

Northwestern Michigan Fair

Board of Directors Meeting

November 13, 2025

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Joe Hubbell at 7:00 pm.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Led by Tom Looks.
3. **Roll Call:** By Tom Laurie Ashley

Note: (V) indicates the attendee was attending virtually.

 - a. **Board Members Present:** Breann Kern, Carolyne Woodhams, Clarissa Johnston (V), Erika Sprenger(V), Frank Guerin (V), Jill Duell, Jack Hubbell, Joe Hubbell, Karen Zenner, Laurie Ashley, Milt Lewis, Molly Caminata, Sonya Youker, Tom Looks
 - b. **Board Members Absent:** Tammara Sanchez
 - c. **Visitors Present:** Amanda Wilkins, Al Henning, Sarah Bye, Nicki Brown, Todd Brown, Kathy Easter, Danny Schaub
4. **Review Agenda**
 - a. **Motion 10.9.25.1:** Jack Hubbell and Tom Looks made a motion to approve November 13, 2025, Agenda after adding Al Henning under old business and Milt under new business. **Motion passed.**
5. **Correspondence:** None
6. **President's Report:** 268 Days until fair.
7. **Treasurer's Report:**
 - a. Tom reviewed the treasurer's report and check register.
8. **Presentation & Approval of Meeting Minutes:**
 - a. **Motion 10.9.25.2:** Carolyne Woodhams/Sonya Youker made a motion to approve minutes from October 9, 2025 meeting as written. **Motion passed.**
9. **Public Comment:**
 - a. No Public Comment
10. **New Business:**
 - a. Sarah Bye and Danny from MSU would like to add non-animal entries to the Fair, to add recognition to kids that don't do animals or do art/science in addition to their animal projects. Concern for space was expressed. Club displays have only been a few in the last several years. Animal clubs are not interested in the booths. Any new displays must be collapsable or removable. Projects stopped coming in because they weren't judged individually, and interviews were conducted during shows making it hard to make it to Tanner events. MSU shared their plans with Duke. Concern about ordering more ribbons was raised – Sarah will be providing the ribbons. Add to the Premium Book and add to our Registration. Auction information: idea is to let them auction off their projects if they wish. Silent Auction with cards next to exhibits for certain days. The Livestock Council run it and the MSU funds will be for scholarships, and the kids get the money as well. They think it will bring more people into the Fair. When will the auction: Last Saturday of Fair morning is when they were thinking. Ceremony addition somehow. Animals can't leave until Sunday morning/Exhibits shouldn't leave either. And then the correct people need to pick up those Auction items at the designated time – which would be on MSU. Stipulations for items leaving should be straight across the board. MSU would like those items to leave Saturday so non-fair people would be more interested. Late Saturday Evening or after celebration. Make sure Premium Book has

information for pickup & payment. Each child should only have one item in the auction. Also keeping the rule straight across the board.

- b. Milt: 2026 will be the 50th year on these grounds. Milt would like to see recognition with 50th Year. Merchandise for 50th year. Sarah Bye suggested closing off Fair Street and have a pre-Fair Street Fair or at Civic Center with a rides, animals, etc. to celebrate 50th kickoff type event. Our Float at Festivals should say it's 50th, work on special events.

11. 4H Livestock Council:

- a. Sarah Bye – Jen Davis has resigned at the end of the month as Swine Species Chair. Steer numbers are the like last year.

12. Unfinished Business:

- a. Al Henning: New poultry barn project: Sent a letter out to ask for donations to build the poultry barn. Donors for the barn would get recognition just like our other donors. Barn will hold the name of the person who pays for it, if they pay the whole thing. Al has found someone to do excavating and to take down the big maple and the stump.

13. Committee Reports: Committee reports were reviewed.

- a. Carolyne – Auction item must be decided on – Basket of Traverse City stuff from Cherry Republic. \$150 budget. Tammara will go get it.
- b. Erika – Thank you for sending her to the training. She's learned so much and it's been worth it.
- c. Clarissa – Queen discussing the light parade for Kalkaska. The Fair didn't make cut for the TC Light Parade; we could go before and socialize. Take the extra kids day stuff to hand out. Carolyne will bring the Fair bracelets
- d. Laurie – Grant updates were turned in
- e. Frank – Nothing
- f. Other Committees have no updates

Tammara will be stepping away as Treasurer after the 2026 season because she cannot make the meetings due to personal commitments. If anyone is interested in that role you should start shadowing. May have to create a solution for that position.

14. Adjournment:

- a. **Motion 10.9.25.5:** Sonya Youker/Carolyne Woodhams made a motion to adjourn at 7:27 pm. **Motion passed.**