

Custer County Agricultural Society

Regular Board Meeting

June 10, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 7:03pm by President Nelson. President Nelson informed those present of the location and availability of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act publication. The meeting notification and agenda were posted in advance at the Custer County Courthouse, on the CCAS Website, and the CCAS Facebook page.

Members present were Shane Ryan, Steve Horn, Kent Nelson, Ira Spanel, Rodney Lamb, and Blair Hartman. Absent were Marla Stallbaumer, Becky Pearson, and Casey Cooksley.

Others present were Administrator Michelle Nelson, Grounds Manager JJ Martin, Mona Weatherly (Custer County Chief), Deb Haumont, Sharon Roberts (Insurance of the Heartland), and Troy Walz (UNL Extension), Josh Call.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the May 17, 2021 regular board meeting were reviewed. Horn made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Ryan.

Roll call vote:

Voting Yes: Ryan, Horn, Spanel, Hartman, Lamb, & Nelson

Voting No: None

Abstaining: None

Absent: Pearson, Stallbaumer, & Cooksley

Financial Report

Treasurer Spanel presented the financial report. Following are the account balances in the various accounts as of May 31, 2021.

Events Account:	\$7,344.05	
Livestock Account:	\$11,926.37	Capital Fund: \$-30,350.60
Memorial Funds:	\$7,195.03	General Fund: \$202,059.23
Storm Damage	\$134,808.11	Savings Account: \$11,100.55

Spanel made a motion to approve the financial report and pay the bills, seconded by Horn.

Roll call vote:

Voting Yes: Ryan, Horn, Spanel, Hartman, Lamb, & Nelson

Voting No: None

Abstaining: None

Absent: Pearson, Stallbaumer, & Cooksley

Extension report-Troy Walz

Walz share that on July 20, Colleen and CWF will clean and stock the concession stands. July 23 Colleen will clean the exhibit hall. Monday July 5th online 4-H entries are due by 11:59pm CT.

4-H Council-Walz

No Report—Next meeting will be in July.

Grounds Manager Report—JJ Martin

- One summertime employee started working (Isela Tercero)
- Brandon Evans is helping with the stall cleanup.
- Diversion kids are painting barn 9 and will paint the bleachers under building 10.
- Will get the bathrooms painted this week.
- Issue with the last roping and people not paying, sheriff department was contacted and individuals are to pay by this weekend, (June 12). Discussion about putting locks on all pedestals to ensure that people pay. Ira thought that locks on everything would be a lot of time and effort for JJ, Nelson thought they may actually be a good idea. Horn agreed that locking the mains is a good idea.
- Michelle asked JJ about painting the floor in the new bathrooms to make them look nicer.

Administrator report-Michelle Nelson

- Expressed concern from an outlet that sparked at the Jr. Angus show and blew the breaker. Nothing was plugged in to it at the time. It is on the south side of the area and is an old receptacle that sparked. Horn suggests that an electrician come look at it. P. Nelson said there is one on the North side that must have been hit with equipment and should be looked at as well. Horn asked if Ryan could look at it because he is licensed. Ryan said that he would.
 - Discussed upcoming events, said the grounds is busy all the way through fair.
 - Terry Connely's bench is in place. Tom Eberle has a bench that needs placed.
 - Four Corners 4-H gave a donation and said that the picnic table project would be okay to put the money toward. Tom Eberle's memorial left over money can also go toward tables.
 - M. Nelson expressed to Grounds Manager Martin that she had been contacted by members who asked if there was any reason the boxes couldn't stay in the indoor year around? Spanel said that if it is requested that they come out they should probably be back in place by Monday evening. Members were upset that they came to use the arena and couldn't because the boxes were not in. Martin said that the problem is that there are events every weekend and no one wants to use the boxes and the labor is spent cleaning up and setting up from the events rather than moving the boxes back and forth. Spanel said we still have to serve the members that pay membership to use the arena. Spanel and Nelson assured JJ they understand that he is the one that has to take to backlash but they don't like the negative comments from locals. Martin said that 4-wheelers were packing the ground from pulling their machines and making an issue for working the arena. Spanel asked about changing our policy to make it so that they cannot bring machines in. Nothing more was discussed on the policy.
 - Quickbooks cost comparison shows that it would save ~\$50/month. It gives M. Nelson, Spanel, and Dana F. Cole access to the quickbooks. Cole will still take care of payroll and they will take care of the IRS. M. Nelson said it will be less work and hassle for Dana F. Cole because she won't have to ask for all of the reports each month, she can run them herself.
- Horn moved that we purchase the Quickbooks Online with Payroll and Spanel seconded.
- Roll call vote:
- Voting Yes: Ryan, Horn, Spanel, Hartman, Lamb, & Nelson
- Voting No: None
- Abstaining: None
- Absent: Pearson, Stallbaumer, & Cooksley

New Business—President Nelson

Due to Josh Call not being present at this point, President Nelson moved on to New Business and will return to Old Business when Call arrives.

Insurance Renewal

Sharon Roberts with Insurance of the Heartland presented a comparison of premiums. Discussed the way that the Polaris Ranger is insured. P. Nelson is sure he signed an agreement so we carry the insurance. Discussion about water truck comp/collision. Decided to keep it. Premiums have gone up, there will be a small difference in the amount due to comp from skid steer. Sharon said she doesn't have another carrier to cover us, she did call and question the increase and a lot of it is materials. Based on payroll found in an audit there could be a change in the workman's comp.

Spanel moved to approve the insurance package that has been presented with the removal of the 2020 skid steer. Horn seconded.

Spanel asked about blanket coverage for equipment not listed. Sharon said yes there is some coverage.

Roll call vote:

Voting Yes: Ryan, Horn, Spanel, Hartman, Lamb, & Nelson

Voting No: None

Abstaining: None

Absent: Pearson, Stallbaumer, & Cooksley

Josh Call entered the meeting at 7:35 pm.

Old Business—President Nelson

Possible Beer Garden for Tuesday, August 3rd, Event

Nelson asked Josh Call to explain his ideas and proposal for the possible beer garden at the Tuesday, August 3rd, event. Call expressed that whatever needs to happen to make it happen and to benefit both, he wants to make it happen.

-Spanel asked Michelle about profit sharing. Spanel raised concern that was presented at a previous event about sharing the revenues because it is our liquor license and so he doesn't know how far we can go on sharing the sales until we have clarification. Spanel also expressed that the people he has talked to agree that the fair is for the kids but there are plenty of times family friendly events have had alcohol and it hasn't taken away from the kids at all. He said that with the current set up there is no security and no one watching what is being brought in where with the beer garden there is added security because there is alcohol, therefore it is showing we do care. He also shared that the beer garden won't be an all night deal, it will close at the end of the event and the grandstands will be split, similar to Mid States Rodeo. Spanel feels it will help attendance at the event and provide revenue.

-Staffing the beergarden is still an issue.

-Roberts with Insurance of the Heartland reminded the board that the insurance coverage is on the Ag Society only, it would provide nothing to the other party if it were split revenue.

-Spanel does not feel that a beer garden is a detriment to the fair.

-Lamb expressed that it would boost sales for the CWF kids by limiting the entrance of cups/drinks from outside.

-Call noted that the State Fair opens beer gardens at 10:00 am and kids are allowed in until they are kicked out at 9:00pm.

-Hartman asked about the cost of added security. M. Nelson said it was \$500/night. They are off duty law enforcement. Call has contacts for BlueLine security out of Norfolk.

-Hartman asked about staffing issues. Spanel asked Roberts about the insurance of hiring other bar tenders. Roberts provided a claim example for liability insurance and shared what we are covered for. Her biggest suggestion was to be diligent in checking ID's and having wrist bands.

-Ryan clarified that the insurance coverage was no difference than Mid States Finals. Roberts agreed.

-Discussion about shutting off the bar at the start of the "short round" to make sure that there is no question.

-Mona Weatherly with the Custer County Cheif asked about the concern with the Teen dance being the same night. Spanel said the beer garden will already be over long before they start the dance.

Discussion about staffing and it was suggested 4-6 people to staff the bar. Call said that he had people that could help. Call also said to talk to the local establishments and see if they would help it. Spanel said we would have to pay the locals to come in as a caterer so that was probably not the route we should go. Call also suggested that we sell tickets for the drinks rather than exchanging cash at the bar.

Spanel made the motion that the Ag Society put on a beer garden during the FreeStyle Bull fight, Tuesday, August 3, 2021. Ryan seconded.

Roll call vote:

Voting Yes: Ryan, Spanel, Hartman, Lamb, & Nelson

Voting No: Horn

Abstaining: None

Absent: Pearson, Stallbaumer, & Cooksley

Other concerns

-M. Nelson-next meeting we need to vote on tax levy request it is due August. Shortly after that we have to do the budget.

-Spanel shared that there is one outstanding quarter left open at the IRS that we know of. Everything else is paid. We have paid in penalties \$6,871.25 and \$1,220.06 in interest. We have paid \$481.88 in penalties and \$62.99 interest to the State of Nebraska. State of NE wrote off some money because when contacted they were familiar with the situation. The quarter that is still open that was found we owe \$7.77 in interest and \$503.98 in penalties. Weatherly clarified that the \$6800 is totals paid to the IRS and Spanel agreed.

-Weatherly mentioned that the picnic shelter is wired and there is plans to put in roofing to avoid the birds nesting.

-M. Nelson asked for help with concert sponsorship. Kinkaider is going to be a headline sponsor.

Spanel moved to adjourn at 8:18. Horn seconded

Roll call vote:

Voting Yes: Ryan, Horn, Spanel, Hartman, Lamb, & Nelson

Voting No: None

Abstaining: None

Absent: Pearson, Stallbaumer, & Cooksley

Respectfully submitted,

Blair Hartman, member