

Calhoun County Agricultural & Industrial Society  
Minutes of Board Meeting  
July 15, 2020 – Virtual/Remote Meeting - 7:00 PM

**Call to Order**

The July 15, 2020 Board meeting was called to order by CCAIS Board President, Bruce Rapp at 7:01 pm through Virtual/Remote means to comply with the state ordered executive orders due to COVID-19 situation.

Attendance with Roll Call was conducted by Susan Baldwin.

Present: Bruce Rapp, Steve Benham, Jim Olds, Bill DeSmet, Susan Baldwin, Hope Horton, Teri Letts, Chip Riddle, Lisa Sands, Steve Swafford. Excused: Doug Wildt.

**Board Meeting**

Approval of Agenda – Motion by Lisa Sands, seconded by Jim Olds, to approve the agenda as presented. Unanimous voice vote, all in favor, motion passed.

Secretary's Report of the June 17, 2020 minutes was given by Susan Baldwin. Motion was made by Susan Baldwin, seconded by Lisa Sands, to file the minutes. Unanimous voice vote, all in favor, motion passed.

Treasurer's Report – Bill DeSmet presented the Treasurer's report. Bill reported that the mortgage has been paid off. There were some extra donations beyond the total needed for the mortgage that will be applied to office roof repairs. Bill expressed the Board's thanks to Bruce Rapp for organizing the Preserve the Fair mortgage payoff drive. Bill reported that losses year to date are \$38,000 (though some of the cash flow is the mortgage donation drive) – there is little income due to Covid-19. Staff has successfully cut a lot of expenses. The PPP loan is covering current needs, about 2 months left for payroll and expense. Some people have requested camping refunds since fair has been cancelled. The youth entry fees will be refunded. Donations have been offered to cover the refunds. Some revenue has come in for the golf outing. Bill shared a report on species balances.

Jim Olds asked what the golf outing revenue would be used for. Bill stated that the registration flyers did not mention the mortgage. This will be discussed again after the event is over. Bruce Rapp noted that he would like golf outing funds to go to building upkeep in the future. Chip Riddle suggested earmarking funds for buildings with proviso for this year due to special circumstances.

Bill reported that Jen Rice presented to the Finance Committee on ways to cut costs and bring in some revenue for this year. Jen has filed two grants requesting operating funds. Bruce is working with the City of Marshall on utility issues. Jen is also reviewing the copier and internet costs. Bill expressed thanks to Jen.

Bill DeSmet moved to accept the Treasurer's report, Teri Letts seconded. Unanimous voice vote, all in favor, motion passed.

Fair Manager Report – Jen Rice provided the Fair Manager report. She noted that \$30,000 in grants have been applied for. The Bluegrass event sponsor has cancelled. Jen stated that the Camping and Cornhole weekend was well attended and netted \$430. There is interest in another weekend. So far there are 18 teams signed up for the golf outing. Jen noted that CCAIS may get some refund in insurance premiums since events have been cancelled. The wind damage claims are still pending.

**Public Comment** - requested for any agenda items.

None.

#### **Discussion Items and Special Presentations**

- A. **Preserve the Fair Campaign** – No additional report – handled under the treasurer's report.

#### **Action Items:**

- A. **None**

#### **Committee Reports**

- A. **Operations Committee** – Jim Olds reported nothing new at this time.
- B. **Bylaws Committee** – Susan Baldwin reviewed the list of items that the Bylaws Committee will be reviewing. The Committee will be meeting at the end of July. If anyone has any topics that they would like the Committee to discuss, they should be sent to Susan or the Fair Office as soon as possible. If any changes are recommended, notice would be given to the membership and voted on at the Annual Meeting.
- C. **Nominating Committee** – Bill DeSmet expects activity shortly.
- D. **Employee Committee** – Bruce Rapp stated no report at this time.

- E. Volunteer Appreciation Committee** – Kathy Miller. Nothing at this time.
- F. Livestock Committee** – Hope Horton stated no report at this time.
- G. Livestock Auction Committee** – Steve Benham stated no report at this time.
- H. Livestock Judges Committee** – No report.
- I. Non-Livestock Committee** – Jen Rice stated the committee met last week. The Committee was brainstorming ideas for doing the show online but there is really little interest among the youth. Will defer these shows to next year.
- J. Non-livestock Auction Committee** – No report.
- K. Non-livestock Judges Committee** – Jen Rice stated no report at this time.
- L. Fair King and Queen Pageant Committee** – Teri Letts stated no report at this time.
- M. Grandstand Events Committee** – Jen Rice stated no report at this time.
- N. Membership Committee** – Lisa Sands reported that the Committee has developed a membership flyer. She discussed the patron plus options. She asked about the membership pass policy and how this might be impacted by a Bylaws change. The Board discussed possible levels of membership and options for higher membership levels such as reserved parking, fair week passes, recognition. Bill DeSmet noted that any change in fair pass policy would not be in effect for 2020. Lisa noted that Steve Swafford is donating the printing. Lisa will donate the envelopes and mailing.
- O. Cruise at the Fountain Committee** – Jen Rice stated no report at this time.
- P. Golf Outing Committee** – Jen stated she had no additional information from her earlier report.
- Q. Halloween Camping Committee** – Jen stated that the Halloween event is still scheduled for Oct 9-11.
- R. Merry Mile Committee** – Jen stated that she had nothing to report.

**Events and Community Reports:**

- A. 4H Council – Kathy Fischer reported that they are planning virtual live and non-live shows. Dates are Aug 12 – 14. Partnering with Barry and Branch Counties. Will provide some ribbons and awards. Not planning on an online auction. Local processors have no time to handle the animals.
- B. FFA Report – Lora Finch noted that the Miracle of Life tent has been cancelled. She is working with kids on finishing projects. Also working on return to school plan. At this point, still planning to go back to school at the end of August. National FFA has been cancelled for November.
- C. Floral Hall Building – no report.
- D. Houston School – no report.
- E. Maple Grove Church – no report.
- F. Fair Museum – no report.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – three minute time limit and one opportunity to speak.

None.

**BOARD COMMENTS –**

Hope Horton noted that several groups have been meeting to try to schedule livestock shows. August 15 is the Calhoun County Swine show. Many thanks to the Swaffords for stepping up. Steve noted that there are 25 sponsors so far. Hope is still looking at goat and sheep show possibilities. She also noted that there is very limited processor time available. Still some spots for the swine carcass show but need to contact soon.

Susan Baldwin noted that the Membership Brochure was well done.

Bruce Rapp thanked everyone for attending. Its been a tough year and everyone is making the best of the situation.

**Adjournment** – There being no further business to come before the meeting, motion made by Lisa Sands, seconded by Chip Riddle, to adjourn the meeting – voice vote, all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Submitted by Susan Baldwin, Board Secretary