairs at Sam's Club for \$20 each. Chad Dahlenburg noted that NWISWD has in the past offered grants for tables and chairs made from recycled materials. The issue was tabled again until Randy Freshour is present as he may have done some price checking already.
- **Gutters on 4-H Building** – Per Luke Furrer, he and Scott Griffin have repaired the gutters. The fascias are made of soft wood, and the gutters were attached to them. The rafters are made of harder wood and are in good condition, so the gutters have been attached to the rafters instead.
- **Other**
 - **Auction Results** – Denise Schroeder presented reports on auction results from 2017 and 2018, and Ron Byrd noted that overall revenue is up approximately \$29,000 from 2017. Per Denise, only about \$16,000 is still pending from buyers, and most of the checks have been mailed to sellers. Phil Hunt expressed concerns about the future of the auction and suggested the Board look for ways to maintain its viability. Several ideas were mentioned including a silent auction format conducted through a website and the addition of an anonymous bidder using a pool of funds from many contributors and named something like "Friends of 4-H."

- **Water Lines** – Chad Dahlenburg stated this could be a good time to continue work on water lines. Luke Furrer is accepting bids, and potential bidders should speak to him before submitting bids.
- **New Restroom** – In regard to the proposed new restroom on the Memorial Farm, Chad Dahlenburg suggested the storm shelters aspects be deleted to get the overall price down. Luke Furrer and Cindy Campbell will continue to work on this project.

New Business

- **Future White County Fair Date** – The dates of the 2019 fairs in surrounding counties were discussed. Brandon Bell moved to set the dates of the next White County Fair as Friday, July 12 – Thursday, July 18, 2019. Phil Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- **Enrollment Fee** – Andrea Cole asked if the Board wished to continue collecting a \$10 county enrollment fee. The Board agreed by consensus.
- **Keys Need to Be Returned** – Cindy Griffin asked people with keys to buildings to return them to the Extension Office as there are no keys currently available for some structures, such as the arena.
- **Other**
 - **Picnic Shelter** – Don Wright reported that the Antique Power Association has received the building permit for the shelter, and construction will begin soon. They also have a work day planned for some other projects.
 - **Meeting with Permanent Building Occupants** – Chad Dahlenburg suggested that a meeting with representatives of the organizations which permanently occupy/use buildings should be scheduled to discuss expectations and concerns.
 - **Officer Elections** – Per Cindy Campbell, officer elections will be held at the September 5th meeting per the Board's Constitution.

Upcoming Dates – Upcoming dates were listed on the agenda.

Adjourn – On a motion by Ron Byrd and seconded by Brandon Bell, the meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Campbell, Secretary.