

Grant County Fair
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**AGRICULTURE AND EXTENSION
EDUCATION/FAIR COMMITTEE MEETING
Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday
January 8, 9, 10, 11, 2023
Chula Vista Resorts, Wisconsin Dells, WI**

Sunday, January 9

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Pat Schroeder, in addition to Chairperson Schroeder, were Gary Northouse, Joe Mumm, Porter Wagner, Bob Keeney, Roger Guthrie, and Amy Olson.

The meeting notice was posted at the Administration Building, UW-Extension Office, Youth & Ag Center, and media by Amy Olson.

Motion by Roger Guthrie, seconded by Joe Mumm to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Contracts were signed for the 2023 Grant County Fair for the following:

- Lafayette County Speedway, Wednesday night grandstand - \$15,500
- Bungart Motorsports, two nights of sleds for tractors pulls - \$7,100
- Kindschi Pedal Pull, Thursday - \$812.40
- Tri-State Truck and Tractor Pullers, Saturday night grandstand - \$8,200

Two year leases for the Farm Bureau and Lancaster Jaycees were signed too. Motion by Porter Wagner, seconded by Joe Mumm to accepted the above contracts and leases. Motion carried.

Amy was contacted by Brian Knapp, with the Lancaster Sluggers wishing to use the Eckstein Building again for practice. The Lancaster Girls Softball Team would like to co-share the batting cages in the Eckstein Building with the Sluggers. Contact person for the softball team is Josh Jensen. Motion by Gary Northouse, seconded by Roger Guthrie to allow the Lancaster Sluggers and the Lancaster Girls Softball Team to put up batting cages in the Eckstein Building for practice at no charge. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on our carnival along with workshops and the trade show that the committee will be attending. We need to find a grandstand event for Friday night, entertainment under the Alternative Recycling Entertainment Tent for Friday night and Sunday. We will meet with Badgerland Midways and Badger State Tractor Pullers on Monday.

The auction committee would like help once again from the Grant County Board on Monday and Tuesday night during the auction.

Amy expressed an interest in getting her Institute of Fair Management Degree through IAFE. She explained the program to the board, including the cost to attend classes. Motion by Gary Northouse, seconded by Joe Mumm to allow Amy to further her education through the Institute of Fair Management, at which the cost will be covered by County. Motion carried. Amy has up to six years to obtain this, spreading out the expense over that time period.

Recess til call of Chair.

Monday, January 9

Those present were Pat Schroeder, Roger Guthrie, Gary Northouse, Porter Wagner, Joe Mumm, Bob Keeney, and Amy Olson

Committee board members and I attended workshops and the trade show today. We met with Badger State Tractor Pullers to discuss coming to the fair again this year. A contract was presented for eight classes that are available, August 17. Amy will reach out to Chad Wieland to find out what classes he would like to run prior to Badger State. We will discuss and pick out five of the proposed classes from Badger State at our January 23 meeting along with Chad Wieland's proposal.

Committee board members and I met with Badgerland Midways to discuss last year's carnival. We continue to express our concerns with the carnival including more rides and help. They have applied for overseas help and hoping they will be accepted. They also proposed an increase in mega passes, along with daily passes. After further discussion, we agreed to increase mega passes by \$5 and daily passes by \$5. Contract will be extended for two years. Kathi will be getting a contract over to Amy before our January 23 meeting.

We also had a discussion about putting a tent up in the food area on the midway. Amy was approached from a member of Farm Bureau. They are interested in paying for a tent that can be placed on the midway across from there building, that would allow seating for fair patrons. The concern is that over the years, people are using their seating area which makes no room for those that eat at their establishment. The fair would provide picnic tables for a seating area.

Suggestion for All Event Passes to be renamed All Event VIP Passes and to allow those people that purchase these passes to come in 15 minutes ahead of opening the gates to the grandstand. We will discuss this further at our next board meeting.

Recess til call of Chair.

Tuesday, January 10

Those present were Pat Schroeder, Roger Guthrie, Porter Wagner, Joe Mumm, Bob Keeney, and Amy Olson.

Committee board members and I attended workshops throughout the day along with walking through the trade show again to talk to associates.

After talking with associates in the trade show the following contracts were signed for the 2023

Grant County Fair:

- Eli Alger and the Faster Horses, Friday night musical entertainment in the Alternative Recycling Entertainment Tent - \$5,500. Motion by Porter Wagner, seconded by Gary Northouse. Motion carried.
- Half Twisted/Half Knot, Friday entertainment for kids tent (5-hour performance) - \$1,250. Motion by Porter Wagner, seconded by Roger Guthrie. Motion carried.
- Mr. Steve's, Saturday and Sunday entertainment for kids tent (Saturday 3 shows/Sunday 2 shows) - \$1,500. Motion by Joe Mumm, seconded by Porter Wagner. Motion carried.
- Bear Hollow Wood Carvers, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday (4 shows daily, we keep the 12 carvings) - \$5,400. Motion by Porter Wagner, seconded by Roger Guthrie. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on prices for the 2023 fair. Further discussion will take place January 23 at our next fair board meeting.

Wednesday, January 11

Those present were Roger Guthrie, Joe Mumm, Bob Keeney, Amy Olson, and other district fairs.

Attended the district meeting. It was called to order and the following occurred:

- Spring district meeting date will be April 12 in a centrally located area. This will be determined at our February WAF Board meeting. Amy Olson and Liz Cook will take the lead on the establishment and reservation for our district.
- Any members interested in serving on a WAF committee let Amy or Liz know. Fairest of the Fair committee applications are online and being accepted until January 31.
- Discussion on the convention. Members expressed what sessions they would like to see come back next year and gave ideas for future sessions.
 - Taxes – base it more on 501 (c)3 and 5
 - Carnival panel to learn more on the changes that are happening on the carnival side
 - Fair Entry/Blue Ribbon – basic and advanced
 - State gaming representative
 - Food safety
- Discussion on the facility. Next year's convention will be January 7-11 at Chula Vista. We are contracted through 2025 at this time.

Amy and Liz will bring up all concerns and suggestions to the rest of the Wisconsin Association of Fair's Board at our next fair board meeting February 12 and 13, 2023 at the Chula Vista Resort.

Next meeting is Monday, January 23, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Olson, CFE
Grant County Fairgrounds & Operations Director