



**Lancaster County Agricultural Society, Inc.**  
**MINUTES**  
**Annual Budget Hearing**

Lancaster Room--Lancaster Event Center  
4100 N. 84th St, Lincoln, NE 68507

Thursday, September 16, 2021 at 7:00pm

President Kendra Ronnau called the meeting of the Lancaster County Agricultural Society to order at 7:23pm. Proof of due notice was given in the Lincoln Journal Star with notice of open meeting law displayed in the room.

By roll call, the board members present were Cooper, Dowding, Messick, Ronnau, Rutt, Suing and Doeschot. Not present: Cusick-Rawlinson, Hagan. Also present: LEC Staff Amy Dickerson, Bruce Gubser, Greg Rook, Sarah Martin and Hoyt Kraeger.

Chair Ronnau asked the public if anyone had any communications about the annual budget published in the newspaper. No comments from the public were submitted.

LEC Financial Consultant Bruce Gubser presented the annual Ag Society Budget proposal he prepared for fiscal year 2021-22.

The personal and real property taxes required are \$419,496.12 for fiscal year 2021-22 against a total general fund certified valuation for all counties of \$32,551,521,803. Gubser reviewed the detailed annual budget attached with the board.

Gubser forecasted the budget with input from Managing Director Dickerson based on 2018-2019 full-year results, plus the estimated financial impact of major new events including the FMCA convention. Gubser said that 2018-2019 was the last full year of operations before the months-long shutdown and staged reopening of the fairgrounds due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The budget also included additional revenue and expenses related to COVID-19 fees, precautions and health requirements.

Gubser further stated that despite the likelihood of ongoing impact on LEC fairgrounds events due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, likely for the foreseeable future, the budget was set with the maximum revenues and expenses possible based on these assumptions of the maximum known

activity that could take place in fiscal year 2021-22 so the fairgrounds budget would not have to be revised unless added growth in revenues or expenses was identified during the year. The property tax receipts were set at the maximum increase of 2.5% allowed by state law, plus the additional 1% allowed on an Ag Society board public annual vote on which Gubser assumed the board would vote affirmatively tonight.

Gubser stated that the Ag Society was required to submit a signed copy of the minutes of the budget hearing with the budget documents to the State no later than September 20th, so the minutes are being updating in real time and they will need to be approved at the regular JPA meeting which follows the budget hearing tonight.

Motion made by Ron Suing and seconded by Tom Messick to authorize an additional 1% increase in the restricted funds authority. No discussion. Voted and passed 7-0 with Cusick-Rawlinson and Hagan being absent and not voting.

Motion made by Karen Rutt and seconded by Ron Dowding to adopt the annual budget for the Lancaster County Agricultural Society for the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 as presented. No discussion. Voted and passed 7-0 with Cusick-Rawlinson and Hagan being absent and not voting.

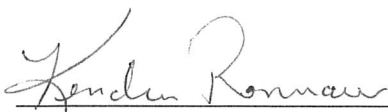
Motion to adjourn the public budget hearing made by Bryce Doeschot seconded by Ron Dowding. Voted and passed 7-0 with Cusick-Rawlinson and Hagan being absent and not voting. Adjourned at 7:40 pm.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED as set forth herein on this 16<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2021.

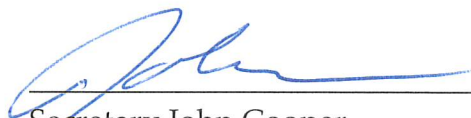
Submitted by the

LANCASTER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

IN THE STATE OF NEBRASKA



\_\_\_\_\_  
President Kendra Ronnau



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Secretary John Cooper