



# Saginaw County Agricultural Society

PO Box 449 • Chesaning MI 48616 • 11350 Peet Rd • 989.845.2143 • Fax 989.845.2682

www.SaginawCountyFair.org • SaginawFair@Yahoo.com

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

Saginaw County Agricultural Society

Regular Monthly Meeting

February 14, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Bruckman. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and roll was called.

**Present:** Jim Askins, Dick Borm, Ed Bruckman, Patti Copes, Howard Ebenhoeh, Sara Engelhardt, Donna Felton, Rosie Garcia, David LeCureux, Beverly Newton, Pennie Tomac (late)

**Absent:** Letitia Birchmeier, Valerie Newton, Lana Robinette, Keith Valentine

**Guests:** Bill Berg, Dan Copes, Bob Corrin, Tre Crook, Denise Ebenhoeh, Peggy Garikes, Maureen Roe, Tim Rosencrans, Gretchen Schulte, Rachel Wirostek

## Public Comment:

Dan Copes reminded the board that they need to lead to get others to follow.

## Additions to the Agenda:

Request to add Santa's Village to the committee reports.

Motion by Borm and supported by Felton to accept the agenda with the addition. Motion passed.

## Secretary's Report:

Minutes of the January 17 regular meeting were presented. Motion by Borm and supported by B. Newton to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed.

## Treasurer's Report:

- Reports from January meeting (Account balances as of 12/31/18, Banking summary 12/1/18-12/31/18, and Third quarter income and expense report) were presented.
- Current reports (Account balances as of 1/31/19, Banking summary 1/1/19-1/31/19, Banking summary of fiscal year to date 10/1/18-1/31/19, and Income/Expense Comparison 10/1/17-1/31/19) were presented.
- Motion by Borm and supported by LeCureux to receive and file these reports. Motion passed.
- Tomac noted that there was a rental cancellation that resulted in a -\$700.00. Credit card fees in January of \$246.47 is from Square and Authorize.net. In calendar year 2018 we paid a total of \$2,294.89 in credit card fees. We paid \$1485.40 to Square on \$51,176.76 charges (2.9%). We paid \$809.49 to Authorize.net on \$8790.00 in charges (9.21%). Tech committee is looking into alternative credit card processors.
- Tomac also noted that the treasurer's office has informed the board of an approved fundraiser (Raise the Roof) where expenses were paid, but no income has been deposited in Fair accounts.

## **Committee Reports:**

**Buildings and Grounds** – LeCureux reported that he is talking with Bob Symons about power in the grandstand. He is also working on getting casters on the showcases in the exhibit hall. He reported that volunteers from Lippert helped put away trees 2 weeks ago.

Felton will contact MMOGTA about donating a showcase.

Copes suggested keeping the brush hog for the tractor. It had been listed as an item to sell.

Copes asked about the city water project. No update has been received from the village. Ebenhoeh will look into it again.

**Horse Department** – B. Newton reported that a joint committee met and presented written recommendations. There is still a need to resolve financial discrepancies, particularly with buckles. Tomac reported that money has been transferred to cover the buckles. Motion by Felton and supported by Garcia to accept the written proposal and follow it. Tomac expressed concern that some recommendations may not be able to be followed; if the horse department stays a part of the Fair, then the finances will need to be overseen by the board's treasurer. Ryan Hoerner may be able to advise the board on changes to the recommendations in the future. Motion passed with one vote in opposition.

Motion by Felton and supported by Garcia to outsource the treasurer's position. Motion passed.

Motion by Garcia and supported by Felton to deposit the proceeds from the Raise the Roof fundraiser in the SVAA's account. Motion passed.

Bruckman commented that the joint committee meeting was productive.

**Livestock Department** – Tomac reported that both committees have met recently. They are discussing possible changes for 2020: raising hog weight limit and requiring a project book. They are also concerned about African swine flu and are investigating a 4-way vaccine as an alternative to the 5-way. They have discussed BQA certification and YQCA certification as a replacement for PQA.

**Entertainment** – No report.

**Junior Fair Board** – Crook provided a written report with 4 proposals: uploading the Outstanding Youth Exhibitor application to the website, uploading the judging expectations, plan to host showmanship clinics during fair, and the need to space in the exhibit hall during fair. Motion by Tomac and supported by Garcia to approve these proposals. Motion passed. Tomac requested that notice of future meetings go out to other youth in the county.

**Office Manager** – Rosencrans reported that he is working on preparations for the Gypsy Goddess Festival and storing items from Santa's Village. He reported meeting with the *Independent* and that they would be able to print the premium guide for a cost similar to last year. He is currently working on updating the website. Copes asked about the MDARD bleacher grant. She reported that an extension was requested after the December 1 deadline and advised that Rosencrans as project manager needs to be reporting to the board on grant progress. Copes also suggested more active marketing for rentals.



# Saginaw County Agricultural Society

PO Box 449 • Chesaning MI 48616 • 11350 Peet Rd • 989.845.2143 • Fax 989.845.2682

www.SaginawCountyFair.org • SaginawFair@Yahoo.com

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

**Santa's Village** – Garikes reported that this year's event took in \$52,000; had \$25,000 in expenses; and profited \$27,000 with an attendance of 5,289. In the last 6 years the event has raised \$108,000. The committee will need all of October to set up in the future and would like the floor washed prior to the event. They want to repair the lights on the wreaths on the south wall and would like to be updated on lighting upgrades. They do not plan to invite the model railroad club back. Ebenhoeh reported that he has been contacted by the Steam Railroading Institute. The committee plans to use Anderson Amusements, Joel Tacey, and Santa again. They will be looking for a new photographer and new bathroom attendant. Garikes reported that the TV ad was good. They would like to work on developing an emergency plan and would like to see more 4-H/youth volunteers in addition to more board members during the event. She thanked Rosencrans for his help with the event.

**SVAA Report:** Ebenhoeh reported that their annual meeting was in January. No changes were made to the executive board. Maureen Larner in Ebenhoeh's office is helping with receiving and tracking sponsorships. They do have a new member, Mike Chabut. The date for next fall's Harvest Banquet is October 12. Motion by Tomac and supported by Garcia to deposit \$175 in checks from memorials in honor of Howard Ebenhoeh, Sr. into the Fair's accounts and then cut an equal check back to SVAA in return. Motion passed. Copes reported that the partnership brochures have gone out and some are coming back already.

## President's Report:

- Bruckman reported that Twin Township ambulance has requested an increase in their fee from \$1,000 to \$3,000. This will need to be negotiated.

## Unfinished Business:

- Bruckman reported that an update from Hoerner's Accounting was sent in email form to the executive board. Copies were offered to the rest of the board. Copes suggested that Ryan Hoerner prepare 2 proposals, one on the audit and a second for monthly services. Ebenhoeh will ask Ryan for a formal proposal for the board to review. Tomac suggested that when that is received the budget committee should meet to amend the budget.
- Ryan Hoerner is working to prepare documents for Ken Berthiaume. Copes reported that it has been 10 years since the last full audit. Cinda Karlik has done financial reviews since then. The USDA loan requires an annual audit, but they do not have to request it from us. B. Newton suggested going back to the audit request from Francis, meaning 3 years. Ebenhoeh will discuss this with Hoerner.

## New Business:

None

## Correspondence:

None

**Public Comment:**

- Corrin is concerned about the need for professional conduct of board members: language and interrupting committee reports with motions. He would like work days communicated. If motions are missed, he suggested that they be added when the report is presented the following month.
- Garikes asked if anything that board members saw at the MAFE convention could replace the railroad club.
- D. Copes wants to see people challenge the treasurer's report if there are questions.
- Roe asked a question about mopping in the exhibit hall.
- D. Ebenhoeh thanked the board for their work and encouraged them to move forward.

**Directors' Comments:**

- Borm presented the opportunity to advertise in the Midland Antique Engine Club's book. For \$65 we could buy a ½ page ad in 6,000 copies. Motion by Copes and supported by B. Newton to purchase up to a ½ page ad. Motion passed.
- Felton asked that she be excused for the next 2 months because she will be out of town.
- Ebenhoeh encouraged the board to move forward, be optimistic, and encouraged the use of Hoerner's Accounting.
- Tomac has a list of questions that the treasurer's office completed for the audit if anyone would like to read it.
- Askins thanked Garikes for her work on Santa's Village.
- Engelharde reported that she will be absent from next month's meeting. B. Newton offered to take minutes.
- Bruckman requested the reading of a letter resigning his position as president and as a board member.

Motion by Borm and supported by Garcia to adjourn. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Engelhardt  
Secretary