

AGRICULTURE AND EXTENSION
EDUCATION/FAIR COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, January 20, 2020
9:00 a.m.

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairman Roger Guthrie. Present in addition to Guthrie were John Patcle, Mark Stead, Mike Lieurance (excused at 10:25), Gary Northouse, Bob Keeney, Amy Olson, Lori Vesperman, Paul Ohlrogge, Amanda Cauffman, James Schneider, Charisse Orth, Donna Peterson, Judy Hazen, Jeremy Reuter, Kari Ruf and Jason Kleppe.

The meeting notice was posted at the Extension Office, Youth & Agriculture Center and mailed to media and Administration Building by Lori Vesperman and posted on the website by the Grant County Clerk's Office.

Motion by John Patcle, seconded by Gary Northouse, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Gary Northouse, seconded by John Patcle, to approve minutes of the meeting held November 18, 2019 with correction and January 7, 2020. Motion carried.

Grant County Extension and Youth & Agriculture Center business was presented.

Agent reports were given by James Schneider, Donna Peterson, Charisse Orth and Amanda Cauffman.

Paul Ohlrogge gave the Area Director update. The Lafayette/Green County Health and Well Being Educator position has been reposted. Interviews for the Regional Water Quality Specialist have been held, with an offer made to a candidate. The start date for the position could be in February. Expanding access is continuing with Agriculture Educators writing articles on a variety of subjects for a publication produced by, and for, the Amish Community.

Motion by John Patcle, seconded by Mike Lieurance, to approve Extension vouchers. Motion carried.

Amy Olson gave the grounds and maintenance and Youth & Agriculture Center report.

Maintenance staff are waxing floors in buildings. Brenda is helping with maintenance in the Courthouse for a limited time until a new hire starts.

Mike Lieurance requested a reduced rate for the Mike William Pollack Post 2344 Veterans of Foreign Wars use of the Youth & Agriculture Center for a chili supper on January 27, 2020.

Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by John Patcle, to waive the fee for use of the Youth & Agriculture Center for the chili supper on January 27, 2020, accepting a donation. Motion carried.

Amy Olson presented Fair and Fairgrounds business.

Judy Hazen, ATV/UTV alliance was present for discussion on ideas for a summer event to be held at the Grant County Fairgrounds.

Jeremy Reuter was present to discuss the local truck and tractor pull at the Grant County Fair.

Motion by Gary Northouse, seconded by Roger Guthrie, to modify section 13 of ECIPA contract. Motion carried.

Kari Ruf, Lafayette County Speedway, was present to discuss the races at the Fair. No changes were made. They will no longer hold a June race at the Grant County Fairgrounds.

A two minute recess was taken.

Jason Kleppe, Southwest Area Pullers was present to discuss holding a tractor pull June 13.

A short recess was taken while Jason made a phone call to secure a sled for the pull.

Amy informed the committee that the Fairest of the Fair banquet will be held May 5, 2020.

Fairbook changes including crocheting, dog, and goat classes were discussed along with random drug testing of show animals.

Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by Gary Northouse, to accept crocheting class and dog class changes to the fairbook. Motion carried.

Motion by Gary Northouse, seconded by John Patcle to sign a contract with Bungart Motorsports for a sled for two nights of tractor pulling at the 2020 Fair for \$5,500 plus a motel room. Motion carried.

Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by Gary Northouse, to sign a contract with All-Star Monster Trucks for \$15,900. Motion carried.

Amy is planning an outdoor movie night for July.

Racetrack lighting was discussed.

Rental rates for the Eckstein Exhibit Hall were discussed. Amy, Lori and Jenny will discuss rates and Amy will report to the committee at the next meeting.

Motion by John Patcle, seconded by Gary Northouse, to approve fairgrounds vouchers. Motion carried.

Amy presented an idea of offering all-event tickets at a discount to businesses to share with their employees.

Motion by Gary Northouse, seconded by Mike Lieurance, to approve the livestock claim in the amount of \$600 to the Grant County Humane Society and send on to the full county board for approval. Motion carried.

Motion by Mark Stead, seconded by Gary Northouse, to adjourn until call of the chair. The next regular scheduled meeting will be February 17, 2020.

Adjourned at 12:30 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Stead
Secretary

Lori Vesperman
Recording Secretary