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PENNSYLVANIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY FAIRS

MINUTES

SPRING 2012 PSACF BOARD MEETING

CENTRE HALL, PA

The Executive Board of the Pennsylvania State Association of County Fairs met on Thursday, April 19, 2012 at the Centre County Grange Encampment & Fair, Centre Hall, PA. President Ron Miller called the meeting to order at 11AM. Kevin Bieber led the Board in The Pledge of Allegiance followed by Prayer by Robert Houston.

Introductions & Roll Call – present were Ron Miller, John D. Blaney Jr, Bruce Koppenhaver, Jim Davis, C. Sherman Allen, John Berne, Kevin Bieber, Roger Dirlam, Karen Dobson, Martha Ebersole, David Hallstrom, Dick Horstman, Gala Higinbotham, Robert Huston, Larry Krome, Craig Lash, Dr. Sally Nolt, Rodman Ralston, David Reese, Harry Reffner, Debbie Stephenson, George Witherite, Samuel Zaffuto, Boots Hetherington, Fred & Randy McKillop. Excused - Luke Bruckhart, Sarah Long. Also in attendance – Larry Johnson, Bitsey Kopfinger, John Lyon.

MINUTES (Bruce Koppenhaver) -

“Minutes” (attached). A motion to accept the minutes of the Fall & Convention Meetings as presented was made by Roger Dirlam, seconded by Larry Krome and carried.

TREASURER’S REPORT (Bruce Koppenhaver) –

“Financial Reports” (attached). Mixture of convention and anniversary funds, Kevin and Bruce to resolve. \$315.00 newsletter monies moved to general account. \$30.00 farm show dinner to be moved. Flowers invoiced to Donna waiting for the money. Profit at this point not known. General account balance through March, some dues paid, received check from Hershey for the Farm Show. Scholarship check not cashed. Invoice mailed for ½ Tourism Day, AG Progress Days. Roger Dirlam made the motion to accept the Financial Reports, seconded by George Witherite and carried.

ASSOCIATION UPDATE (Bruce Koppenhaver) –

Dues to be collected from fairs \$36,500, attached. Transfer Harvest paid dues and will be re-instated. Fair Guide published May 26. Albion Fair filing for Sales Tax Exemption. Bedford Fair also has received a notice of filing. These Fairs should work with their attorney’s to complete the exemptions, PSACF would not be involved. Lobbying disclosure, we are now compliant. Bruce and Fred drafted the agreement. Decennial Report filed.

CORRESPONDENCE (Bruce Koppenhaver) –

The New Carlisle Fair intends to operate as a funded fair in 2012, see attached letter. 501(C)3 fairs should not apply with group exemption.

REPORT FROM THE PSACF ASSOCIATES (Galla Higinbotham) –

Innovations for attracting more people through the gates, something to work together with fairs. Bruce and Harry to attend the State Secretaries Meeting in Springfield and will report back to the Associates. Plan how to best help new people coming into Hershey, Bruce emails all associates before convention...could be included in the emailing.

REPORT FROM THE PSSA (Larry Johnson) –

Sue Ellen Peiffer and Jerry Snyder will be working with the Economic Impact committed. Township supervisors meeting in Hershey.

REPORT FROM THE PA DEPT OF AG (Boots Hetherington) –

Thanks to the PSSA for their work at the PA Farm Show, and thanks to the PSACF for volunteers at the Show. \$981,000 was budgeted for fairs but after a cut \$874,000 was paid which was about 33 1/3% distribution. Dave Millard spoke on behalf of taking care of the PA fairs. 108 fairs operating this year, 86 outstanding ambassadors from last year. Hershey has dropped from the chocolate baking contests, PA Preferred will be sponsoring. Fair Guides to be printed today, but must go out for bids, cutting back number printed from last year. Will have 1000 Fair Guides for the Zone Meetings. He is hoping to have a fair only PA Preferred contest \$1,000 1st place, \$500 2nd, and \$250 for 3rd, cash prize will come back to the fair. 3 years is length of time for retention of records for audit from the state. Fairs should apply for capital improvements by June 30th in case funds would be available.

LEGISLATIVE (Fred/Randy McKillop) –

“Legislative” Report (attached). House Resolution No. 679 (attached). “Position Paper” “How to speak with legislators”, and “Plan of Action to Maintain Funding in Budget” (attached).

CITATIONS (Ron Miller) –

Citations from House of Representatives and Senate were presented to Bruce.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **BUDGET (Larry Krome)**
Meeting June 26th 10:00 am Hershey Convention Center.
- **LEGISLATIVE (Ron Miller)**
Hoping for \$5,000,000 Fair Funding
- **AUDITING (Rod Ralston)**
Full audit to be scheduled
- **ANIMAL HEALTH (David Reese)**
Some cases of West Nile, rabies reported. Final health rules on web.
- **SPECIAL BAKING CONTESTS (Karen Dobson/Kevin Bieber)**
“Baking Contests” Report (attached).
- **QUEEN (John Berne)**
“Queen” Report (attached).
- **FAIR PERSON**
Due November 1st.
- **PROMOTION & MARKETING**
Committee should be promoting State Convention and other activities of the Association.
- **ECONOMIC IMPACT**
“Shepstone Management Company, Inc” Contract (attached). Meeting scheduled in Gettysburg May 3 1:30.

- SPOUSE PROGRAM (David Reese)
Open to suggestions for program. Bingo moving away from Baskets. Move Bingo to Thursday.
- COMMUNICATIONS (Martha Ebersole)
Some judging sheets not on web for some categories. June 1st web to be updated. Protection of displays. Harry to be removed from committee and new replacement being considered.
- SPONSORSHIPS (Harry Reffner)
Power Pulling will again sponsor the opening speaker.
- ROOMS (Sally Nolt)
2 problems occurred in the Showmen's area last convention.
- TRADE SHOW (Dick Horstman)
Talk with entertainers for convention.
- RESOLUTIONS
C. Sherman Allen named to replace Harry Reffner as chair.
- SEMINARS (Kevin Bieber)
Had a good committee meeting before this meeting. Good ideas for seminars. John Dorenbos will be keynote speaker \$5,000.00.
- TABLE TOPICS (Debbie Stephenson)
Let Debbie know of any ideas.
- SHOWCASE (Sam Zaffuto)
Same as past, few more applicants for showcase. Applications go out after Labor Day.
- PA TOURISM (Bruce Koppenhaver)
No longer being invited to meetings, Bruce to contact.
- PA STATE AG COUNCIL (Jim Davis)
In less than 4 years we must double our food supply. Discussion of expiration date on food, which is not the problem, food handling is. New Direction of Penn State Ag Science see attached.
- FARM SHOW
Quite happy with the contests. Showmen have something to boast about with merry-go-round program.
- JUDGING SCHOOL
Was canceled at Farm Show last year due to attendance. Discussion as to holding at Convention.
- 100th ANNIVERSARY
Budget was \$10,000 used only \$3,000 due to contributions. Zone meeting to promote 100 years of PSACF. The board extended a Thank You to the committee.
- MSGR MIGNOT SCHOLARSHIP (Bruce Koppenhaver)
New application on web site. Solicit applicants. Need to raise money we are short \$2,000 to fund 6 scholarships. Discussion of money coming from Spouse's program at Convention. Kevin made the motion to fund the shortfall this year for the 6 scholarships through funds remaining from the 100th Anniversary budget, 2nd by Robert Houston, carried. Kevin is being added to the Scholarship committee.
- EVALUATIONS (Karen Dobson)
Thank you to the zone chairs for the summary of fair evaluations. Used in meeting prior to board meeting.

- MEMORIAL DISPLAY (John Berne)
Same as last year, promote at Fall Meetings.
- SIGNAGE CONVENTION
Committee being removed.
- 2012 IAFE ZONE (Bruce Koppenhaver)
Attendance less than 200. Traveling distance a factor in low attendance. Reservations were anticipated at the 200 number.

OLD BUSINESS –

- Review Lobbyist, Dick Horstman was named as chair, with John Blaney and Kevin Bieber appointed to the new committee. Ron indicated we should wait until after this year's State Budget process is over to begin the process.
- Junior Fair Person of the Year, Martha Ebersole, John Blaney, and Karen Dobson name to the newly created committee.
- Sticker program at Convention. George Witherite motioned to retain the program indefinitely at Convention, 2nd by Sally Nolt, and carried.
- Position paper as presented by Fred McKillop to be reviewed by Bruce.

NEW BUSINESS –

- Discussion National Milk producers and Real Seal.
- Joe Hartle passed away he was on Centre Hall Grange Fair board for 61 years.

ADJOURNMENT –

Motion to adjourn made by Debbie Stephenson, seconded by Sally Nolt, and carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry Reffner
PSACF Incoming Executive Secretary