

**Dakota County Agricultural Society  
Board of Directors Meeting  
October 02, 2017**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by President Mark Henry, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Board Present: Mark Henry, Pete Storlie, Cathy Busho, Greg Casura, Jeff Wright, Mike Slavik, Marge Snyder (arrived 7:33pm), Ed Barrett, Roger Janak, David Franzen, Dan Muller

Board Absent: Mark Malecha,

Guests: Henry Fox, Mark Bigalow, Lenard Storlie. Ed Plant, Mike Busho

Staff Present: Kristine Smith

The agenda was approved with the addition beer sales under old business. Motion by Greg Casura, second by Cathy Busho. Motion carried. Muller abstained.

The September 11, 2017 minutes were approved. Motion by Ed Barrett, second by David Franzen. Motion carried.

**Visitors**

No visitors requested time to speak.

**Dakota City Report**

Dakota City provided a written update. Discussion on potential dates of the Vintage Baseball Game in partnership with the Dakota County Historical Society. Fair week or not? Logistically may be challenging during the fair. Sales and Marketing will look at it.

**Motion:** Approve the 2018 Dakota City Heritage Village budget. Motion by Franzen, second by Busho. Motion carried.

**Office Manager Report**

Report given by Office Manager

**Maintenance Foreman Report**

No report this month.

**Finance Committee Report**

Financials and checks and claims were presented.

**Motion:** To pay checks as presented by David Franzen, second by Cathy Busho. Motion carried.

Presented the 2017-2018 Budget for final review. Changed the county contribution by +\$41,117 for a net loss of \$56,000. The budget is conservative on revenue and high on expenses.

**Motion:** To approve the 2017-2018 Agricultural Society Budget. Motion by David Franzen, second by Cathy Busho. Motion carried

## **Sales and Marketing Committee Report**

Committee discussed 2018 fair and reduction of fair days.

**Motion:** Move to not reduce the fair length for 2018 and further evaluate the impacts of reducing days. Present idea to full membership at the Annual Meeting. Motion by Snyder, second by Storlie. Motion carried. No – Casura, Janak

**Motion:** Create a Grandstand Sub-committee of the Sales and Marketing Committee to create events and facilitate equipment needs in the Grandstand. Motion by Casura, second by Busho. Motion carried.

## **Facilities Committee Report**

Facilities report given.

## **Old Business**

**Strategic Plan Update:** Strategic Planning Update was presented. Board to consider hiring a consultant of their choice to aid in the development of a multi-year business plan with key components to include 1) fiscal management, 2) long-term capital layout for facilities and grounds around upkeep, improvements, new build and demolish, 3) operations toward maximizing the fair for impact and community participation/visits and 4) recommended governance structure to optimize functionality and accountability to funders, donors and citizens.

Suggestion to consider Tom Shea who has a background with Ag Societies, Government, Business and 4H. Director Slavik will ask for a proposal.

**By-law Review:** Discussion regarding updating the by-laws as some sections are out of date.

**Motion:** To form a small committee to do a by-law review and make recommendations for approval at the 11-6-17 Board Meeting. Motion by Busho, second by Storlie. Motion carried

## **New Business**

**Direct Deposit:** Discussion about looking at using direct deposit for employees and directors. Castle Rock Bank has options. Board would like to see more options including outsourcing this function.

**Friends of the Fair Fund:** Presented background information on what other fairs are doing in terms of non-sponsorship type fundraising. Board supported idea of creating a “Friends of the Fair Fund” and Finance Committee recommends opening a “Friends of the Fair” bank account at Vermillion State Bank.

**Motion:** To create a separate committee made up of Ag Society members and Ag Society Directors with authority to make decisions regarding the “Friends of the Fair Fund” without the approval of the Agricultural Society Board of Directors, once the operating procedures and guiding principles are approved by the Agricultural Society Board of Directors. Motion by Muller, second by Barrett. Motion unanimously carried on a roll call vote.

The meeting adjourned at 9:21pm

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Mike Slavik -Secretary*