

## MINUTES

### **White County Agricultural Association Meeting Wednesday, November 6, 2024 4-H Building, Reynolds, IN**

**Present**-Keith Altman, Molly Childers, Ashley Clark, Jon Coy, Lauren Dimmitt, Clint Federer, Deb Foutch, Randy Freshour, Luke Furrer, April Hall, Trent Hall, Scott Hood, Betty Kelly, Jeremy Lemming, Caleb McClure, Doug Morehouse, Kimberly Neuendorf, Bob Oliver, Steve Schemerhorn, Baily Tanner, Jon Tebo

**Not Present**- Roger Geisler, Rodney Hall, Hillary Hawkins, Jr. Leader Rep – Blaine Reiff, Josh Robertson

**Guests**- Amanda German, Andi Hedrick, Jason Hedrick, Lisa Gooding, John Gooding, Cindy Campbell, Jeff Campbell, Marty Huseman, Don

**Call to Order**- President, Trent Hall, called the meeting to order at 6:58pm.

**Secretary's Minutes**-On a motion by Betty Kelly and seconded by Lauren Dimmitt the minutes from September 4, 2024, was approved as written.

**Treasurer's Report**- Keith was present to report. Almost all auction money is in, there's only about three outstanding accounts. Most of the kids have cashed their checks, probably 30 have yet to do so. Nothing too crazy in terms of monthly bills right now. Keith did notice on interest we are \$7400.00 this year compared to \$2200.00 last year, that's been very positive. Funds report – Keith zeroed both the beef barn and goat barn renovation accounts; they will no longer be a line item. Doug Morehouse made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Kim Neundorf seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Jr. Leader Report**- Blaine Reiff was not present to report. Molly reported that the reason there is no rep here is because they're in the middle of transitioning officers. They have a meeting next Monday and will be doing officer elections at that meeting. There will be a new person at the December meeting. They've had approximately 15-20 active members and almost half of those are new this year. Meridith Vandever and Mendy Schlottman are helping Molly as co advisors this year. They had their kickoff in September and in October they went to Kent's for their meeting and did Monticello trunk or treat. If they decide to do a float in the Monticello Christmas Parade, if the Ag Association would be willing to help sponsor some of the decorations. April Hall made a motion to sponsor up to \$300.00 for their float, should they decide to do it, Deb Foutch seconded the motion. Keith Altman said we can pull it out of the unrestricted fund. The motion passed unanimously.

**4-H Update**- Molly Childers was present to report. 4-H enrollment open house was last week. They had about 16 enrollments and about 5 of them were new. That may be slightly down from the previous, especially from last year, but they had good feedback from the volunteers who

were there helping. Volunteer and 4-H enrollment are both open in 4-H online, if you haven't done your volunteer enrollment please do so as soon as possible. Tonight, we will be doing rule changes for the handbook and Sheila has already put all those in. If everything is approved tonight hopefully the handbook will be out by December. Camp Counselor applications and scholarship applications are both open through January. Marty put flyers out if anyone wants to attend any ag/farming related workshops.

### **Committee Reports**

- **Development-** Jon Tebo was present to report last time we discussed the new banners, unless anyone has a problem with it, he knows historically we've sent out sponsorship information around February. With the banners, we'd like to try to include the sponsor for each banner on the actual banner itself. He'd like to have sponsorships sent out before the end of the year. That way we can start getting them back in. A lot of businesses would like to know at the end of the year to be able to plan their budget for the next year, it may be a little more beneficial for them. There's one barn that would still like to utilize the old triangle banners, so we need to adjust what the sponsorship figure is for those. Jeremy Lemming made a motion for Grand/Reserve banners cost \$75, breed champion banners \$60, and plaques \$50. April Hall seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- **4-H Programming-** Doug Morehouse was present to report. We had a lot of changes with the billing system and a little hiccup with the checks not being available and that's why checks took awhile to get out. Changes are being made so hopefully checks will be out sooner next year.
- **Event-** April Hall was present to report the project on the other side of the FFA building, Mike Smolek has taken it under his wing, he's having a hard time finding someone to oversee it and engineer that. If you know anyone let April or Mike know.
- **Grounds-** Randy Freshour was present to report that there was a water heater issue in the closet. The wall will need redone again. Everything will be winterized Friday. Randy asked if we should do a fall cleanup. We will post on the Facebook page for fall cleanup on November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9 am. Randy asked if the beef barn is going to do anything with the blocks on the south opening. Jon said that it was hit this year. Randy said he will get some posts to brace under there just in case we have a heavy snow. Jeff Campbell asked if the brooms could be replaced in the 4-H building. Jon Tebo made a motion for someone to buy brooms and mops for the 4-H building.

### **Unfinished Business:**

- **Banners** – Goat banner price adjustments – Grand/Reserve \$75, breed Champion \$60, all other awards - \$50

### **New Business:**

- **Rule Changes** – They were sent out to the executive committee in email since we were all in the middle of harvest and looked over them. Not too many major changes. Molly

said normally she includes the State changes, but she didn't this year. The big change for static projects that we'll see is artificial intelligence is now allowed to be used. The majority of it still has to be the child's work. Example in her head is if they want to help write a sentence on their poster board. Consumer clothing got an overhaul to the state changes. Doug Morehouse made a motion to accept the rule changes. Motion passed.

- **Community Foundation of White County**– Cindy Campbell is on the governing counsel of the foundation and serves on the grants committee and Lisa Gooding is a community member on the grants committee. In addition to grants that take an application they also have the chance to do proactive grants. The Dee Preston and Carolyn K. Calvert Community Youth fund had an amount available of \$8,697.00 of proactive grants for youth programming. Lisa and Cindy recommended to the grants committee that it be awarded to the Ag Association to be used for Stem or Steam programming. The grants committee approved that and tonight the full governing counsel directed the entire contribution. It may not be used for capital or infrastructural improvements, no entertainment or amusements.
- **Goat Committee** – The goat club is requesting permission to put a roof over their existing wash rack. It is to be fully funded by the goat club, and they have two professional estimates. They've accepted one of the estimates and if it's approved, they will move forward. They will need to get a permit from the county. They had a discussion with Jenny Kyburz and she says it's only a county permit and no state permit is required. Betty Kelly made a motion to allow the goat club to put a roof over the existing wash rack. Luke Furrer asked if there was a drawing or wood structure. Jeff doesn't have a drawing, just the estimate from the contractor. Trent asked since it's not through the state there doesn't have to be a variance. Cindy said that she specifically discussed that with Jenny and the existing variance will be fine for this project. Luke asked if it's less than the 14ft from the county road. Cindy stated that that post of the structure won't be out any further than the wash rack and the roof will only hang over 1 ft of the northern edge and Jenny said that was fine. Luke asked that if anything gets added to that building, doesn't it have to go to the state? Cindy said that the wash rack already exists, so Jenny said no. Luke said since that barn has an arena, he thinks that changes the rules. Clint asked if the wash rack roof will be tied to the existing roof. Cindy said that it will come right underneath the barn roof. They're not interfering with the existing roofline or gutters. Betty Kelly again made a motion to allow the goat club to add a roof over the existing wash rack if they have all the approval. Randy Freshour seconded the motion. Luke asked if we find out it does have to go to the state what happens? Trent said, if they have permits. Luke wants to remind everyone where we were last year. We were told that based on what the county said that we could build buildings as close as we could. That didn't end up being the case, it had to go to the state. Motion passed.
- **Horse & Pony** – Amanda German reported that the White Co horse and pony are at the very beginning stages of trying to get approval to build a covered arena over the larger arena down at the horse and pony area. They're looking at 150'x240' with all sides open. They're asking for a covered arena for safer grounds for their horses and riders. Last year was a very muddy fair and it was very rough. There's a lot of maintenance

towards hoof care so when they're in mud shoes can be pulled, leg ligaments and tendons can be damaged as well. Having that can decrease the risk of horses falling, injured, and rider injuries on and off the horse. They wouldn't have to cancel shows because of the rain, they'd be able to have more open shows throughout the year which brings in more revenue for us to afford awards for the kids. When we don't have to replace the footing like we have had to do in the past it allows us to be able to save money that way. It also protects the expensive show clothes from being ruined and the horses clean. Clinicians that come to help our kids will have a designated area to work with them in a covered arena. Covered arena will be eligible for others to rent for other events. They believe that it will cost about \$1.5 to \$2 million to build if it's a steel build. They're looking at doing advertising through local businesses, individuals to sponsor, applying for grants locally and nationally, and fundraising events. Putting on shows just to sponsor this idea. Don called a couple companies and that's roughly what it'll take by the time they get everything done. Steel isn't cheap, FBI can't make a building that big, so it can't be out of wood. That's everything with lights, electrical, etc. Trent asked if there was a timeline. They know it's a lot of money, sooner the better is their hopes. Clint asked what their idea is to raise \$1.5-\$2 million. What's your thought? They based it off Hendricks County's arena size. The whole right side is bleachers, they're under roof. The arena itself is 120'x240', which they could go narrower and then have a lean to for the bleachers, which might save money. Really nobody wants to do drawings until they know you have money to put towards it. Trent asked if they talked to Jasper County to see how they did their fundraising to see what avenues they took. Randy asked if they were going to name it after somebody. Amanda said they had talked about that; their top contributors get to help name the arena. Deb Foutch made a motion to allow the horse and pony committee to start fundraising. Doug Morehouse seconded the motion. Keith asked if two years from now they have \$300,000.00, at what point do they say they can't hit their goal. Then what do you do with the money that you told people was going towards a covered arena. Randy said most of them will pledge their money, until it's going to happen. John Gooding suggested having it in small print if the project cannot be completed funds can be returned or pledge them for another purpose for the horse and pony committee. The motion passed for fundraising to begin.

- **New Ag Association Members Election** – First we will move existing members to actual townships. Clint Federer – Prairie and Kim Neundorf – Cass. Honey Creek opening had a nomination of Nick Hendress, Round Grove opening had a nomination of Tony Haan, Liberty opening had a nomination of Kalisa Baker (Mitchell), Monon opening had two nominations of Chris Staley or Jon Polk. Motion passed for Liberty Township Director position to be filled by Kalisa Baker. Motion passed for Honey Creek Township Director position to be filled by Nick Hendress. Motion passed for Round Grove Township Director position to be filled by Tony Haan. Motion passed for Monon Township Director position to be filled by Chris Staley. Jon Tebo will reach out to the new members.

#### **Upcoming Dates**

- November 19<sup>th</sup> – White County Extension Board Annual Meeting
- November 23<sup>rd</sup> – 9 am Fall Cleanup

- December 4th – 7pm Ag Association Meeting
- December 13<sup>th</sup> – 1-4 pm Denise Schroeder Retirement Party

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 4, 2024, 7:00pm 4-H building, Reynolds**

**Adjourn-** Keith Altman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:04pm.