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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!



Aug 17-20, 2022

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
Exhibit Hall—Lancaster Event Center Fairgrounds
4100 N. 84th Street, Lincoln NE 68507
7pm - Thursday, March 25, 2021

under Governor's Pandemic Executive Order 20-36 for Public Bodies through April 30 2021

Vice President Dowding called the monthly meeting of the Lancaster County Agricultural Society board to order at 7:04pm.

Proof of due notice was given in the Lincoln Journal Star, and the Nebraska Open Meeting Act was displayed in the room as well as shared on screen with explanation of how to find online.

Board members present in person were Ron Dowding, Bryce Doeschot, Jennifer Cusick-Rawlinson, John Cooper, Lynn Hagan, and Tom Messick with Karen Rutt and Ron Suing joining via Zoom. Board President Kendra Ronnau was not present. Also joining the meeting via Zoom were 4-H/Extension staff Karen Wobig and Extension Board Member Nate Woods. LEC Fairgrounds staff present in person were Amy Dickerson, Greg Rook and Sarah Martin with Loretta Yerger joining via Zoom.

Approval of Minutes—Doeschot moved to approve the minutes from February Regular Board Meeting. Cusick-Rawlinson seconded with two friendly amendments: 1) To change the wording on page 4's 'Business Development' section from "without" to "with" and 2) On page 3, line 7 to change the word "published" to "the audit done for the Ag Society." Motion passed 8-0, with Ronnau not present.

Messick moved to approve the March Emergency Board Meeting minutes. Hagan seconded. The board discussed a friendly amendment on page 5 to change "to be signed on behalf of" to "claim to be signed by the whole board." Motion passed with the friendly amendment 8-0, with Ronnau not present.

Financial report and approval of checks— The board went through the financial report while Martin explained. The report consisted of the Balance Sheet, February 2021's Profit & Loss by Class statement, and the Year-to-date Profit & Loss statement by Class for December 2020–February 2021. Cusick-Rawlinson moved to approve the financials as presented. Hagan seconded. Motion passed 8-0, with Ronnau not present.

It was moved by Cusick-Rawlinson and seconded by Suing to approve the paying of February checks in the amount of \$206,867.53. The board discussed a check listed for Nebraska Ag Expo show that stated “change order.” Martin explained this was there due to so many extra cash registers being open at Nebraska Ag Expo, there had to be more change on hand to avoid making multiple trips to the bank during this event. There was discussion to potentially modify from “change order” to “cash on hand” in future reports. Rutt asked what all the “West Gate Bank” checks were for. Dickerson explained these were catching up on line of credit interest payments and they get automatically pulled out of the operating account. Martin plans to follow up with Rutt on the specifics of these automatic charges. Motion passed 8-0, with Ronnau not present.

Officer and Committee reports— As part of the Personnel Committee report, Cusick-Rawlinson brought up that she had noticed from her records that it was time for the managing director review and passed out papers to board members to do the next review. Dickerson mentioned if review was starting that she would share her job description as believed not everyone on the board had seen it.

The board discussed who would be on the Premium Auction Committee. Dickerson noted the only change from last year's Premium Auction in the fair book was rotating the order of the livestock during the auction. It was listed in the fair book that Cooper, Dowding and Ronnau were on the Premium Auction Committee. Dowding plans to reach out to find out how far along they are and if the board needs to do anything for Premium Auction.

Cooper gave an update on NHSFR stating the drainage situation has been discussed and the fix that was requested of Hampton Construction may be put off until after the rodeo to avoid risk to the buried lines and disturbing the grass. Rook went out to take pictures this last week and says more grass will need to be put out there.

For the Fund Development Committee report, Cusick-Rawlinson mentioned to review a report submitted by LEC Fairgrounds staff Hoyt Kraeger on business development. Dickerson said given coming out of COVID, LEC Fairgrounds is come out well. The trade show for NHSFR is 55% sold, and many locals will fill up those spots as it gets closer. Dickerson stated some interns have been hired and will be helping out with contacting vendors. Cusick-Rawlinson spoke on behalf of Kraeger, who wanted it noted he is always looking for help about who to talk to for potential sponsors and if anyone has any contacts to send his way.

2021 Fair Update—Dickerson gave an update on needing to decide board roles, suggesting the board read through the fair book to see who wants to help with what. Dickerson said they will for sure need to replace leaders on the band and stage as well as ShoWorks. Dickerson shared the final fair book ads with the board, while the board looked through. Dickerson noted the second week has been beefed up

with Ribfest, Cornhole Tourney, 4-H/FFA Family BBQ picnic and UNL Rodeo running a barrel race. The team is looking to bring in smaller, local bands the second week during Ribfest.

Extension Update—Wobig gave an update on Nebraska Extension, and stated they were glad to have the fair book out to everyone. Wobig asked questions about the possibility of future Ag Society board meeting dates not always occurring on 3rd Thursdays rest of the year.

Doeschot motioned to move the agenda's Item #12 "Approve board meeting dates through end of 2021 with adjustments around key events" up next. Messick seconded. Motion passed 8-0, with Ronnau not present.

Approval board meeting dates through end of 2021 with adjustments around key events—

Dickerson explained in July 2021 that staff was suggesting the board meeting be a week earlier on July 8 so we won't be meeting during NHSFR check-in. Dickerson stated in August the meeting usually gets changed each year due to the fair, but it might not have to this year due to the way it fell on the calendar naturally later on August 19. The November joint meeting with the County Board will fall on Nov. 18th and Dickerson will get on the County Board calendar. Dickerson said in December the annual election can be held on the 3rd Thursday as falls on December 16 which is not too close to Christmas and the election commissioner is available. Doeschot moved to approve the board meeting dates as presented through 2021. Messick seconded. Motion passed without objection.

Decide any NAFM District 1 Meeting (Auburn/Nemaha Co) April 1, 2:30-6:30pm rep(s) – Dowding noted the agenda's date was wrong and the NAFM District 1 Meeting is actually set for April 11. Dickerson stated the board did not have to go, but it's nice for someone from every county to join. Dowding asked the board to think about it and decide if anyone wants to go.

Operations Director Report sent/any questions— Rook sent an Operations Report to the board and asked if there were any questions. The report included a construction to-do list and an operations task list. Rook stated he worked out a deal with American Hat, so that if anyone needs a cowboy hat for NHSFR they will give one for free. The board just needs to send Rook sizes. Rook noted the NHSFR Queen Committee Head from last year could no longer help for this year's NHSFR, but that former Nebraska Rodeo Queen Madison Clark has volunteered to step in. Dickerson shared a recently updated NHSFR event map and mentioned there is another map on hand that shows the check-in flow. Rook asked the board to reach out to anyone they know with horses or campers to lease and to join the NHSFR Facebook groups to get in touch with NHSFR contestants who will be needing those.

Managing Director Report—Dickerson gave an update on Business Development and Marketing for NHSFR. Dickerson noted the team is finalizing the plan for the Super Fair and NHSFR with help from KidGlov's president Lyn Wineman. They are seeking more dollars from key sponsors and key vendors to invest in more TV and billboard advertisements as well as arranging key media partnerships for free media coverage. There are plans to have a media trailer at NHSFR grandstand for local press to use. Dickerson shared the Lincoln Journal Star City Editor came out to LEC Fairgrounds last week to get overview information on NHSFR & is planning a lot of coverage. Dickerson gave an update on LB73, stating they're now one vote shy of coming out of the committee which is good for the first year. Dickerson said the lobbyists are feeling very good about it and the committee would like to hear

support from the city for the fairgrounds. The committee understand the need for LB73, not just for Lancaster County, but for county fairgrounds all across Nebraska. Dickerson said they are also now keeping an eye on LB39, a bill about arena financing that could help with supporting the board's Phase 3 plans. Dickerson shared the Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Department called her in last 24 hours to ask to use the LEC Fairgrounds for a 3,700 person vaccination clinic for 65+ and educators next week. Dickerson said they have space so will be going forward with this.

President Kendra Ronnau joined the meeting virtually via Zoom at 8:23pm.

Approve Managing Director to sign easement for LES access to service backup electric main line installing at their expense before the NHSFR– The board viewed a map of the LES easement while Dickerson explained. Cusick-Rawlinson moved to approve the Managing Director to sign easement for LES access to service backup electric main line they will be installing at their expense before the NHSFR. Motion passed 9-0.

Other business- None.

Communication from the public– None.

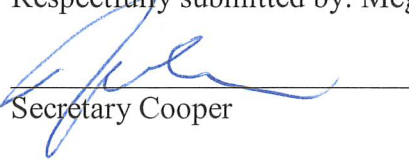
Executive session– Hagan moved to enter Executive Session to discuss response to NE Ag Expo claim. It was seconded by Ronnau. Motion passed 9-0 without objections and went into Executive Session at 8:26pm.

Suing moved to come out of Executive Session and Ronnau seconded. Motion passed without objections and board came out of Executive Session at 8:44pm.

Hagan moved to approve to send the legal counsel-drafted letter to NE Ag Expo in response to claim signed by all board members. Ronnau seconded. Motion passed 7-1-1, Cusick-Rawlinson voted no and Doeschot abstained by name.

Adjournment–Messick moved to adjourn the meeting and Hagan seconded. Motion passed without objection. Meeting adjourned at 8:47pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Megan Engel – LEC Marketing Coordinator (Acting Board Clerk)


Secretary Cooper


Vice President Dowding (Ronnau absent for portion)

Next meeting: April 20, 2021 at 7:30pm
(note change -- in person only)