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## PENNSYLVANIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY FAIRS

**MINUTES****SPRING MEETING**

APRIL 11, 2013 – 11AM

CENTRE HALL, PA

John Blaney called the meeting to order. Invocation was offered by Karen Dobson and Kevin Bieber led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call - present were C Sherman Allen, John Berne, John Blaney Jr., Kevin Bieber, Luke Bruckhart, James Davis, Roger Dirlam, Karen Dobson, Martha Ebersole, Susan Hahn, David Hallstrom, Boots Hetherington, Gala Higinbotham, Judy Kmetz, Craig Lash, John McMullen, Jeanne Miller, Sally Nolt, Rodman Ralston, David Reese, Harry Reffner, William Ritzman, Debbie Stephenson, George Witherite, and Samuel Zaffuto. Dick Horstman was excused. Also in attendance – Bruce Koppenhaver, Andrew Goodman, Andy Sandusky, Laura Baumann, Lloyd Serfass, Jack Snyder and Bitsey Kopfinger.

**INTRODUCTIONS** – John Blaney introduced from Milliron Associates – Andrew Goodman, Andy Sandusky, and Laura Baumann. From PSSA Lloyd Serfass.

**MINUTES OF FALL & CONVENTION MEETINGS** – were posted on the website. Ron Miller made the motion to accept the minutes, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roger Dirlam.

Carried

**TREASURER'S REPORT** – Harry Reffner and Bruce Koppenhaver

Transfers from Gratz have been taking place since February, the last transfers of money will take place tomorrow, Bruce has closed all accounts in Gratz. Convention profit was:

**CONVENTION PROFIT**

77,680.00	TRANSFER OUT
-17,680.00	TRANSFER IN
- 2,500.00	SPRING PAYMENT TO SPEAKER
-13,040.00	PSSA REFUND
- 133.30	PSSA REFUND
<u>+ 375.56</u>	Net Income
44,702.26	
<u>2,056.70</u>	BILLING TO PSSA ROOM/ELECTRICAL IN APRIL 2013
46,758.96	2013 CONVENTION PROFIT
48,000	2011 CONVENTION PROFIT

Debbie Stephenson made the motion to accept the treasure's report 2<sup>nd</sup> by George Witherite, carried.

Audit to take place after checks deposited in Bedford are received at Gratz Bank.

**ASSOCIATION UPDATE**

- Courtesy passes to directors
- Fair Invoices mailed in March amounting to \$39,500

- Milliron Associates will be holding a reception with the Senate and House members of the Pa Fair caucus on May 13, 2013. 11 Fairs have been invited, 17 members will be attending including the PSACF officers.
- June 18<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am we will be holding our Convention Planning meeting in Hershey, after the meeting the budget committee will meet.
- Ag Progress Days – August 13-15. Exhibitor contract and payment sent and returned.
- Queen application, Fair person of the year, Msgr. Scholarship, Communications awards for 2015 convention, baking contest have all been posted to the web. The 2014 convention web page is being re-designed by Saffire and will not be available until August – September.
- Transfer Harvest has not paid dues for 2 years. Fairs not paid by annual meeting are dropped. Zone 1 will speak or visit Transfer Harvest to see what the problem may be.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Letters from Secretary Greig:

- Bellwood Antis Fair 2<sup>nd</sup> year of suspension. attached
- Cumberland Ag Expo 2<sup>nd</sup> year of suspension. Attached
- Morrisons Cove Community Fair 2<sup>nd</sup> year of suspension. attached
- Tri-Valley Community Fair dissolved the fair association. attached

Email from Boots regarding Cumberland Ag Expo, board has met and is planning on having the fair.  
Email from Shepstone Economic Impact study. Attached

#### **LOBBYIST REPORT – attached**

#### **REPORT FROM PSACF ASSOCIATES – Gala Higinbotham**

Convention went well, feed back good. The more the Fairs used the associates they more they are excited. Trade show going well. Looking forward to a great season.

#### **REPORT FROM THE PA SHOWMEN’S ASSOCIATION – Lloyd Serfass**

Thank you for having him here today. Milliron has been used by the PSSA. Discussion regarding PSSA members not registering at the Convention. Badges were apparently switched to go into trade show. Bev to put article in the newsletter, regarding being more responsible. Suggestion to change badge colors. Trucking and food seminar to be held at 2014 Convention.

#### **REPORT FROM THE PA DEPT OF AGRICULTURE – BOOTS HETHERINGTON**

New Fair Guides for Zone meetings

Hand washing posters.

PA preferred banners, smudge on banners given to us at no charge.

Budget proposed at 2 ½ million, translates to 93% of requested reimbursement.

Fair checks started process March 1<sup>st</sup>. Some checks have been processed.

Possible seminar for Convention fair funding & application.

Premiums can be reduced as advertised if funding is not adequate.

PA preferred display again this year.

Zone meetings – Fair guides, invite your legislators to the meetings.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**QUEEN – Karen Dobson, attached.**

Ron Miller made the motion to allow the Alternate Queen to receive the stipend if the Queen is not available for a Fair visit, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill Ritzman, carried.

Ron Miller made the motion for the Queen committee to bill the Association for \$2000 as a lump sum payment, 2<sup>nd</sup> by George Witherite, carried.

**BUDGET – Ron Miller**

Budget meeting in Hershey June 18<sup>th</sup>, this meeting will follow the planning meeting.

**LEGISLATIVE – John Blaney**

Milliron will have “talking points” for Fairs to connect their legislators. Milliron will forward these to Harry, who will email out to the Fairs before their zone meetings.

**AUDITING – Rod Ralston**

Intermediate audit to take place when the books are closed at Gratz. Proposal will be sent.

**ANIMAL HEALTH – David Reese**

Client-Patient form as noted in FairTalk. Recommendations for swine flu, we cannot enforce, swine only on fair grounds 3 days.

**SPECIAL BAKING – Karen Dobson, Kevin Bieber – attached**

Angel Food – Penn Ag asked what are they receiving for their \$7,000. Kevin suggested a contest of creativity, having Penn Ag judge. 1<sup>st</sup> place \$500, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$250, and 3<sup>rd</sup> \$100. Would only be a 1 year trial, not sure where the contest is going. Bill Ritzman made the motion to setup the awards to be paid by the association, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roger Dirlam, carried. Karen and Kevin will be working on the rules.

**FAIR PERSON – Bruce Koppenhaver**

Application is on web, take along to zone meetings.

**JR. FAIR PERSON – Sherman Allen**

A flyer was presented to the board for the award. Debbie Stephenson made the motion to have each of the 4 zone Jr. Fair persons considered for the award at convention. The award would consist of a plaque, 2 meals, and a night's stay at Hershey. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill Ritzman, motion carried with 4 opposing. Karen will be revamping the flyer with the appropriate board action.

**ECONOMIC IMPACT – John Blaney**

Distributed the first 2 pages as given to us my Shepstone. Was noted that Ag Education was not shown on the pie chart.

**CONVENTION –**

**SPOUSE PROGRAM – David Reese**

Getting started with the Basket/bag program, something planned for each day of convention.

**COMMUNICATIONS – Martha Ebersole**

Thanks for all the help during convention. New contest digital scrapbook. More space may be needed this year.

**SEMINARS – Kevin Bieber**

Met before this meeting. Nothing confirmed, committee is working on the program. 5013C, Food safety, trucking, Jr. Fair Boards.

**TABLE TOPICS – Debbie Stephenson**

Any suggestions please forward to Debbie, ask at Zone meetings for suggestions.

**SHOWCASE – Sam Zaffuto**

Same format as last year.

**AG COUNCIL – Jim Davis**

Food safety act in Harrisburg, today

**MSGR. SCHOLARSHIP – Jim Davis**

Fund has \$7,000 a transfer of \$3,941 from the general fund spouse's program will be made. Tiffany Dickson from TMD fast cash has offered to donate 30 cents per transaction at fairs that they service within Pennsylvania to the Msgr. Scholarship, Jim made the motion to accept her donation, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roger Dirlam. Carried, 1 nay.

Further discussion followed. Ron Miller made the amendment to the above motion, they TMD cannot use PSACF as part of the advertising, however she can use Msgr. Mignot Scholarship. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roger Dirlam, Carried.

The motion with the amendment was then passed.

**JUDGING SCHOOL –**

Not sure if being held.

**QUEEN –**

Karen Dobson made the motion to retain the \$15 registration for the Queen contestants at Convention, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bill Ritzman, carried.

**OLD BUSINESS – None**

**NEW BUSINESS**

Ron expressed his thanks for the cards and visits after his hip surgery.

**BUDGET – Ron Miller**

Change from McKillop to Milliron and the economic impact study requires a change to the budget. An unsigned document from McKillop necessitate a payout to his organization. Ron Miller made the motion to amend the budget by \$45,000 for the Legislative and economic impact study lines of the budget, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roger, carried.

After further discussion, the motion was amended by Ron to read \$29,000 (\$13,000 for economic impact, \$16,000 for Legislative) instead of \$45,000, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roger, carried. The original motion with the amendment then carried.

Roger made the motion to present Fred a plaque for his years of service, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim Davis, carried.

**FRIENDS OF THE FAIR –**

Motion by Ron to move money from Friends of the Fairs, if the by-laws allow the transfer, to the Msgr. Scholarship, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Roger, carried.

**WEB SITE –**

Bruce discussed the current web site as to whether we should retain what we have or advance to a new site. John will appoint an committee to review. Should be done before we meet in Hershey for budget planning.

Bill Ritzman made the motion to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> Debbie Stephenson, adjournment at 3:10.

Respectfully submitted

Harry Reffner

Exec Secretary/Treasurer