

AGRICULTURE AND EXTENSION EDUCATION/
FAIR COMMITTEE MEETING
Monday, January 27, 2025
9:00 a.m.

The January meeting was held in the Extension Office Conference Room at the Youth & Agriculture Center and by Zoom. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Roger Guthrie, Present in person were Joe Mumm, Pat Schroeder, Gary Northouse, Kathy Kopp, Mark Vosberg, Bob Keeney, Nate Dreckman, Amy Olson, Lori Vesperman, James Schneider, Charisse Orth, Kim Kester, Jackie McCarville and Lynn Perkins. Present by Zoom were Tonya White, Bev Doll, and Cora Schmitz.

The meeting notice was posted at the Extension Office, Youth & Agriculture Center, Administration Building, on the Grant County website and emailed to media.

Motion by Gary Northouse, seconded by Mark Vosberg, to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Pat Schroeder, seconded by Joe Mumm, to approve the minutes of the meetings held November 18, 2024 and January 5, 6, 7, 8, 2025. Motion carried.

Educator reports were given by Bev Doll, James Schneider, Charisse Orth, Kim Kester and Jackie McCarville. Lynn shared Maggie Milcarek's report.

Lynn Perkins gave the AED update. They plan to make an offer for the Green/Lafayette County Human Development and Relationship Educator position. There is a new office manager in Green County.

Motion by Gary Northouse, seconded by Mark Vosberg, to approve the Extension vouchers. Motion carried.

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

The motherboard in the Extension Office water fountain needed to be replaced. Some lights in the Youth & Ag Center were replaced with new florescent lights. Winter cleaning and maintenance continues. Four new tires were put on the truck. Fair, Maintenance and Extension Support Staff will be participating in an active shooter training webinar.

Fair and Fairgrounds Business.

Top soil was purchased from the City of Lancaster and extra dirt was also received at no cost from Bailie Excavating. There should now be enough dirt for the Super Cross event Friday night of the Fair.

Cora Schmitz, Lancaster Jaycees, asked the committee to waive the fee for use of the Eckstein Hall for an Easter Egg Hunt. Motion by Pat Schroeder, seconded by Kathy Kopp, to waive the fee for use of the Eckstein Hall on April 13, 2025. Motion carried.

The Fair Convention was recapped. Amy shared a handout from Ian Hill with the Committee.

Discussion was held on handing out fair premium checks during the fair.

Discussion was held on Fairbook changes regarding separate classes for gilts and barrows. Motion by Mark Vosberg, seconded by Joe Mumm to have separate classes in 2025 on a trial basis. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on a non-terminal versus terminal swine show. Amy will prepare a survey to get input from exhibitors and reconsider for 2026. Discussion was held on trying to find a way to tag swine for less stress on the animal.

The 2025 schedule for the grandstand, entertainment tent and kids tent is set.

Motion by Joe Mumm, seconded by Pat Schroeder, to sell advance daily ride wristbands. Mega wrist bands will be \$70 in advance and \$90 at the Fair. Daily wristbands will be \$30 in advance and \$35 at the Fair. Motion carried.

Motion by Gary Northouse, seconded by Mark Vosberg, to sign two-year lease agreements with Lancaster Jaycees and Grant County Farm Bureau. Motion carried.

The updated Master Plan for the Fairgrounds was reviewed.

Amy would like to apply for the Compeer Financial Grant up to \$4,000 to use for continual fencing in the dairy pole barn. Motion by Gary Northouse, seconded by Mark Vosberg, to have Amy apply for the grant. Motion carried.

Motion by Kathy Kopp, seconded by Joe Mumm, to sign contracts with Rachael Neil - \$300, Bear Hollow Wood Carvers - \$5,400 and Lafayette County Speedway - \$15,500. Motion carried.

Motion by Kathy Kopp, seconded by Mark Vosberg, to have Amy advertise for sponsorship signage on the dairy pole barn. The sponsor will provide their own sign. There will be a five-year contract with a cost of \$1,000 each year. Motion carried.

There will be a change in the annual superintendent/food & beer stand organization meeting. The meeting will be held for superintendents only. Amy will contact the organizations individually. Waivers for the back pit area will continue to be used upon advise from Tricor Insurance. Discussion was held on having a dance for youth Saturday night of the Fair. District Fair meeting is April 2. A Junior Fair Livestock Auction Meeting is being held January 29.

Due to Kuusakoski Recycling no longer having their company in the US, two other businesses have reached out to Amy regarding holding an electronic recycling event at the Fairgrounds. Amy plans to have them attend the March meeting either in person or by Zoom.

Motion by Gary Northouse, seconded by Mark Vosberg, to approve the vouchers. Motion carried.

Motion by Joe Mumm, seconded by Pat Schroeder, to adjourn until the next meeting, March 17, or the call of the chair. Motion carried.

Kathy Kopp
Secretary

Lori Vesperman
Recording Secretary