

Lincoln County Fair Board Minutes
February 7, 2017

Board Members Present: Gerry Stiles, John Merriott, Brad Ray, Jennifer Lewis, Brad Sweet
Members Absent: Sarah Breshears, Brad Sweet, Paul Knittel, Justine Winn, Theresa Chrisman

Others Present: Scott Hutsell, Sharon Nighswonger, Mike Brown, Becky Evers, Ty Evers, Dawn Tysz

Gerry called the meeting to order at 6:37 pm.

The minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting on November 8, 2016 were approved.

Becky Evers introduced her daughter, Queen Ty Evers. Queen TyAnn (Ty) Evers discussed with the board about determining ways she could help raise money for the fair. One way would be to host a barrel race with racing groups as part of a fundraiser as well as her senior project.

Queen Ty discussed her age group who are potential fair goers. She believes the younger generation (16-18 years old) is a big part of the individuals who participate in events held during the week of the fair. She mentioned a majority of this age group go to the Waterville Fair instead of participating or attending in our local County Fair. She would like the fair to consider looking at providing better opportunities for this particular age group. For example, providing a Friday or Thursday night event that could include this age group during the fair.

She also mentioned she needs to have new chaps. The decision was made previously for the chaps to be taken to Indiana Harness to have the chaps lengthened.

Jennifer wanted to know if the benefit dinner would be happening next month. Sharon Nighswonger mentioned the Friends of the Fair would not be available next month to do the dinner. Discussion followed of possibly moving the dinner to a later date.

Brad Sweet discussed he had been asked by Maria Bircher if it was possible for the Board to allow her AA group to place a collection box for household items at the Fairgrounds. Further information from the group needs to be gathered regarding the type of household items would be collected. However, further discussion of the matter the board decided the collection box would create more of problem with people using the collection box as a dumping place for all types of unnecessary household items. A vote was made regarding the placement of the collection box. **Motion:** John moved the Board does not allow a charitable/collection box be placed on the Fairgrounds. Brad Ray 2nd the motion. Motion Approved.

Brad Ray introduced Mike Brown who is interested in becoming a part of the Fair Board. Mike Brown spoke about why he feels the importance of the fair. **Motion:** Brad Ray moved that Mike Brown become a Fair Board member. John Merriott 2nd the motion. Motion Approved.

John discussed having an even on July 14th, the weekend of Davenport Pioneer Days, at the fairgrounds. The board discussed the benefit of having an event at the area would be beneficial because of the alumni that would be coming in for Pioneer Days. **Motion:** Brad

Ray moved to have the Board sponsor a bull bash on July 14th. John Merriott 2nd the motion. Motion Approved.

EW Junior Rodeo Association (EWJRA) wants to have a junior rodeo at the fairgrounds. John requested a list of all charges for the rental of the arena, such as the use of the tractor, water, building(s), etc. Dawn will pull the Dover contract as an example for the EWJRA. **Motion:** John Merriott moved the Fair sponsors a Junior Rodeo with the EWJRA once a date and rental agreement obtained. Brad Ray 2nd the motion. Motion Approved

Sharon asked the Board to provide further information about the date for the benefit dinner as well if the Thursday event at the fair. The Friends of the Fair need to prepare for the upcoming fair for the beer garden and need to have the information to obtain a liquor license.

The Board discussed the names of several Board members to serve in Board positions for 2017. **Motion:** Brad Sweet moved the following Fair Board members, Gerry Stiles, Brad Ray and Justine Winn to serve in the following Board positions. John Merriott 2nd the motion. Motion Approved.

Election of Fair Board Members are as follows:

President-Gerry Stiles

Vice President-Brad Ray

Secretary-Justine Winn

Gerry discussed the possibility of raising the wages of the Office Manager and Groundskeeper due to the recent increase of minimum wage. The decision was to discuss at a later date and include the wage increase of minimum wage due to increase in 2018.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 7 at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Samantha Tysz
Office Manager