

President:

DAVID REESE, DVM
10 Dry Run Rd. – Left Branch
Pine City, NY 14871
(607) 733-3154

Vice President:

David Hallstrom
482 East 8th St
Clearfield, PA 16830
(814) 765-8366

Exec. Secretary/Treasurer:

HARRY REFFNER
128 Cumberland Road
Bedford, PA 15522
(866) 814-6985
fax (866) 231-4829

Immediate Past President:

JOHN D. BLANEY, JR.
247 Curfew Rd.
Perryopolis, PA 15473
(724) 677-2228

Executive Committee:

C. SHERMAN ALLEN
Meadville, PA 16335
(814) 382-2922

JOHN BERNE
Crosby, PA 16724
(814) 887-5396

KEVIN D. BIEBER
Oley, PA 19547
(610) 987-6529

LUKE E. BRUCKHART
Manheim, PA 17545
(717) 665-5198

JAMES H. DAVIS
Petersburg, PA 16669
(814) 669-4268

ROGER DIRLAM
Honesdale, PA 18431
(570) 253-3540

KAREN DOBSON
Pottstown, PA 19465
(610) 469-0263

MARTHA EBERSOLE
Duncannon, PA 17020
(717) 834-4435

SUSAN HAHN
Pen Argyl, PA 18072
(610) 863-6816

JUDY KMETZ
Shavertown, PA 18708
(570) 675-2952

CRAIG LASH
West Newton, PA 15089
(724) 872-8967

DALE R. LEVAN
Hughesville, PA 17737
(570) 546-5515

JOHN MCMULLEN
Armagh, PA 15920
(814) 446-6692

JEANNE MILLER
Girard, PA 16417
(814) 774-5703

TOM MURRAY
Chalk Hill, PA 15421
(724) 323-7129

DR. SALLY K. NOLT
Elizabethtown, PA 17022
(717) 367-7256

RODMAN R. RALSTON
Bloomsburg, PA 17815
(570) 759-0406

JEFF ROMESBERG
Rockwood, PA 15557
(814) 926-2313

DEBBIE STEPHENSON
Prosperity, PA 15329
(724) 627-4752

GEORGE WITHERITE
Spring Mills, PA 16875
(814) 387-4916

SAMUEL J. ZAFFUTO
Sykesville, PA 15865
(814) 894-5723

Members At Large:

MILLIRON ASSOCIATES, Lobbyist
Harrisburg, PA 17101
(717) 232-5322

BOOTS HETHERINGTON
PA Dept. of Agriculture, Fair Fund Office
Harrisburg, PA 17110
(717) 787-6257

GALLA HIGINBOTHAM, Associates Rep.
Alexandria, PA 16611
(814) 669-4443



PENNSYLVANIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY FAIRS

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MINUTES
SPRING MEETING
April 14, 2016 – 11AM
CENTRE HALL, PA

David Reese called the meeting to order. Kevin Bieber led the Pledge of Allegiance and Jim Davis offered prayer. 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, Judy Kmetz, Craig Lash, Dale LeVan, John McMullen, Jeanne Miller, Sally Nolt, Rodman Ralston, David Reese, Harry Reffner, Jeff Romesberg, Debbie Stephenson, George Witherite, and Samuel Zaffuto. Tom Murray was absent. Honorary members Byron Glessner, Bev Gruber, Bitsey Kopfinger, and Bruce Koppenhaver. Members at Large – Zach Gihorski, Andy Goodman, Gala Higinbotham, and Lydia Messner. Guests from PSSA Jason Bartlebaugh and Randy Carper. Guests from PCN Joel Bechtel and Mitzi Jones.

PCN PRESENTATION – Joel Bechtel and Mitzi Jones presented what PCN could offer to the organization. Pamphlets were handed to each in attendance.

MINUTES OF FALL & CONVENTION MEETINGS – Harry Reffner
Minutes of all 3 meetings were posted on the website. Roger Dirlam made the motion to accept all Minutes from the Fall Meeting Pre & Post Convention, 2nd by John Blaney, carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Harry Reffner

The balance sheet is showing \$40,000 less than last year, this is due to the invoices to the fairs have not been mailed.

Scholarship due to the Spouse's programs will enable the 6 scholarship to be funded this year.

Convention – Trade show being up helped the financial, also the Queen banquet with the no shows of approximately 80. Transfer of \$15,000 to general fund and \$5,800 to scholarship fund. Less then \$100 is to be received outstanding invoices.

General Account – PA Preferred payment from last year was not received until early spring. I will need to make another transfer until dues are issued and paid.

John Blaney made the motion to accept the treasure's report 2nd by Dr. Sally Nolt, carried.

ASSOCIATION UPDATE

- Courtesy passes to directors
- Fair Invoices have not been mailed
- \$1,000 sponsorship sent to IAFE zone meeting
- Fair visitations, must be attached to your expense claim, if not filling an expense claim, bring to your Fall zone meeting and give to Harry.
- Cornucopia donation of \$100
- Ag Progress days August 13 - 15

REPORT FROM LEGISLATIVE CONSULTANTS. – Andy Goodman and Lydia Messner.
See report on website. Fiscal Code appears to becoming law.

CORRESPONDENCE

Thank you from state Fair Queen Contestants: Mason Dixon -Erin Lang, Elizabethtown Fair – Katelyn Callahan, Schuylkill County Fair – Megan Ditzler, Indiana County Fair – Molly Zona, York Fair - Alexis Cash, Perry County Fair – Hannah Bryner

Regrets from Kempton Country Fair not holding a 2016 Fair

Thank you from Knauf family thanking the organization for the donation to the Scholarship program in memory of Archie.

A Thank you from Sec. Russell Redding for our support of the Blue Ribbon Reception.

QUEEN BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT – John Berne

See separate report from John. Discussion as to having the financials available to the PSACF board. The Queen board asked for the reduction registration fee of \$15 for the Queens. Based on 60 Queens the amount would be a \$900 reduction, financially PSACF would not be hindered. Discussion followed. Dr. Sally Nolt made the motion to reduce the registration by ½ for all future conventions, 2nd by Luke carried.

REPORT FROM THE PA SHOWMEN’S ASSOCIATION – Jason Bartlebaugh and Randy Carper

Randy sent Steve Swika regrets as to not attending, Steve has went out on the road. Randy commented on the success of the PSSA scholarship through the carousel. Jason announced the 50th anniversary of the PSSA and the plans for the event. He asked if PSACF would consider a donation to the anniversary. Research of the amount PSSA gave to the 100th anniversary of PSACF, and tabled until our October meeting.

REPORT FROM ASSOCIATES REPRESENTATIVE. – Galla Higinbotham

Biggest trade show ever. Asking fairs to purchase from the associates.

REPORT FROM THE PA DEPT. OF AG. – Zachary Gilhorski

Capital improvements will have money left over, has to decide how to contact fairs to submit additional improvements. June 1st decision will be made to Avian flu. Fair ambassador will be replaced with Friends of the Fairs. Deputy Secretaries will be attending zone meetings. Safety poster Know Your Farmer on the web site. Fair guides will not be ready for zone meetings, determination as to how to distribute to be reviewed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

BAKING CONTESTS – Karen Dobson

Karen had online forms emailed, and was well received. Will eliminate keying of information. Discussions with PA Preferred, chocolate is not a Pennsylvania product, and the department wishes for us to find another product to highlight. For 2017 if we wish to retain chocolate we will have to find another sponsor. Funding from PA Preferred will be reduced from the current \$14,000. New contest will only pay premiums at Farm Show, no ribbons for local contest. Discussion followed. Debbie Stephenson made the motion for Karen to work with PA Preferred and make a decision as how we will proceed with the 2017 contests, 2nd by David Hallstorm, carried.

SHOWCASE – Sam Zaffuto

Stage same as last year. PSACF has negotiated with PSAV and prices will not increase. Contracts have been signed through 2019.

BUDGET – John Blaney

Budget meeting June 15th at Hershey, 10 AM.

BY-LAWS – Roger Dirlam

At meeting in Hershey June 15th committee will meet and present to Board at Fall meeting.

ZONE AFFAIRS – Sam Zaffuto

Copy of By-Laws sent to zone chairs, with regards to election of zone officers. 2 zones are following the by-laws in elections and 2 are not.

LEGISLATIVE – John Blaney

Milliron & Goodman had given us an new agreement at Convention. Upon review by the legislative committee, John made the motion to approve the new agreement, 2nd by Debbie Stephenson, carried.

FAIR PERSON – Bruce Koppenhaver

In next 30 days a more structured application for 2017. Comments awards have been given to the executive group.

JUNIOR FAIR PERSON - C. Sherman Allen

Poor applications being sent in, grammar etc. Deadline Sept 15th

PROMOTIONS & MARKETING – Judy Kmetz

PCN presentation was good. Idea for the committee to consider.

COMMUNICATIONS – Martha Ebersole

Queen and Junior Fair Person pictured together.

ROOMS – Dr. Sally Nolt

June 1st block of rooms will be available. 3 ways to reserve rooms.

SEMINARS – Kevin Bieber

Meeting held with the Seminar and Table Topic committee prior to our board meeting. Opening ceremonies speaker discussed possible Dan Waldschmidt. Table topics to move 2 topics right after opening ceremony. Judging school will be held this year.

SHOWCASE – Sam Zaffuto

New application for 2017 convention. Had a good response last year.

SCHOLARSHIP – Jim Davis

June 30th maximum of 6 from each zone. Zone chairs to have by July 31st.

QUEEN BOARD ADVISORY

Met Saturday here at Centre Hall, next meeting May 14th. Suggestions:

- 1) Special Board Meeting
- 2) Insurance for Queen on visits, checking with PSACF insurance the Queen is covered.
- 3) Funding of Sound and Lights
 - a) Queen banquet had 900 registered in January, increase banquet ticket to \$40.00 providing the dinner and coronation, based on 2016 banquet prices there would be \$5,400 to pay for ¼ of the sound and lights.
- 4) The 10 tables in front of stage, charge \$100 in addition to the banquet ticket, resulting in \$1,000 additional income.

The above are only recommendations and considered by the Queen Board.

Full report from the Advisory committee will be distributed later.

COUNCIL OF FARM ORGANIZATION – John Blaney

Russell Redding in attendance. Office staff from the legislators was available for updates.

PENN STATE AG COUNCIL – Jim Davis

Drones helping the economy 80% used by the ag industry. Students coming out of Penn State and DelVal without technology back grounds. Robotic milking machines. PA Farm Bureau and Granges envious of fair money always in the budget. Tax on income Sales tax to offset deficit and financial rating.

FARM SHOW – John Blaney

Spring meeting food court up.entries down 71. Need more room in family living. Entry Fee on everything.

OLD BUSINESS –

Dues/Passes

Due invoices have been on hold pending budget. John Blaney made the motion to Invoice fairs using the 2% of their 2015 reimbursements, Roger 2nd, carried. Harry is waiting on the reimbursements from Zach.

NEW BUSINESS --

PCN

Queen Board and the PROMOTIONS & MARKETING Promotions & Marketing will review.

John Blaney moved to adjourn, 2nd by Roger, carried.

Adjournment at 3:50.

Respectfully submitted



Harry Reffner
Exec Secretary/Treasurer