

Northwestern Michigan Fair

Board of Directors Meeting

April 9, 2026

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

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

 - a. **Board Members Present:** Carolyne Woodhams (7:03p), Clarissa Johnston (v), Erika Sprenger, Frank Guerin, Jill Duell, Jack Hubbell, Karen Zenner, Laurie Ashley, Milt Lewis (v), Molly Caminata, Sonya Youker, Tammara Sanchez, Tom Looks, Lilly Garno, Nicki Brown, Tyler Honeycutt
 - b. **Board Members Absent:** Breann Kern, Joe Hubbell
 - c. **Visitors Present:** Amanda Wilkins, David Lane, Stacy Lane, Sherri Forton, Kathy Easter, Erika Brown, Sarah Bye, and Randy Stockfish
4. **Review Agenda**
 - a. **Motion 10.9.25.1** Erika Sprenger and Molly Caminata made a motion to approve April 9, 2026, Agenda as written. **Motion passed.**
5. **Correspondence:** Carolyne provided cards for the Board to sign for the Arnold's Family and Karen Klug's family for the passing of their loved ones.
6. **President's Report:** 125 days until Fair.
7. **Treasurer's Report:**
 - a. Tammara reviewed the treasurer's report and check register. Since running the report she had written a check to the More Than Project in memory of Lauren Arnold as agreed by the Board. There were no questions.
8. **Presentation & Approval of Meeting Minutes:**
 - a. **Motion 10.9.25.2:** Tammara Sanchez and Jack Hubbell made a motion to approve minutes from the March 12, 2026, meeting after removing an extra listing on Tom's name in the Committee Report section and correcting the spelling of Brian Dreves. **Motion passed.**
9. **Public Comment:**
 - a. None
10. **New Business:**
 - a. Director Application – David Lane – David said he wasn't sure what role he might play on the Board, but he is here to help and excited to join us. Ballots were passed around and David joined out Board with a three-year term.
11. **4H Livestock Council:**
 - a. Randy Stockfish, the new Livestock Council Treasurer, provided the update this month. Powdercoating the pens for the Swine, Lamb and Goat barns was approved by the Livestock Council and Keri is coordinating pickup. They may need assistance with the tractor for loading; Jack Hubbell or Frank Guerin are the contacts for that project. Pens will be completed one barn at a time. A new sound system for the Haberin, Calf, and Steer barns was also approved at the last Livestock Council meeting. Scale certification has been scheduled for July 10th. May 2nd is the first workbee for the Fairgrounds. Let Amanda Wilkins know if there are any jobs besides clean-up and lawn care needed to be completed.

12. Unfinished Business:

- a. None

13. Committee Reports: Committee reports were reviewed.

- a. Carolyn – TSC donated money for the outdoor digital displays to cover the TV's. Joe found outdoor TV's that are 65" for \$2000 each. I got a quote for our tri-folds from the Record Eagle and they would print 6000 for \$1300. I had been recommended a different printer by another fair located downstate and they came in at 6000 for \$741. They have also done a quote for the insert for the Record Eagle newspaper and it was half the cost. I will be switching printers this year. All the Grandstand events have been sponsored, Kids Day has \$4500, Pancake Breakfast is good and both Jimmy Johns and Chick-fil-a have agreed to feed us. Chick-fil-a also wants to provide food or money for Kids Day, but that is not ironed out yet.
- b. Erika – Vaccine Clinic last weekend went great. Master Spa will be on the grounds April 30 and in and out with their activities for about a week. Horse and Pony Bootcamp is scheduled for May, and our rentals are pretty much full for the entire summer. For merchandise I am looking for some new ideas for designs and items to order. I am planning on the little buckets like Arnolds was passing out, since that seems to be the latest thing. Passes and registration are being worked on.
- c. Clarissa – Laura Wells from BASA agreed to do Senior Day again. They will start at 10am instead at open to pass out giveaways. They are starting later to cut down on how many were disappointed not receiving a gift when they came in at 10. They will give away 250 gift bags and 250 lunches. Community on Aging will be working the information tent again this year.
- d. Laurie – I completed the MDARD Grant and got it turned in with the potential for \$100,000 prize. Last time we applied they had 2 million to giveaway, this time the pool is only around \$480,000. I am hopeful, but not holding my breath. The Evelyn Heim Building is adding "America the Beautiful" categories across the categories to celebrate the 250th anniversary. We will also be adding a no A.I. rule on all artwork and photography.
- e. Jack – Brooks is finished working on the property across the street and SVEC is now doing the stumping. Karen suggested that a couple of trees in the parking lot had limbs that needed attention and Jack noted that.
- f. Tom – The website is prepared to go live on Monday. There will be no URL change. They just have a few odds and ends to complete, like the Queen page, and they need headshots for Tyler and David and the last few sponsors to be added.
- g. Sonya – Camping will be open on May 15th as scheduled. Reservations are underway. Ribbons need to be ordered, and I think I have my count. Need your name tag orders sent in asap.
- h. Molly – Working on ordering signs. The company I am working with is moving and so the printing is being slightly delayed. The only sign that may affect Al's poultry sign is, but he should still receive it when he needs it.
- i. Milt – Nothing needed for the Museum right now. Winter Storage is being taken care of. Thank you very much for the food and visits!
- j. Karen - None
- k. Tammara – Gates are booked except for Weds and Thursday. I have called several organizations, and they are not coming through. If you know someone, let me know. Sydney is coming back. I've sent her the contract and I'm just waiting on her to return it.
- l. Frank – Vendor page is up on the website tonight. I have no more power available for any food vendors during Fair.
- m. Jill – I have all my face painters, fairy hair, etc people booked as well as the Troubadours set.
- n. Nicki – None

- o. Tyler – Please call me if you need help with anything
- p. Lilly – I reformatted the Premium Book making the font larger and moving the animal sections to be together. It has increased its size considerably. I have updated all the animal sections I have been provided with and will reach out to each of them for review.

14. **Adjournment:**

- a. **Motion 10.9.25.5:** Jill Duell and Jack Hubbell made a motion to adjourn at 7:30 pm. **Motion passed.**