

**Pickaway County Agricultural Society**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**February 12, 2018**  
**7:00pm**

- I. Call to order – By President Von Cremeans at 7:00pm
  
- II. Pledge of Allegiance - led by Scott Goldsmith
  
- III. Roll Call – Directors not present John Woodruff. Jim Arledge stepped out for horse duties from 6:52pm-7:29pm. Gerald Loudermilk arrived late at 7:03pm. Chris Pence stepped out 8:52-8:53 and 9:21-9:23. Scott Pritchard stepped out 8:50-8:52. Gerald Loudermilk stepped out 8:54-8:58 and 9:11-9:12. Carlee Stewart stepped out at 9:27.
  
- IV. Special Guests
  - a) Oscar Allen: working with American Legion on 7/1/18 fireworks event to take place on fairgrounds. Troy Brungs (not present) is American Legion contact. Oscar works for iHeart Radio/Central Ohio Media Masters (production/promotion company) in Washington CH. Oscar, in coordination with American Legion wants to put on a concert 7/1/18 (4 openers + headliner). Other events to take place before 7/1/18 fireworks... concessions, car show/band. Budweiser on-sight. Asking for use of Grandstand/track for event. Spoke with Bev Crawford and Steve Helber about logistics/location, safety zone. Only using side with turns 1 & 2, insurance provided (\$2m policy – covers grounds).
  
  - b) Girl Scouts - Alise Wagner, Fair Coordinator for Logan Valley Service Unit serving Fairfield and Pickaway counties. Asking to secure space for judging, project displays, and have events listed in fair book for 2018. 1 troop and 4 girls participated last year (none had ever been to Pickaway County Fair) - has triple the interest level this year (approximately 10+ girls...expecting up to 40). Had talent show and speech contest in 2017. Tammy Wharton CEO of GSOH judged. Also had Flag Ceremony competition, air force came. Had some exhibitors qualify for state fair and won. Girls Scouts find their own judges. Requesting space for judging and project displays. Had space reserved in Ankrom building in 2017 that got cancelled last minute. Had to move to their booth in Coliseum. All project judging was done in Grange Building. Asking for consideration to use old fair board office in Coliseum. Willing to work and be flexible. Were not given free passes for entry last year. Would like that, if possible (same as what 4H and FFA exhibitors receive). They earn patches. Alise created a Pickaway County patch specifically for the Pickaway County Fair experience. Willing to do a service event.
  
  - c) Pickaway Bank Center - Joe Risch, Jessica Calder, Katie Maple – introduce and familiarize board. Been around 150 years. 17 locations throughout 7 counties (3 offices in Pickaway County). Supports 9 county fairs, including Pickaway County horse racing projects and live stock sales. Very involved in Pickaway County community and looks forward to continuing to support Pickaway County Fair.

- d) Commissioner, Jay Wippel/overseeing planning & construction...Mike Schmidt/overseeing fundraising – Fairgrounds Revitalization...meeting every two weeks with MS Consultants, including Von Cremeans, for readiness/preparation. Have gotten good feedback on renderings, especially for inside of buildings. About done with changes, except for indoor arena. Plan is on track.

About a 10 ft. drop in elevation from where barbershop is currently to the top of the hill before you go down to camping. Quite a bit of leveling and other dirt work will need to be done on sight before construction begins. Site will drop a couple feet. Therefore, coliseum will be coming down sooner – likely spring of 2019. No definite timetable for multi-purpose building construction – based on fundraising. Hopefully within a couple years. Tentative date for demolition end of April 2018 for barbershop and other buildings at corner of Lancaster Pike and Stoutsville Pike. Offices will be temporarily relocated to indoor arena while multi-purpose building is being built.

Community members involved in fundraising campaign leadership include Shirley Bowser, Doug Radcliff, Randy Metzger, Bennett Musselman, Chris & Christy Pence, and Von & Betsy Cremeans. Joy Sharp leading effort with youth leadership for 4H and FFA involvement for campaign. Will be over \$2m soon. Over \$220k just in personal gift pledges from leadership team. Focusing on approaching agribusinesses currently. Will be approaching farm families and operations in early spring. Funding going through Pickaway County Community Foundation – working with Jan Shannon, Executive Director. Getting a lot of positive responses. Asking fair board to support with personal pledges and donations. Each board member received a packet. Need between \$5-6 million to get construction started. Total cost of project between \$10-12 million. Von Cremeans and Joy Sharp will share more on upcoming events that the board and others can participate in. Jay would like to see money matching with livestock sales, t-shirt sales, etc. Have applied for \$500k grant for amphitheater. Will be part of phase 1. Pheasants Forever/Shirley Lear – group would be interested in donating. Mike Schmidt received Shirley's group's information from Christy Pence at last fundraising meeting. No plans for year-round access/covering for amphitheater at this time. Possible down the road or if a donor offers.

Maintenance for fairgrounds – would like fair board to consider the cost for staff to maintain the grounds through work order system through county. Have 3 full time maintenance staff. Has a work order system to schedule work. Takes 4 days to mow all county properties. Costs approximately \$700 a week to mow 32 acres of fair grounds (finished & trimmed). Going to outsource to save money, time and resources. \$3,000 monthly cost for fairgrounds access to county maintenance – plus overtime for weekend events, flea market, 4 hours of janitorial, etc. Just to cover cost and help - no profit for county. Contract month to month. There is someone on call for emergency situations. Horse track not included. County doesn't have equipment to patch holes in roads/paths. Will need to involve county engineer, Chris

Mullins. Fair week is being considered but no final cost/quote has been finalized – will cost approximately \$5,000.

- V. Secretary Report - Brad Lutz moved to approve minutes from January 8 & 23, 2018 meetings. Mark List seconded. Motion carried.
- VI. Treasurer Report - \$60,731.69 checking...\$115,634.65...\$100 petty cash = \$176,466.34 total funds in bank. Biggest income was train – 50% (\$11,250) was received and deposited. Total income for January was \$15,447.81. Total expenses for January were \$13,383.32. \$2,064.49 profit. Dustin Hube made a motion to approve Treasurer’s report. Shirley Lear seconded. Motion carried.
- VII. Correspondence: Thanks from OCU for \$100 donation and OFMA 2<sup>nd</sup> VP/Paul Harris for support in allowing him to continue to serve. Mike Bennett verbally retired/resigned (At Large E) to Von Cremeans the day after the last meeting on 1/24/18. Scott Pritchard present at meeting stated interest in filling At Large E position replacing Mike Bennett. Mark List moved to accept Scott to fill position. Craig Weiler seconded. Motion carried.

TJ Cline (Muhlenberg Township) resigned for personal reasons on 2/5/18 via email. Brad Shannon present at meeting stated interest in filling Muhlenberg Township position replacing TJ Cline. Gerald Loudermilk moved to accept Brad to fill position. Craig Weiler seconded. Motion carried.

Dustin Hube swore in Brad Shannon and Scott Pritchard as directors.

#### VIII. Committee Reports

- a) Jr. Fair Board – Hallie Stone, Kayley Thomas, Ryan Justus – decided construction orange t-shirts with bulldozer & barn on front with slogan “we’re under construction but not out of business”, got committee assignments, Donating \$150 for trophies and awards. Fundraising committee discussed doing concessions at March 16 “Footloose At The Fairgrounds” event. Joy presented on how people can perceive the fair experience/care of animals. Joy Sharp shared that committee work will start at next meeting. Bio security for hog show arrived today from ODA to Ohio State. Made copies for hog committee.
- b) Livestock Sale Committee - Jeff Wippel – meeting in January committee decided to move money (savings and checking) from Vinton County Bank to Savings Bank based on services offered and reputation in community. Savings Bank is one of top 2 sale supporters. CD must stay until August. Steve Barthelmas moved to approve. Shirley Lear seconded. Motion carried.

Livestock sale committee voted to give \$1,500 toward website cost. Craig Weiler moved to approve. Carlee Stewart seconded. Motion carried.

By state law a senior fair board director is responsible for following truck(s) to make sure that animals get to assigned packer destination. Have been sent to Virginia and Pennsylvania in past. Grands & reserves ONLY for beef, hogs, goats and sheep – will be automatic kills. To assure proper process is followed Blystone in Canal Winchester was chosen by Von Cremeans and Jeff Wippel to be only packer/will buy meat. Will be hauled Saturday night to Blystone for slaughter. Blystone will pay packer bid.

Livestock committee voted that “animal keeps” would no longer be permitted. Was only 6 last year (4 steers, 2 hogs). Blystone stated it will hurt sale. March 19 next meeting. Put together a survey for buyers. This question can be tabled, asked on survey, and reevaluated/reconsidered.

Carlee Stewart moved to approve Blystone to be packer for grand and reserve champion beef, hogs, goats and sheep. Craig Weiler seconded. Motion carried.

- c) Merchandise/Souvenirs – tabled for future meeting
- d) Fair Week Fundraising/Sponsorship – Christy Pence and Randy Smith created an informational trifold with different sponsorship level opportunities to partner with local businesses and consistently share information on supporting the fair. Will be printed within the next week. Christy also asked for all directors’ consideration and cooperation in approaching at least one business with a sponsorship opportunity. Good advertising and exposure for local businesses. Jr. Fair pays \$24 for golf shirts. Farm Bureau is going to sponsor junior fair t-shirts. Businesses can do partial sponsorships and combine with other partial business contributions for an event. Dustin Hube moved to accept trifold to start distributing to businesses. Carlee Stewart seconded. Motion carried.

Advertising swap with Visitor’s Bureau/Welcome Center. They have an event book and will advertise local businesses and events. They also have a sign in front that they’ll put business and event information on. Willing to do a swap if they can put info on our sign. Brad Lutz moved to do an advertisement in Visitor’s Bureau book and swap electronic sign advertising. Dustin Hube seconded. Motion carried.

- e) Grounds & Building - Craig Weiler got a bid for handrails for grandstands. Working on a second bid. Goal to make handicap/wheelchair accessible.

Has created a list of things that need done to buildings and grounds before fair. Craig proposed organizing a workday for all directors. It’s really important for all directors to participate and contribute on workdays. Having challenges getting enough help. Would like to eventually get siding to match the new buildings. Dustin Hube suggested Pickaway Ross, does welding and carpentry for free. Carlee Stewart suggested Logan Elm, has a senior construction class/welding program. It was suggested that Chris Runkle may be able to help with metal work. May be opportunity to partner with Oscar Allen’s organization to contribute toward grand stands update. Need to get started ASAP. Craig will check with building

department to make sure improvements up to code. Jeff Rush is building department contact. Probably not able to make grandstands a.d.a. compliant at this time but working on some improvements to be more accommodating. Craig will create a master list of what needs done.

Chris Pence pled to all directors to jump in and help more. Less than 4 months until fair. Von Cremeans said that showing up for workdays will earn golf cart during fair. Not every director is entitled to a golf cart.

#### IX. Old Business

- a) Technology/website update - all emails and computers are working and installed. Wi-Fi still being worked on. Oscar Allen shared that there are community grant programs available through the phone companies (AEP & South Central Power) to help fund Wi-Fi access.
- b) Train - 1<sup>st</sup> installment received. Coming Thursday, 2/22/18 to start process of moving and loading. Has to disassemble some parts. Dynahoe, Franklin Equipment, Jay Jude or Blue Line were suggested to rent/borrow skid loader.
- c) Gun Show – tabled for future meeting
- d) Fair Book – Brad Lutz needs Fair Book revisions by 2/20/18 that were emailed. Next committee meeting is Wednesday, 2/28/18 at 6:30pm at commissioners’ office.
- e) Von Cremeans checked on livestock committee chairs to make sure they're good on judges. Tracey Rittinger needs rabbit and llama contact info. Tracey asked if there is a maximum to pay judges. \$250-300. Table for next mtg.

#### X. New business

- a) Camping – Von Cremeans requested a volunteer for new committee chair since TJ Cline resigned. Von appointed Gerald Loudermilk. Bev Crawford has started a wait list of people to notify once camping opens on Monday, March 26, 2018. Randy Smith, and Jennifer Pontius are still on committee. Jim Arledge said he would assist. Christy Pence will support administratively. Randy and Christy meeting Friday, 2/16/18 @ 9:30am at Bob Evans in South Bloomfield to update letter and other packet materials. Letter and other materials will be updated and ready to be sent out week of February 19, 2018.
- b) Concessions – Von Cremeans appointed Scott Pritchard as new chairman for concessions committee. Betsy Cremeans has all info in a database and all contracts organized. Committee is Randy Smith, and Mark List. Betsy Cremeans willing to assist. Committee needs to figure out how many spots we have available. \$4.50/sq. ft. at Ross County. Phone call to Jack (Jennifer's dad) to help with planning and what electricity is available, etc. Letter went out on Feb 1 last year.
- c) Night of Fireworks/Oscar Allen (guest) request - Grandstand rental is \$500 + grounds \$190 = \$690/day x 3 days. Set up day before fireworks on Saturday 6/30/18, using Pumpkin Show

stage via Barry Keller (Pumpkin Show committee). Sunday 7/1/18 is event. Monday 7/2/18 tear down, pull out and clean up. Troy Brungs is American Legion contact. Community event, free. Mark moved to rent the grandstands and grounds to Oscar Allen 6/30/17 through 7/2/18 at a rate of \$690/day pending proof of insurance. Steve Barthelmas seconded. Motion carried.

- d) 3/16/18 Youth Dance/Fundraiser for Fairgrounds Revitalization “Footloose At The Fairgrounds” – get kids and families excited for revitalization, like 12/18/17 Senior Fair Board event. Jr. Fair will run concessions. DJ – calls dances. 50/50 raffle. Kiss A Pig contest. Cost \$2/person. Tracey Rittinger moved to donate use of coliseum. Jennifer Pontius seconded. Motion carried.
- e) 4/28/18 - tentative Farm Family Fundraiser for Fairgrounds Revitalization - silent auction, live auction, dinner, funds to revitalization. Alcohol permit. Tracey Rittinger moved to donate use of coliseum and proceed with plans. Gerald Loudermilk seconded. Motion carried.
- f) Friend of The Fair Award - brought up at fair book committee meeting. Annual award that board votes on. Invite person honored to opening ceremony to accept. Mark List moved to accept. Chris Pence seconded. Motion carried.

Randy Smith moved to nominate Jack Pontious for the first award and name the award after Jack - “The Jack Pontious Award”. Tracey Rittinger seconded. Motion carried.

- g) District 6 Spring Meeting takes place Sunday, April 8, 2018 – asking for 2 donations/gifts for giveaways approximately \$50-100. Exhibitor passes donated in past. Brad Lutz moved to donate a gift(s) valued at \$50-100. Dustin Hube seconded. Motion carried.
- h) Pickaway Senior Center – asking for donation of 2 exhibitor passes for Annual Fundraiser. Dustin Hube moved to donate 2 passes. Mark List seconded. Motion carried.
- i) Sale/Auction of house and barns – barns and house will be done in online/sealed bid auction through county. June 30 live auction – horse stalls, equipment and fixtures. Everything has to be off grounds by July 1. Will get extension for modular. Need to start advertising auction. Dates are subject to change based on other events. Gerald Loudermilk moved to approve. Dustin Hube seconded. Motion passed.
- j) Steve Helber resigned two weeks ago and will be moving out this coming week. Cost of county maintenance proposal within \$4k of what P.C.A.S. paid Steve Helber. Discussions will continue on needs and costs for fair week. Estimated cost will be around \$5,000 for the week. Von Cremeans will contact Chris Mullins about additional resources/costs for snow removal. Mark List moved to accept the county’s proposal of \$3k/week month-to-month contract for maintenance. Craig Weiler seconded. Motion carried.

- k) Girl Scouts space – 8:00am Grange Building judging Monday of fair. Troop flag ceremony for opening ceremony. Carlee Stewart moved to include Girl Scouts in 2018 fair – free exhibitor passes, flag ceremony, space for projects and judging. Dustin Hube seconded. Motion carried.
  
- l) Work Day proposal by Craig Weiler – moved to schedule for Saturday, February 24 at 9am. Chris Pence proposed to include exhibitors (4H, FFA, GS, BS). Tim Woodrow seconded. Motion carried.
  
- m) Credit card – Carlee Stewart moved for fair board to apply for credit card. Dustin Hube seconded. Motion carried.

Adjournment – Chris Pence moved to adjourn

NEXT MEETING: Special Meeting - Tuesday, February 27 @ 7:00pm

**OTHER UPCOMING DATES:**

April 8 - District 6 Spring Meeting at Fayette County Fairgrounds in Washington Courthouse (all board members and spouses welcome.

Submitted by Secretary, Christy Pence