

# **2019 ROCK COUNTY 4-H FAIR ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

The annual meeting of the Rock County 4-H Fair Association was held on Wednesday, November 20, 2019 in the Craig Center, Fairgrounds, Janesville, WI. There were 81 members present.

The meeting was called to order by President Randy Thompson at 7pm.

Randy thanked the Fair Association for their attendance, introduced the directors of the Rock County Fair Board and thanked them for their service over the past year. The Board of Directors is a working board, and all serve on committees that help to organize the annual event.

Three director's positions will be up for election/re-election this year: Karen O'Leary, Mark Gunn, and Randy Kleven as well as the President's and Secretary's positions.

Appreciations were given to Mary Purinton, Jan Lubow, Samantha White, Teresa Reilly, and Ellen Hunter for their work in the Secretary's Office.

Fair Manager Mary Check's leadership was also noted, and she was thanked for the time and effort she provides to the Rock County 4-H Fair.

Treasurer's Office Staff Candy Nicholson, Sue Johnson, Deb Krause, Monica Burkheimer, Teresa Wille as well as Treasurer Bonnie Martin were thanked for the work they do during the week of the fair.

The Maintenance Crew led by Brian Paul was also thanked.

## **Secretary's Report:**

The minutes from the 2018 meeting were available on the website and at the check in table. There being no additions or corrections, Tom Lepinski moved to accept the secretary's report as read, Mary Williams moved to second and the motion carried.

Read and accepted new members of the association: 22 new members.

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|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Samantha White   | 13. Tayten Huisheer  |
| 2. Erin Everett     | 14. Zach Huisheer    |
| 3. Nichole Wilson   | 15. Suzanne Henning  |
| 4. Christine Rebout | 16. Sheri Mullooly   |
| 5. Leona Lux        | 17. Brenna Mullooly  |
| 6. Ryan Stilen      | 18. Patrick Mullooly |
| 7. Tricia Stilen    | 19. Melissa Beaumont |
| 8. Tricia Bennett   | 20. Jay Beaumont     |
| 9. Katelyn Demrow   | 21. Kenny Ballmer    |
| 10. Zeb Demrow      | 22. Riley Schuetz    |
| 11. Chad Butts      |                      |
| 12. Carolyn Butts   |                      |

Five of the new members were present at the 2019 Association Meeting. Motion made by Ronna Ballmer to accept the new members of the Rock County 4-H Fair Association. Lynn Galbraith-Wilson second. Motion carried.

**Fair dates for 2020 are Tuesday, July 28 – August 2, 2020.**

## **Treasurer's Report:**

Bonnie Martin, Treasurer presented the 2018 audited financial report for approval. Carolyn Butts moved to accept the audited report, Lynn Galbraith-Wilson seconded, motion carried.

Bonnie presented the 2019 financial report. Total receipts for 2019 were: \$ 640,111.78. Total expenses were: \$663,796.52.

The yearly audit will be done this winter; in the past, Baker Tilly Accounting firm has completed the audit, but this year, the Rock County Fair Board has selected Summit Accounting to complete the audit.

## **Old Business:**

No Old Business

**Election: Joe Martin** as chairperson for the election.

## **PRESIDENT:**

Mark Gunn **nominated** Ryan George

Bob Arndt moved to close nominations for President and cast a unanimous ballot, Karen O'Leary seconded, motion carried.

## **SECRETARY:**

Carolyn Butts **nominated** Maureen Fox-Rusch

Tom Lepinski moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Maureen Fox-Rusch for Secretary. Lynn Galbraith-Wilson seconded, motion carried.

## **First Director:**

Ryan George **nominated** Abbey Gasser.

Megan Flood **nominated** Cathy Wendtland.

Randy Thompson **nominated** Randy Kleven.

Nominations for the first director were closed.

Results of the first ballot for 1<sup>st</sup>. director:

Name:	Votes
Abbey Gasser	68
Randy Kleven	9
Cathy Wendtland	3

The First Director is: Abbey Gasser.

## **Second Director:**

Those names still on the ballot are: Cathy Wendtland and Randy Kleven.

Taylor Ringhand nominated Laura Fuhrmann

Bonnie Martin nominated Karen O'Leary

Nominations for second director were closed.

Results of the first ballot for Second Director:

Name:	Votes
Cathy Wendtland	7
Randy Kleven	9
Karen O'Leary	10
Laura Fuhrmann	55

The Second Director is: Laura Fuhrmann.

**Third Director:**

Those names still on the ballot are Cathy Wendtland, Randy Kleven, and Karen O’Leary. Results of the first ballot for Third Director:

Name:	Votes
Cathy Wendtland	19
Randy Kleven	20
Karen O’Leary	42

The Third Director is: Karen O’Leary.

**Committee Reports**

**Advertising:** Maureen Fox Rusch reported continued use of as many different media outlets as possible. Billboards, print ads, radio, television, web links from media websites and social media are all used.

**Concessions:** Maureen Fox-Rusch reported that concessionaires were down for the week of the fair. This stems

**Buildings & Grounds:** Mark Gunn/Randy Kleven reported that there is a lot of preparation prior to the fair. Our grounds crew goes to work in June to prepare the facilities for the fair’s six day run. All of the fairground buildings have been painted. Changes were made to the exhibits in the Craig, Block, and Blackhawk Buildings.

**Clean Up:** Mark Gunn reported that Wednesday’s clean up ran smoothly. The Rock County Pork Producers, Beef Producers, and Dairy Promotion was thanked for providing the meal for the exhibitors who volunteer to return to help the grounds.

**Coronation: Lynn Galbraith Wilson** reported that King Kenny Ballmer and Queen Lauren Flynn and the royalty committee embraced their duties and did an excellent job marketing the fair. Currently the committee is helping to organize our Queen Lauren Flynn prepare for the Fairest of the Fair contest next month. Fair Association members who have Rock County products to donate to the auction basket that the Queen must provide at the Wisconsin Association of Fairs Convention should contact Mary Check.

**Premium & Craig/Blackhawk/Block Building Coordinator: Beth Burdick** reported that the buildings had many changes; the goal was to provide some eye-appealing changes to the exhibit areas.

**Dairy Youth Auction: Bonnie Martin** reported that fourteen youth participate in this auction to benefit a variety of areas for the dairy exhibitors.

**Daytime Entertainment: Michael Phalin** started by thanking the committee and the grounds crew. The 2019 fair included the Lumberjack Show, Pig Races, and a BMX show. The Pedal Pull and Pie Contest were added. Moving into 2020, the goal is to keep the entertainment schedule full each day.

**First Aid: Michael Phalin** started by thanking the Janesville Fire Department for their help as well as the local volunteer fire departments. The plans we have place run well.

**Entertainment: Lynn Galbraith-Wilson** reported that the Main Stage had four nights of entertainment in 2019. "Old" Country is music that seems to be best received for the Rock County Fair. Artist's fees have risen considerably. The Fair Board continues to work with Variety Attractions. This year, the fair was fortunate enough to have all of the catering donated from Texas Roadhouse. Lynn asked the Association to help with the replacement of the backstage trailer.

**Fur & Feather Sale: Robin Heath** reported that at the sale, six exhibitors were also given scholarships. Evansville FFA, Milton FFA Alumni, the Ding-a-Ling, and Complete Seed were the top banners.

**Insurance: Randy Thompson** reported that there were no claims this year. It is anticipated that the premium will decrease this year due to the decrease in attendance.

**Meat Animal Sale: MAS Chairman Ryan George reported** a total of 460 animals were sold this year. 298 barrows, 28 steers & 133 Lambs. \$408,569.00 dollars were spent at this year's sale. The top buyers were: Woodman's, Jake's Electric, E&D Waterworks, Seneca Foods, Chamber & Owen. The Gunn Family and Ellen Hunter were thanked for all of their work they do behind the scenes operating the computer network needed to run the Meat Animal Sale.

**Memorials & Appreciation: Karen O'Leary** two families donated two benches in honor of Lila Morton and Harold and Mary Abbey. Vera Jean MaGranahan, a long time 4-H supporter, passed away this year. Karen thanked the superintendents for all their volunteer efforts with the fair.

**Museum: Ronna Ballmer** reported that 2020 will be the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Rock County 4-H Fair's museum being operational on the fairgrounds. Baskets were the fundraiser sale this year. The committee meets throughout the year to update the scrapbooks. 2019's Theme was *Generations*. 2020, and for the next decade, the theme will be each decade starting with the 1930's.

**Security:** Mark Gunn reported that our partnership with the Rock County Sheriff's Department continues to run well. Exhibit release also runs well; the board works with the Rock County Sheriff's office.

**Sponsorship: Deb Schuetz** reported that the corporate sponsors provided about \$30,000 in sponsorships. The t-shirts have been well received and actually sold out this year.

**Any Other Business:** Randy Thompson thanked those who expressed interest in running for the board. He also noted that it has been his pleasure and honor to be the President of the Rock County Fair Board.

Motion by Mark Gunn, second by Tom Lepinski to adjourn. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted  
Maureen Fox Rusch, Secretary

