

## **2017 ROCK COUNTY 4-H FAIR ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

The annual meeting of the Rock County 4-H Fair Association was held on Wednesday, November 15, 2017 in the Craig Center, Fairgrounds, Janesville, WI. There were 70 members present.

The meeting was called to order by President Randy Thompson, at 7pm. Randy introduced the members of the Rock County Fair Board. Randy thanked the directors for their service over the past year.

Three director's positions will be up for election/reelection this year: Michael Phallin, Lynn Galbraith-Wilson, as will Teresa Reilly's one-year appointed position.

Mary Check was acknowledged and thanked for the time and talent she puts into her position as Fair Manager. Mary just started her 17<sup>th</sup> year working for the Rock County 4-H Fair. The Secretary's Office staff, Treasurer's Office staff, and Maintenance Crew were given appreciations. County Board members who are present this evening: Rich Bostwick, Al Sweeney, and Wes Davis were also given appreciations.

### **Secretary's Report:**

The minutes from the 2016 meeting were available on the website and at the check in table. There being no additions or corrections, Lynn Galbraith-Wilson moved to accept the secretary's report as read, Merlin Hegge moved to second, motion carried.

Read and accept new members of the association, 17 new members.

- |                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Susan Pickering | 10. Sue Schimike      |
| 2. Lois Carlson    | 11. David Knoll       |
| 3. Jessica Knight  | 12. Kelly Wywialowski |
| 4. Katie Ward      | 13. Ciera Ballmer     |
| 5. Steffi Farrey   | 14. Angela Wallisch   |
| 6. Sarah Cary      | 15. Amanda Dietz      |
| 7. Michelle Wetzel | 16. Michele Burno     |
| 8. Zolton Lobeck   | 17. David Burno       |
| 9. Frank Ward      |                       |

**Fair dates were set for 2018 are Tuesday, July 24 – 29, 2018.**

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Randy Thompson, President, on behalf of Bonnie Martin, Treasurer, presented the 2016 audited financial report for approval. President Thompson reviewed some of the historical fiscal balances to compare to this year's financial report. Scott Wywialowski moved to accept the audited report, Robin Heath seconded, motion carried.

Bonnie presented the 2017 financial report. Total receipts for 2016 were: \$ 1,100,493.46. Total expenses were: \$1,068,912.42.

### **Old Business:**

- No old business

**Election:** Craig O'Leary was introduced as chairperson for the election.

**PRESIDENT:**

Mark Gunn nominated Randy Thompson. Lynn Galbraith seconded. \_\_Karen O'Leary moved to close nominations for President and cast a unanimous ballot, Lynn Galbraith-Wilson seconded, motion carried.

**SECRETARY:**

Mark Gunn nominated Maureen Fox-Rusch.

Barb George moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Secretary, Lynn Galbraith-Wilson seconded, motion carried.

**First Director:**

Mark Gunn nominated Lynn Galbraith-Wilson.

Dick Zanzinger \_nominated Beth Burdick.

Sue Gunn nominated Michael Phalin.

Kathy Heider moved to close nominations for first director, Robin Heath seconded, motion carried.

Each candidate introduced himself or herself.

Results of the first ballot for first director:

Name:	Votes
Lynn Galbraith-Wilson	26
Beth Burdick	27
Michael Phalin	17

Second ballot:

Lynn Galbraith-Wilson	31
Beth Burdick	37

The first director is: Beth Burdick

**Second Director:**

Those names still on the ballot are: Lynn Galbraith-Wilson and Michael Phalin.

Megan Flood nominated Ronna Balmer.

Sally Churchill moved to close nominations for Second Director, Deb Schuetz seconded, motion carried.

Results of the first ballot for Second Director:

Lynn Galbraith-Wilson	30
Michael Phalin	20
Ronna Balmer	19

Second ballot:  
Lynn Galbraith-Wilson      29  
Michael Phalin                      40

The second director is: Michael Phalin

**Third Director:**

Those names still on the ballot are: Lynn Galbraith-Wilson and Ronna Ballmer.  
Kathy Heider moved to close nominations. Kaitlyn Heath seconded, motion carried.

Lynn Galbraith-Wilson      37  
Ronna Ballmer                      33

The third director is Lynn Galbraith-Wilson.

**Committee Reports**

**Building & Grounds: Dave Johnson** reported that the Evansville FFA Alumni built and donated the new ticket booth at Gate 5 in memory of Austin Martin. The Camp of Champions was started in the East end of the beef barn. The new Memorial Garden in Memory of Austin Martin was planted in May. New display cases were built by Brian Paul and stained by Mark Gunn, Randy Thompson, and Teresa Reilly.

**Clean Up: Mark Gunn** reported: Estimated that 250-300 exhibitors and adults came in on Wednesday following the fair to help clean up. Waste Management was thanked for their help in providing dumpsters. The Rock County Pork Producers, Beef Producers, and Dairy Promotion were thanked for contributing to the lunch that is served to all of the volunteers following clean up. The maintenance crew was also given appreciation.

**Entertainment: Julie Johnson** reported that the committee works with the full board and maintenance crew to make entertainment run smoothly for the week. The board appreciates suggestions from any entity for our shows, but many acts are cost prohibitive. Our fair is up against many obstacles in addition to what we can competitively afford.

**Daytime Entertainment: Michael Phalin** reported: that daytime entertainment made some changes due to the changes in judging schedule. He reported that the sponsor

**Coronation: Lynn Galbraith Wilson reported:** that being a member of the Royalty Court has become a 52 week endeavor. These exhibitors volunteer year-round to market the fair. There will be a workshop in January for any 4-H or FFA exhibitor Brooke Trustem will be representing the fair at the WI Association of Fairs

**Museum: Michael Phalin reported:** how helpful all of the volunteers are to keeping the museum in operation during the week of the fair. There are still candy jars available.

**Concessions: Maureen Fox-Rusch reported** that we operate under several different constraints: lack of space for vendors to camp/park, lack of indoor facilities, etc. We are always looking for vendors who would like to work with what we can offer. We are also very careful not to provide unhealthy competition at the detriment of our current vendors.

**Advertising: Maureen Fox-Rusch reported** that the fair utilizes all different forms of media to help advertise the fair. Social media is an excellent platform for the fair due to its low cost. Ellen Hunter and Mary organize our website and Facebook page and are to be appreciated for the extensive work they do.

**Memorials & Appreciation: Karen O'Leary reported** on the new Memorial Garden with landscaping between the Appreciation Dinner for the volunteer superintendents in the fall. The Janesville Leadership Academy has built and donated benches to the fairgrounds.

**Insurance: Randy Thompson reported** that this year's fair included three claims for falls.

**Dairy Youth Auction: Bonnie Martin reported** that the auction was successful again this year. Some of the funds channels back to additional activities for the exhibitors throughout the year to promote the dairy industry.

**Premium: Maureen Fox Rusch reported** that due to changes in the judging schedule to bring the majority of the judging back to the week of the fair, there are still some glitches being worked out for the 2018 fair. Superintendents have been given the opportunity to submit recommended changes to Mary; these changes were due November 1<sup>st</sup>.

**First Aid: Bonnie Martin reported:** that the support of our local EMT's as well as the Rock County Sheriff and the Janesville City Police department helps the fair to run smoothly.

**Meat Animal Sale: MAS Co-Chair- Ryan George reported** \$461,100 was brought in at this year's sale. The top buyers were: Woodmans, Seneca, Chambers & Owen, E & D Water Works, and Klitzman Seeds. Rock County Pork Producers, Clinton FFA, and Edgerton Boosters were the largest buyer groups. The MAS also helps to provide The Gunn Family was thanked for their service to the clerking of the sale; there are a lot of volunteers who help with this effort.

**Fur & Feather Sale: Teresa Reilly reported** \$59,985 was the total received for the sale. Daryl and Gary Weber have volunteered to auction the animals for many years. The scholarship fund provided two scholarships to each of the species.

**Security: Mark Gunn reported** the Rock County Sheriff's department and the Janesville Police Department have worked together on the grounds throughout the week. Sgt. Shawn Natter works closely with the board to determine emergency protocol.

**Sponsorship: Deb Schuetz** reported that we received \$23,000 in corporate sponsorships in 2017. This is up from \$16,000 in 2015. There are different levels of corporate sponsorship, and the fair will work with anyone who has an idea to promote their business within the fair. Sponsoring a day at the fair was new in 2017. Dollar General utilized this on Saturday of the 2017 fair. They received a lot of advertising for their corporate sponsorship of \$2000.

**New Business:** none

**Any other business:**

Some concern with our 4-H Extension Office positions not being rehired; Rock County has the largest 4-H youth population in the state, and current changes at the state level is affecting our leadership. Randy encouraged the membership to contact anyone at the state level who could provide help on this matter.

Adjourned: Ronna Ballmer moved to adjourn the 2017 annual meeting. Seconded by Ryan George.

Respectfully Submitted,

Maureen Fox Rusch, Secretary