

**Polk County Fair Society Inc  
Annual Meeting  
October 8, 2013  
Government Center, Balsam Lake, WI**

**AGENDA:**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Annual Meeting of the Polk County Fair Society was called to order by President, Dale Wood at 7:15 p.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Agenda was approved as presented on a motion from Amy Johnson and seconded by Ted Johnson. Motion passed

**III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 2010 ANNUAL MEETING**

The minutes from the 2012 Annual Meeting were approved as presented on a motion from Ted Johnson and seconded by Rod McGee. Motion passed.

**IV. TREASURER'S FINANCIAL REPORT**

Gerianne Christensen presented a detailed Treasurer's Report. Straight forward, going ok. Receipts are down slightly, noted on County Budget on rt side of hand out, disbursements of \$2155 and \$11151 have not been received, winter storage is also upcoming and is usually very lucrative. Equipment upgrades, new bunker, arena cost also included. All and all moving forward and doing well. Rod McGee motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented Rod McGee. Seconded by Amy Strobach. Motion passed.

**V. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Dale Wood - Many improvements have been made this last year to the fairgrounds. Many have had substantial cost savings – we were able to purchase fence at minimal cost, use of inmates, purchasing used fence all contributed to cost savings. Arena – wonderful job to the horse project, Rod McGee, Leslie Davidson, Brian Sandberg noted. Through Team work you can accomplish any thing, we continue to grow and provide up keep. Dale thanked everyone for all that they do.

**VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Superintendent of Entries- Gail Peterson Presented an exhibitor worksheet. Numbers were down, Jr horse – number of kids that registered then never came, few people that went to the

rodeo instead. Photography numbers will change in the future due to changes in the number of photo's allowed by Jr. Exhibitors. Wood working – superintendent would like any input from any one on how to keep this one going. Electrical and science projects are down. Dept. 33J no longer exists – self determined now has to be put into the individual categories. They will have to address this, this year. Yes there was an open horse show and there were lots of people, no numbers. She bent the rules a lot this year as it seemed people were not realizing the cutoff date for submitting entries and making changes. Open photography continues to be an overwhelming department; it takes all day to go through the photos. Foods and nutrition – still good in open, declining in jr. Senior department continues to stay steady, United Pioneer NH and Good Sam's have great programs for their residents. Stephanie Larsen suggested having some woodworking project meetings during the winter for the kids so they are more ready in the spring. She also suggested Welding, stating it is becoming more popular, Gail stated this is in the Mechanical division. Gail reminded everyone that the committee meetings are in November, so all suggestions need to get to them soon so they can work on them. Please take some time to thank Colleen N/Ext. office, she does much for us. Dale Wood suggested getting the schools more involved to encourage school projects. Many fairs have large buildings dedicated to just school exhibits. Gail states she has some difficulty with fee's not coming in. Linda Owens feels that some problem may come from confusing descriptions and lot descriptions. Stephanie Larsen, her daughter is in many projects, she is wondering why there is a 23 item limit. Gail explained that they had to come up with a cut off due to time constraints, but that her daughter can show for ribbon only if she would like.

Fundraising/Sponsorship: Geri Christensen – Raffle money from this year had a \$1784.82 profit that went to the h-Barn restoration. Flea market last spring, made @ \$500. Sponsorship: easily had 50 sponsors this year, \$14360 in advertising sold this year. We held an appreciation dinner this year for sponsors – went well for the 1<sup>st</sup> year and will do again next year.

Advertising: new this year was the sign by market place on HWY 8 in SCF. The Fair signs created by the 4H groups are always a big hit.

Entertainment- Judy Bainbridge: We had Squeak the Clown who traveled throughout the fairgrounds making balloon animals, juggling, unicycle riding. Friendly twirlers performed, they started with 20 people performing and were able to use it for a promotion, now they are up to 30 members and would like to come next year. Altas family band – who played Christian rock type music, Dazzling Dave – yoyo master. Centenarian program and the martial arts group did nice demonstration. Another bank, The Porch Dogs did well, and Sammy Dare was good despite the rain. 89 kids puled in the Kidde tractor pull, there was a talent contest, another band Mad Hoss Jackson, Milltown Baptist church with church orchestra and choir, cattail string band. Many events and attractions. Anything you want to see for next year?.

Grandstand- Rod McGee - Thursday was a good turnout, Friday was cold. Truck numbers were good. Sat was cold and wet so numbers were down. Also, the sled broke so we sent all home. Sunday was the demo, there were 41 cars.

Senior Events- Dale Wood – were run by the ADRC – they recognized several Centenarian and had programs for them. They are looking at expanding next year. They tried to do the centenarian program on Friday, hoping they would be able to transport them to the fair, but many family's said no, may have to change things for next year. Any Idea's let them know.

EMT/Safety: Janis Larson– good year, 1 transport. No bee stings.

Fair Camping: Was full – electric Issues are narrowed down and was better.

Parking: Dale Wood– didn't think we had any complaints – church does a great job, many complements – always smiling. Stephanie Larsen commented on how good they are to work with. Geri Christensen – they are glad to help, glad for good reports. Ticket sales: ticket sellers were grateful for the closed gate by the grandstand. We had a discount on Thursday to \$5 for family night, attendance was down @ 6%, blamed mostly on weather. Total was just over 30000, last year was 32000. Church would like to come back again next year.

Quality Meats: Judy Bainbridge reports a record sale, @\$3000 over last year. No major problems this year, they like the new way they are unloading. They sold 4 goats this year instead of 2.

Small Animals: Becky Larson - Having difficulty with getting kids to show the rabbits. Going to try agility class to see if this will increase interest.. Amy Johnson: poultry – slightly down this year, we had a few different birds this year, some pheasant and quail. Dale Wood commended the small animal/poultry programs on there Sunday afternoon Silent auction.

Horse: Bryan Sandberg thought the shows went very well despite the weather. Arena footings held up well, overall went well. Sandy Wood – she heard a lot of good comments from the 4H's about not being responsible for the open show, they were able to enjoy it more. Stephanie Larsen commented on good comments heard about the cattle sorting.

Livestock: Karrie Melin-Swenson thought it went well, numbers were down, however this seems to be a statewide trend. Load out working well, steer entry and cooling off working well, additions of 1 manure bunker replaced thanks to several members. Did not have to many problems this year.

Premium Book: Karrie Melin-Swenson updated on going to a 2 year book, but that more questions arose, more work will need to be done before we can go to it. Amy Jonnson wondering if there is a chance of going to online/computerized entry – Gail Peterson replied that

it will be difficulty due to setting up a payment system and many do not have computer/internet access.

Beer Garden: Cherrise Miller: numbers are overall slightly down from last year, very cold – made for cold beer. Good suppliers – tried some new products that went over well. Fantastic job by everyone that helped and all want to come back next year and help again. Thanks to Amy Johnson and her family for helping with the fence, Rod McGee and Geri Christensen as well. Any suggestions let her know.

Commercial Vender: Ron was unable to attend tonight's meeting but sent an email with a request it be read by the Secretary – Letter was read.

Fairest of the Fair: Amy Stroback – 3 fairest contestants, 8 jr,. As a committee we decided to let all 3 fairest on the court, so 2 attendants and 1 fairest, 2 little one's 1 jr fairest and 1 attendants. You may have seen them out and about, at the shows, if there is someplace you want them to be during the fair let her know. They traveled to the state fair this year and attended the fairest reunion at the state fair. They have attended a number of parades this year, and are getting ready for the Anoka parade on Halloween, this will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> year. Theme is retro. New permanent lights on the farries wheel. Allison will be competing at state convention. Balsam lake they got 3rd place. Many comments on how nice it is that the fair has a court to represent us.

Bylaws/policies: Karrie Melin-Swenson they were updated last year. Policies were approved last year, no changes in the bylaws. If you see any needed changes let her know so they can work on it.

Use of grounds/winter storage: Geri Christensen- use of grounds rental included a flea market, wedding, black and white show, horse camp, interstate livestock show, energy fair, fall sampler, relay for life, people mover use and many 4 H projects. Winter storage brought in \$21000 last year and we anticipate it will be that again this year. Winter storage is the next 3 Saturdays. We will use all the buildings – open barns will be used at a reduced fee.

Buildings/grounds: Dale Wood - elevation study done for water runoff and currently are working on a new pipe to move the water from the barns to the field, looking at trying to improve the small animal barn as it is 2 feet below grade. Tin barn – walkways and concrete, need to have a wall between the tin barn and hog barn.. H-Barn restoration, we have \$3000 grant that needs to be expended before the ned of the year. We have met with the building inspector and are working on a brochure. There continues to be questions on what we do and don't own on the East end, Black top Driveway is owned by the County, we own @ 5 feet on the other side of the black top. Dale wood has a map if anyone would like to see it.

Maintenance - Dale Wood- if you see anything that needs to be done in your area please let us know. We will be working on the speaker system this year.

**VII. OLD BUSINESS –**

- a. Sandy Wood – requesting information on the status of the yellow house and barn. Dale -met with CN and potential owner last Friday and electric companies. Electric companies met today to work on route. They will let Dale know on Monday if it is a go or not. If he cannot do it, we have another person is also interested and will take it if they can find a local lot. He was approached last night at a meeting about moving the barn, mover says yes, may be going on the same route.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS - None brought up**

**IX. OTHER BUSINESS –**

- a. Meetings scheduled 10/17/13: Commercial vendors and Arena Management.  
10/22/13: Sponsorship and advertising.

**X. APPOINTMENT OF TELLERS –**

- a. The tellers were appointed as Rod McGee, Justin Wood, and Mike Larson, all accepted.

**XI. PRESENTATION OF BALLOTS**

- a. Dale Wood called on Geri Christensen who presented the ballots. There are 2 corrections to the ballot. In the Directors-at-Large should include Brandon Derosier 2014, and Northwest Directors on the right side of the page should be titled “Northeast Directors. The tellers distributed the ballots.

Northwest District: Judy Bainbridge has been nominated. There were no additional nominations from the floor. Karrie Melin-Swenson made a motion to close the nominations. Seconded by Ted Johnson. Motion carried.

Southeast District: Dale Wood has been nominated. There were no additional nominations from the floor. Karrie Melin-Swenson made a motion to close the nominations. Seconded by Becky Larson. Motion carried.

Southwest District: Linda Iwaszko has been nominated. Linda has contacted us and requested to be removed from the ballot. Nominating committee suggests we work at filling over the next

few months-There were no additional nominations from the floor Amy Strobach made a motion to close the nominations. Seconded by Judy Bainbridge, Motion carried.

Northeast District: Janis Larson has been nominated. There were no additional nominations from the floor. Amy Strobach made a motion to close the nominations. Seconded by Karrie Melin-Swenson Motion carried.

Director at Large: For the directors at large one term is for one year. Leslie Davidson is the nominee. There were no additional nominations from the floor. Amy Strobach made a motion to close the nominations. Royce Larson 2nd. Motion carried.

Ted Johnson makes a motion to cast a unanimous ballot for those on the ballot, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Geri Christensen. Motion passed.

Dale Wood: thank you and congratulations to all.

Fair Theme – 4H 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary – we asked the 4H to come up with some theme's for us to vote on, we will vote at the next meeting and let them know.

Dale thanked Amy Johnson for being on the board – Amy stated it was a pleasure to serve with us for the last 3 years, not many people understand just how much we do.

Results of Election:

Northwest Director- 3 year term to 2015: Karrie Melin-Swenson

Southeast Director- 3 year term to 2015: Gerianne Christensen

Southwest Director- 3 year term to 2015: Ted Johnson

Northeast Director- 3 year term to 2015: Grant Burdick

At Large - 1 year term to 2013: Leslie Davidson

Motion to adjourn by Ted Johnson. Seconded by Geri Christensen. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Kerri Slate, Fair Secretary