

Menominee County Fair Board Meeting
Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm by Larry Roetzer on Thursday, August 21, 2014 at the Menominee County Stephenson Annex.

Reporting for Roll Call were: Larry Roetzer, Bill Hafeman, Carol Quist, Larry Schei, Gerry Piche, Hannah Buechler, Brian Bousley, Chris Ruleau, Andrea Sorenson, Sally Ebcsh, Phyllis Kaczmarczyk, Scott Mentel was not present.

Approval of Agenda was made by Bill Hafeman and supported by Coral Quist.

Approval of Previous Minutes July 9, 2014 was made by Bill Hafeman and supported by Coral Quist.

Business

1. **2014 Fair Business:** Discussion regarding Fair Board members and being active. Larry Roetzer discussed a member missing 3 meeting according to the county bylaws will be considered removed from the board. Larry Roetzer would like Glen Hansen and Phyllis Kaczmarczyk to become Fair Board members. The vacancy for two members would depend if one current member did not want to continue with his appointment on the Fair Board. Brian stated he would contact this member to discuss the continuation or resignation from the Fair Board. Brian will also advertise for the vacant Fair Board seat/seats and will forward to the County Board to make the appointment.
2. **Secretary Report:** Hannah reported she is acting secretary for the Fair Board but her contract for Fair Manager does expire September 5, 2014.
3. **Treasurer Report:** Carol state she has not received anything from the Credit Union regarding the Fair account. Brian stated he was in Credit Union with Hannah a couple months ago to make all the changes on the account to include, Hannah, Carol and Brian. Brian state he dropped off all the requested paperwork to make changes and said he would go talk to the bank again. Hannah did produce an expense and revenue report. Revenue received totaled \$11,755.50 not including the gate. The gate was received by County Park employees and totaled \$7,600 (\$5 a ticket equals 1520 people). The gate is shared with the County. County receives 25% of gate. After the 25% is taken out for the parks the Fair earned \$5,700 pushing the revenue to \$17,455.50. The Expenses for the Fair were reported to be \$14,803.76.

New Business:

1. **Holiday Festival**

The Holiday Festival will be held on November 1st at the Stephenson School. Phyllis Kaczmarczyk will be the person in charge of the festival. Larry Schei and Brian both said they would help promote the festival through the county website once all the details are provided. It was stated by several people that the festival not only brings in some revenue for the fair but is also a time for local crafters to display their wares and some local churches and non profits also have raffles that coincide with the festival.

2. **2015 Fair Board Discussion**

The topic of monthly meetings was discussed and it was agreed upon by the board to meet every third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm at the Annex. Discussion ensued

The need for the County to hire a full time Fair Manager was discussed. Larry Schei pointed out that the county is currently under a hiring freeze and cannot hire anyone at this point besides an independent contracted person at this time. Discussion ensued about the possibility of extending Hannah's contract as Fair Manager. Brian stated he would need a salary request from Hannah to consider and possibly discuss with the County Board. Hannah did state that the Fair Manager position was only a part time position and now she is looking at full time

job and may not be able to the Fair Manager in the future. Hannah said she would submit a salary request to Brian to stay on as Fair Manager at least to the beginning of the year. A lively discussion was held regarding the future of the Menominee County Fair, some supported keeping the fair at Shakey Lakes but making some additions and changes to the format. Bill Hafeman did present an alternative venue for the Menominee County Fair. Bill suggested the Rodeo Grounds in Carney, and stated some improvements would have to be made to accommodate the fair and these improvements could not be accomplished for a year or two. The suggestion of the change of venue received a lot of questions and concerns such as the rail road tracks, livestock building, vending areas, etc. Areas to start working on now for the 2015 Fair is more advertisements, the need to contact more vendors and have more vendors available, the setting of the monthly meetings will allow the various superintendents to be available and discuss their department. Promotions or additional sponsorship from local business to support the Fair needs to be further explored, Tractor Supply was one vendor mentioned to be contacted. The consensus of the Fair Board was also to involve 4H more to help promote and grow the fair.

Next Meeting Date: September 17, 2014

Public Comment:

Gerry Piche- the continuance of the Menominee County Fair is important and he felt Hannah did a good with the time she had and moving forward there will have to be some

Charlene Peterson – the exhibits other than the animals needs to be brought back to the fair, feels 4H and MSUE should be involved more; an annual bake sale use to be held on Friday nights at the fair and helped raise funds, fair manager is tough job and needs to be filled in some manner.

Adjournment: Motion by Carol Quist and seconded by Bill Hafeman at 8:15.