



A nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization
dedicated to growing community through
events like yours, and the Super Fair.

Our big spaces inside & out are open
for socially-distanced events—contact
us if we can help you with yours!



Lancaster County Agricultural Society, Inc.

*A Nebraska non-profit corporation, designated as 501(c)(3) by the IRS
and separate county-level political subdivision
created under Nebraska law in 1870 to promote agriculture & youth.*

MINUTES

**Board of Directors Monthly Meeting
Lancaster Room—Lancaster Event Center Fairgrounds
4100 N. 84th Street, Lincoln NE 68507
7:30 pm - Thursday, April 15, 2021**

Or Online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88637558117>, Passcode: 150

Or Call in: 1-312-626-6799 Meeting ID: 886 3755 8117, Passcode: 150

If technical problems, call/text 402-429-1950

*under Governor's Pandemic Executive Order 20-36 for Public Bodies
through April 30 2021 official board member participation may occur virtually.*

1. Call the meeting to order and proof of due notice of meeting and open meeting notice posted in room or shown online or available at https://nitc.nebraska.gov/documents/statutes/NebraskaOpenMeetingsAct_current.pdf
2. Roll Call
 - a. All nine board members present—Ronnau, Dowding, Cooper, Rutt, Cusick-Rawlinson, Doeschot, Hagan, Messick, Suing
 - b. Staff present: Dickerson, Rook, Martin
 - c. General Counsel present: Henry Wiedrich with Cline Williams
 - d. Public: none
3. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Discuss performance review process for Managing Director – attendance by Ag Society Board, Henry Wiedrich with Cline Williams and Sarah Martin, LEC HR Manager


Other board meeting attendees: please wait in Business Center lobby and/or text 402-429-1950 from your cell number and you will be notified when rest of public board meeting resumes in person & by Zoom estimated between 7:50-8:15pm

- a. Ron Dowding moved to enter the executive session at 7:35 p.m. Ron Suing seconded, and the motion was passed on a unanimous vote of 9-0.
 - b. Bryce Doeschot moved to exit the executive session at 8:58 p.m. Jennifer Cusick-Rawlinson seconded, and the motion was passed on a unanimous vote of 9-0.
 - c. Staff/public were invited to rejoin the meeting
 - d. Lynn Hagan moved to have the board look over the new evaluation for the managing director. (All comments must be emailed to Sarah, cc Kendra, by April 30, 2021.) Tom Messick seconded, and the motion passed on a unanimous vote of 9-0.
4. Approval of minutes from March regular board meeting
 - a. Tom Messick moved to approve the minutes from the regular board meeting from March 2021. Ron Dowding seconded the motion, and the motion passed on a unanimous vote of 9-0.
 5. Financial report and approval of checks (Martin)
 - a. The March 2021 balance sheet and profit/loss statements were reviewed and discussed by the board.
 - b. Ron Dowding moved to approve checks in the amount of \$275,820.43 from the March 2021 VVS Lincoln Pool Championships tournament. Tom Messick seconded the motion, and the motion passed on a unanimous vote of 9-0.
 6. EIDL Loan Increase Approval for Executive Board to sign loan papers – Dickerson
 - a. Jennifer Cusick-Rawlinson moved to approve the authorization of LEC board officers and managing director signing EIDL loan papers for an increase of up to \$500,000, if approved by the SBA. Lynn Hagan seconded the motion, and the motion passed on a unanimous vote of 9-0.
 7. Officer and Committee Reports
 - a. Reining Horse Show
 - i. Both positive and some negative feedback was received from show-goers and vendors. Another reining show from CO interested in moving to LEC after their experience here.
 - b. Premium Auction (Dowding)
 - i. The format will be same as it was in 2019.
 - ii. Scott and Julia are working on a new flyer for funding.
 - c. Fund Development (Rawlinson)
 - i. The business development report from Business Development Manager Kraeger was passed out.
 - ii. Confidence in summer events happening closer to normal coming out of pandemic has increased with potential sponsors & trade show vendors as indicated by positive response and contracts.
 8. 2021 Fair Update – Dickerson, Bulling

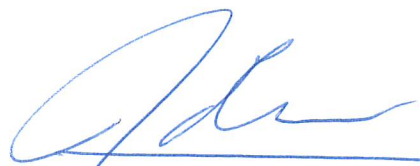
- a. The marketing team is working hard to promote the Super Fair.
 - b. Lynn Hagan volunteered to help host entertainment at the Pepsi Main Stage.
 - c. Trudy has an Assistant Supt. Jenna Bulling to help with Showworks software for open shows (a laptop can be issued for this assistant). Trudy is also working on recruiting new superintendents for one or two static areas.
 - d. Dickerson requested board members to email her their availability for the rodeo and fair to determine any gaps.
9. Extension Update – Karen Wobig, Lancaster County Extension
- a. No report was given regarding Extension/4-H program updates.
 - b. However, Karen Wobig explained how well a recent extension engagement session with nine Lancaster County senators went. Trudy also explained how these senators were very supportive of 4-H.
 - c. Wobig mentioned at the VIP luncheon scheduled for October/fall would be great opportunity to invite our local state senators and other legislators to see impact of the fairgrounds.
10. Communication from the public (5-minute limit per person)
- a. No other members from the public were present.
11. Operations Director Report sent/any questions – given by Dickerson as Greg Rook was on vacation
- a. Amy explained upcoming projects that Greg, Chas, and Nate are coordinating (i.e. asphalt repairs and painting)
 - b. Jason Rief gave updates about upcoming projects (i.e. fiber optic internet, security cameras, light poles, etc.)
 - c. A potential opportunity for partnering with ALLO Communications to increase internet coverage levels in exchange for sponsorship was discussed.
12. Managing Director Report including LB73 Update—Dickerson
- a. LB73
 - i. The bill was passed on a committee vote of 6-2, meaning the bill is on general file. The bill has not been given priority for this year, but Senator Geist and lobbyists are hoping to garner more urban city support for the bill supporting fairgrounds with portion of new local gambling taxes by passing it out of committee this year.
 - b. Staff vaccines, mass vaccine clinics
 - i. Remaining unvaccinated staff are on the list to get vaccinated, and there are two more mass vaccine clinics to be held at LEC Fairgrounds.
 - c. County board update
 - i. Good update to the county board—appreciative of all the pandemic services LEC was open for all last year even as closed nearly 6 month to normal public events
 - ii. Diversion and community service workers are about to come back in May, which is crucial in rehabilitating them back into the community. Youth programs (i.e. judging) are also important in order to increase youth engagement in the community.

- d. Staff update
 - i. Stephanie Schrodt will be working remotely as Sr. Event Planner as she moves to Wisconsin in May but will return for rodeo, fair this year.
 - e. Giving to Lincoln Day
 - i. Kraeger trying to secure annual Sysco donation to serve as the matching fund for this annual giving day. Typically gives LEC a large donation every year, but it is not always given on the same date which can add complexity to LEC's financial records.
 - f. Welcome to Lincoln Day for NHSFR Sat. July 17th
 - i. LEC hopes to encourage people to come to the rodeo early so they can explore across entire of Lincoln and maximize economic impact—even more needed this year for some businesses coming out of pandemic
 - g. NHSFR raffle fundraiser for 4-H, FFA clubs
 - i. This fundraiser gives 4-H and FFA clubs 40 cents on the dollar for raffle tickets sold which benefits these nonprofit organizations and allows the community the opportunity to be more involved with the rodeo by supporting this national/international youth organization's fundraising.
13. Other business
- a. Questions were raised about unfinished construction projects on the LEC fairgrounds. Board members Ronnau, Cooper are actively supporting staff to finish.
 - b. Paula's stepmother passed away; a card will be distributed for signatures from the Lancaster County Ag Society.
14. Adjournment
- a. Lynn Hagan moved to adjourn the meeting. John Cooper seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

Next meeting: May 20, 2021 at 7:30pm
(note: officially IN PERSON only, no Zoom option planned)



President Ronnau



Secretary Cooper