

Dakota County Agricultural Society  
Board of Directors  
October 7th, 2024

Meeting called to order by President Pete Storlie at 7pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present: Pete Storlie, Melanie Storlie, Ariana Sorem, Mark Langer, John Hubener, Neil Deplazes, Ashlyn Otto, and Jim Herget. Staff present - Kristine Smith & Gannon O'Meara  
Not present- Jim Noreault, Ed Barrett, Marge Snyder, Jeff Wright, Sarah Hallcock

Visitors- IMCA, Jessica Biessel- 4H

Agenda-

- Add Finance
- Put facilities under sales and marketing

Motion made by Mark Langer to add and approve the agenda. Seconded by John Hubener.  
Motion passed.

Previous minutes-

- Motion made by John Hubener to approve the previous minutes, seconded by Mark Langer. Motion carried.

Visitors-

IMCA

- IMCA was present and wanted to ask if they could use the building during non fair time.
- Contract?

Jessica Biesell- 4H

- Great Fair
- Animal projects increased
- Overall great year and can't wait for next year.

DCHV-

- Neil, Ed and Pete sat in the meeting with the historical society. They will do a 2 year contract. DCHV will be responsible for their salary.

Executive-

- Still working on the bylaws.
- Meeting recap

Finance-

- Still working on fair report
- No finances to be approved at this time

Facilities-

- Jim Herget presented to the board that Ed Barrett reached out to DW in regards to fixing up the horse arena. They gave facilities a bid of \$24,500.00.
- John Hubener made the recommendation to have Ed reach out to DW in lieu of sponsorship. Seconded by Melanie Storlie. Recommendation passed.
- John Hubener made a motion to have Ed Barrett send an email to the board promptly after talking to DW. seconded by Melanie Storlie. motion passed.
- Ed Barrett reached out to the board to follow up with DW-

- \$5,000.00 discount as a sponsorship bringing the total to \$19,500.00
- 5 year naming rights for the arena (remember the crows nest is sponsored by Ames Construction).with Ag Society having signs made and placed. Art and wording to be completed with joint effort between two organizations.
- Sponsorship contract to be signed by both parties. They will draft and we will respond with edits.
- It sounds like the work will be done yet this Fall depending on weather and equipment on DW/s end.

JTN-

- Main concerns are what would we need it for
- What's the plan long term
- Anyone who thinks the internet across the grounds is important should send an email to facilities of how and why you think it would be a great idea to invest in it.

New Commercial Building Idea-

- Commercial building next to the horse building: facilities are currently working on but needs to get a ROI and cost of the building.

Sales and Marketing:

- Currently working on hours of the fair
- Front gates to start charging on Monday at 8am.

IAFE: Pete and Melanie will be attending in Phoenix, AZ

MN Federation of County Fairs: Held in Bloomington: Need to let Kristine know now if you are interested in attending and if you have a plus one as well. We have to register early. It is January 16-19, 2025.

Zone 4 Meeting: It will be in St. Cloud and is going to be held on February 23-24th, 2025. Let Kristine know if you are interested in attending.

District Meeting: Pete and Melanie attended. Lots of information was given and we as a district will be donating to the MFCF for the lobbyists.

For Good of the Order:

- John Hubener will represent the Ag Society at the DCHV annual meeting and give a report.

Motion to adjourn by John Hubener and seconded by Jim Herget.