

## **Morton County Fair Board Minutes**

**January 21, 2025**

### **7:00 pm Morton County Fairgrounds**

Meeting called to order at 7:19 on pm central time by board President Shawn Feiring.

**Directors presented:** Peggy Brandt, Mark Isaacs, Shawn Feiring, Thomas Friesz, Barry Schulz, Nathan Boehm, Robert Boehm, Trina Gress, Luke Dukart, Brooke Kunz and Annie Gartner

**Associate Members presented:** Amanda Noel

**Guest:** Don Lafleur- MCFA accountant and Russ Voigt- President of 4-H Council

**Custodial Report:** no report

**Additions/Approval of Agenda:** Luke moved to approve agenda, Peggy 2<sup>nd</sup> motion passed

**Secretary's Report:** Barry made the motion to approve October minutes, Peggy 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed.

Annie informed the Board she is putting binders together for all board members, will include all the items in the emergency manual binders, contact info, committee list, etc. The blue binders that each board members have will be used for agenda items, treasure and secretary's reports, etc. She will have them completed and ready by the next meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** In the checking \$7,890.81, savings account \$35,764.07 and the loan balance is \$287,605.11. First loan payment was made on December 26, 2024, interest \$20,103.92 and the principal was \$7,394.89. Total payment was \$27,498.81.

Peggy made the motion to approve the treasurer's report with corrections, Brooke 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion passed.

**4-H Report:** Russ asked about doing a joint sponsorship letter between them and the fair. Board had some questions on how this works with taxes between the two organizations. Don explained that what goes to 4-H would pass thru the fair. One option is to have two letters, discussion followed public relations committee will look into it.

**Bills to pay:** Annie presented bill for \$483.40 (for postage, copies for binders, binders and defib pads for AED machine) Barry moved to pay Annie, Thomas 2<sup>nd</sup> motion passed.



## **Old Business:**

### **Committee Reports:**

**Amusement & Youth Activities:** Trina presented quotes from Family Friendly Fun Zone, Friday-Saturday-Sunday 3 shows each day, 3 clowns for \$5,000.00. Next quote was from Splat Inflatable Games from Billings, MT. The paintball price is \$6,874.00 plus hotel for two people, quote includes all the equipment, operators and transportation. The inflatables quote includes selection of inflatables, operators and transportation for \$8,068.00 plus hotel for either 2 or 3 people. The total for both \$14,942.00. Tabled for next month.

**Beer Garden:** Country Fest would like to put a bid in for the beer garden.

**Camping:** no report

**Capital Improvements:** Grant from the community foundation was \$27,000.00, committee will meet to discuss what projects.

**Facility Maintenance:** no report

**Country Fest:** no report

**Gate & Parking:** Trina presented the Board with the idea of 4-H groups with leaders and parents volunteer to work the gate during the fair since they do not have the concession to do.

**Music & Small Acts:** Still looking for Friday night, Annie will check with DJ Patrick Remmick before the next meeting.

**Public Relations & Advertising:** no report

**Rodeo/Draft Horse Competition/Ranch Rodeo:** Will be having the ranch rodeo again, Barry is going to ask the Civic Club if they would sponsor the event.

**Power Pull:** Shawn informed the board that Full Pull Inc. is done and that Dale and Casey Pletan will be doing the power pull and the antique pull.

Annie informed the Board the portable bleachers from Mandan Progress Organization are booked.

**Competitive Events/Awards:** Thomas informed the Board that the Point Show dues need to be paid. Mark moved to pay the dues at \$175.00 per day, Brooke 2<sup>nd</sup>, roll call vote; Peggy-yes, Barry-yes, Shawn-yes, Nathan-yes, Robert-yes, Mark-yes, Thomas-yes, Trina-yes, Luke-yes, Brooke-yes, and Annie-yes, motion passed unanimously.

**Commercial Exhibits/Concessions/Vendors:** no report

**Security:** no report



**Heartland Conference Report:** Trina will give the committee's info that they got from the conference, very good and informant conference. Trina talked about succession planning, Oliver County is starting a lawn mower racing circuit, asked if Morton County would be interested. One idea was to have a booth at Country Fest promoting our fair, Thomas added maybe do a raffle and on the back get a couple dollars off on gate admission. Talked about the indoor vendor booths showing how to do things like bee keeper, sewing etc.

**Hotel Bids:** Annie will do some more checking and bring back to next meeting.

### **New Business:**

#### **Committee Assignments:**

Amusement and Youth Activities: Trina, Shawn, and Amanda.

Beer Garden: Nathan-chair, Shawn and Thomas.

Camping: Peggy- chair, Robert, and Luke.

Capital Improvements/Facility Maintenance: Barry, Mark, Nathan, Peggy, Thomas and Shawn.

Commercial Exhibits/Concessions: Amanda, Trina, Brooke and Annie.

Competitive Events/Awards/Static: Thomas-chair, Mark, Luke, Peggy, Trina, Amanda, and Brooke.

Country Fest: Peggy-chair, Robert, Trina, Amanda, and Barry.

Gate and Parking: Nathan, Shawn, Mark and Annie.

Small Acts/Bands: Trina, Peggy, Robert and Annie.

Power Pull: Shawn, Luke and Joel.

Public Relations: Trina, Amanda, Peggy, Brooke and Annie.

Rodeo/Draft Horse Competition/Ranch Rodeo: Barry-Chair, Peggy.

Security: Annie-chair, Peggy and Brooke.

Thomas made the motion to approve the Committee Assignments, Brooke 2<sup>nd</sup> motion passed.

**Website Update:** Peggy informed the Board of the updates to the web site, updated the camping map, added sponsorship page-option to purchase, rental event calendars, fillable pdf rental agreement, can either send it or print it and mail it, pay on website added, the rental charges and storage prices are listed.



**Heartland Association Dues:** Amanda informed the Board dues have not been paid, Robert made the motion to pay \$175.00 for dues, if these are last year's dues pay that and the next year dues, Trina 2<sup>nd</sup>, roll call; Peggy-yes, Barry-yes, Shawn-yes, Nathan-yes, Mark-yes, Thomas-yes, Robert-yes, Trina-yes, Luke-yes, Brooke-yes, and Annie –yes, motion passed unanimously.

**Legislative Report:** Trina introduced Bill 2097, funding for communities of 1,000 people and less through the ND Community Endowment Foundation, Trina will follow the bill. Peggy introduced Bill 1591- provides an appropriation to the agriculture commissioner for a county fair resiliency grant program, would be funding for County Fair Capital Projects, Peggy started a list of items for Mark (bill committee) to have when they discuss the bill. Discussion followed on different ideas.

**Next meeting:** February 18, 2025 at 7:00pm at the Morton County Fairgrounds in New Salem.

Brooke made the motion to adjourn, Luke 2<sup>nd</sup> motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 8:41pm central time.

Submitted by Annie Gartner, MCFB Secretary: Signature Annie Gartner Date 2-18-2025