**Stephenson County Fair Association Board Meeting Minutes**

**February 27, 2025**

**Stephenson County Farm Bureau**

The Stephenson County Fair Association meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Gary Mielke.

**Board Members Present:** Bill Clow, Brittani DeVries, Ann DeZell, Conor DeZell, Susie Dvorak, Victoria Hansen, Denise Hayunga, Phil Heck, Carla Meyer, Abby Mielke, Gary Mielke, Kris Shore, and Ethan Trampel.

**Board Members Absent:** Wendell DeVries, Jodi Miller, and Becky Thomas.

**Executive Manager/Staff:** **Present**: Kate Boyer.

**Public Present:** Gerald Mielke, Jeff Kaiser, and Andy Dvorak.

**Items added to the agenda:** Appreciation Dinner.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Secretary’s Minutes:** The January meeting minutes were presented. Kris Shore made a motion to approve and was seconded by Susie Dvorak. Motion carried.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Conor DeZell presented the January financial reports. Kris Shore made a motion to approve as presented and was seconded by Ethan Trampel. Motion carried.

**Committee Reports:**

**Finance:** Conor DeZell noted that a credit card should be acquired for Jeff Kaiser as Grounds Maintenance Supervisor. A motion was made by Victoria Hansen and Kris Shore to approve a credit card with at $2500 maximum. Motion carried. Gary Mielke stated that Kate Boyer’s, Executive Manager, computer needed substantial repair, and a new computer was recommended. A motion was made Victoria Hansen and seconded by Kris Shore that $1500 be approved for purchase of a new computer. Motion carried.

**Building and Grounds:** Denise Hayunga reported that work on the water project could begin as early as next week. The new electronic sign install will hopefully be March 11. Jeff Kaiser reported that picture frames are being made for fair attendees to take selfies. Fifty new gates are being constructed by Forreston FFA for the meat goat pens.

**Gates/Security Committee:** No report.

**Commercial:** Gary Mielke stated that we will have a new tent supplier for 2025. Berg Industries is currently closed.

**Entertainment:** Gary Meilke reported we will be seeking a new beer supplier for 2025. VIP seating for the tractor pull was suggested. There would be a charge to be seated in the VIP area. Pit passes for the tractor pull are $20. Tractor pull committee will meet March 6.

The Mobile Dairy exhibit needs a sponsor. Kate Boyer is working on this.

No report on the Queen pageant.

**Youth Night:** Abby Mielke reported 2025 will be similar the 2024 events. It would be helpful if there were some new sponsors for 2025.

**Livestock**: Britani DeVries stated the committee will be meeting March 13.

**Non-Livestock:** Susie Dvorak reported the committee will meet March 3.

**Policy and Procedures:** Victoria Hansen asked if there were any questions about the policy changes presented last month to be voted on this month. Bill Clow moved, and Susie Dvorak seconded the motion to approve as presented. Motion carried.

Victoria reminded board members if they wish to hold a committee meeting at the Farm Bureau, please contact the Farm Bureau office as soon as possible to get on their schedule.

**Executive Manager Updates:** Kate Boyer provided board members with a written report.

**Old Business:** Board members were reminded of the appreciation night to be held March 19 in Room 201 at Highland College. RSVPs are required by March 10.

**New Business:** None.

**Any Other Business**: None.

The next meeting will be held on March 27, 2025, at the Farm Bureau at 7:00 pm.

President Gary Mielke adjourned the meeting at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Meyer

Secretary