LANCASTER COUNTY Super Fair JULY 30 - AUGUST 8, 2026 | Sandhills Global EVENT CENTER™ | NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL FINALS RODEO Lincoln July 19-26, 2026







*A 501(c)3 nonprofit, operationally unsubsidized organization dedicated to growing community through events like yours and proud to be the home of the Super Fair.*

# Lancaster County Agricultural Society, Inc.

*A Nebraska 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation*
*and quasi-governmental organization created under Nebraska law in 1870*
*to promote agriculture, youth, and community*
*through management of Lancaster's county fairgrounds*
*and organizing the annual Lancaster county fair*

MINUTES
Board of Directors Monthly Meeting
Sandhills Global Event Center Conference Room
4100 N. 84th Street, Lincoln NE 68507
Thursday, September 17, 2026 – 7:00 pm

**President Ronnau 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.

**Lancaster Ag Society Board members attending** in person were Ronnau, Cooper, Rutt, Hardesty, Rawlinson, Sump, Suing. Hagan, Dowding were not in attendance. SGEC staff attending in person included Bohaty, Juengel, Pickrel-Smith, Theesen, Orton, Nathan, and Kumm. Also attending was Hopping & Eckhardt on behalf of BMG Accounting. Anderson and Wobig from Extension were in attendance via Teams.

**Approval of Monthly Board Meeting Minutes** - The minutes of the August meeting were presented for approval. Rawlinson made a motion to amend the minutes with requested corrections; Hardesty seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed 5-0 and Suing, Sump abstained.

**Approval of LCAS Budget Hearing Minutes** - The minutes of the LCAS Budget Hearing were presented for approval. Cooper made a motion to approve the minutes with adjustments; Rutt seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed 7-0.

**Extension update** – Wobig was in attendance via Teams. Extension just finished up with State Fair and it went very well for our Lancaster exhibitors! Extension wanted to express that Madeline has left their team and Tracy is in the hiring process. They are also looking to hire an Entomologist. Sump asked if this was posted yet, and Wobig explained it is not as it is an educator position. Sump expressed that he knows someone with a Master in Entomology who is looking to move back to Lincoln. The 4-H Open House is Sunday October 4th starting at 6:30pm.

**Communication from the public** – Marty and Jerry Minchow weren't too excited about the Rodeo but wanted to express a very heartfelt thank you to the Board and the SGEC Team. They noticed all the hard work and efforts that were put in, weather was not the greatest and the team still pushed through, and there was plenty of things that the team overcome. Jerry wanted to know when did we get assigned the authority to be an Event Center when we originated as a Fairgrounds. Bohaty stated if you look at the document from 1870 it is expressed that the Fairgrounds should and can be used for Events. Jerry expressed that the late Charles J Warner, long time Nebraska Politician and a member of the State Fair Board of Managers, swore that the Lancaster County Fairgrounds should always be the State Fairgrounds.

**Super Fair Finances –** Hopping stated that this financial report is in the same format as last Super Fair. Open Class was up quite a bit. Noted that the Grandstand ticket sales nearly reflected the amount from SF25, but SF26 had two event cancellations due to weather; concluding that if these events were to happen there would have been a significant increase. Rawlinson expressed the need to add more food in the Grandstand that would produce more revenue as well as overall guest happiness there. Rawlinson asked about Medical expenses and the ambulance on site. Bohaty explained that 9Lines no longer works within City limits. SGEC went with Midwest Medical who requires an ambulance on site. It was clarified that the net income does not include the overhead facility costs for those two weeks.

**Rodeo Finances –** Bohaty stated that the camping income had the taxes taken out already. Rawlinson asked about the sponsorship expense and if that was grant related and had got reimbursed. Bohaty confirmed it has been reimbursed. Nathan confirmed that the Tourism Grant was pertaining to all National marketing. Hopping stated that they included a 4 week payroll, but could not include all labor allocated to the NHSFR as projects happened months prior, and staff are still cleaning up here in September. Bohaty and Pickrel-Smith reiterated how the labor could not all be allocated to its fullest capacity. One thing that has not been broken out is the fuel. Some members expressed that they expected numbers to be more drastic.

**Financial Report** – Hopping reviewed the financial information for July. A draft was provided last month, and the changes were very minimal. Ronnau asked for questions; there were none. Rawlinson made a motion to accept the financial reports as presented. Cooper seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 7-0.

Hopping reviewed the financial information for August. Ronnau asked for questions; there were none. Rawlinson made a motion to accept the financial reports as presented. Sump seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 7-0.

Hopping presented the information related to the August checks. Ronnau asked for questions. Rawlinson made a motion to approve the August 2026 checks totaling $(1,449,801.20); Cooper seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed 7-0 to approve August checks.

**Officer Reports –** Ronnau wanted to thank all the SGEC staff in attendance for all the extra hard work during the large summer events. It was expressed the desire to align on horse shows, Cooper and Rutt had nothing at this meeting.

**Committee Reports –** None at this time.

**Fair Manager Report –** Juengel explained how the new layout and changing from parking to admissions worked very well. There were some hiccups that need attention, like more entry lines and assessing the entry for the livestock trailers, but overall she expects minimal changes to the 2027 layout. The Super Fair team has been bouncing attraction ideas between each other. She stated that she really appreciates the anonymous feedback received from a Staff survey to find what our true weaknesses are, as well as the many wins and compliments on the 2026 Super Fair.

**Blue Jean Gala Update –** Juengel announced that they have a proposed date of February 4th, 2027. She had checked with Extension to make sure we are not overlapping this year. There is a potential snow date for February 18th. Juengel stated that we have not received or determined who the 2026 recipients are. Juengel reached out to Aksarben to obtain the 2026 Farm Families are and haven't heard back yet. Juengel asks the board who they find should be honored as the LCAS Hall of Fame recipient as well as the Legacy of Leadership award.

**Appointment of Annual Board election Nominating Committee –** Ronnau state that we almost at that time of year again to elect. She had not formally heard yet from any about running again.

**Nomination of Candidates for Annual board Election** – Those who are up for re-election are Hagan, Sump & Cusick-Rawlinson.

**Managing Director Report** – Bohaty explained that the Super Fair is cutting ties with the outside promoters for Ribfest and will be conducting it themselves to align more community involvement. They strongly believe this will create the Ribfest envisioned. The SGEC Green Trailer will be our primary unit for mobile cafes. The Connex is just too large to be moved so frequently. Bohaty and the team have been working on moving to events that can utilize the Grandstand more. With the Capital Grant requires us to use some of the funding to look into solar infrastructure. Questions were posed of what that looks like, and it first starts with research. Cooper moved to make a motion to instruct Ron and the team to research solar options and report back to the board. Sump seconds it. A Roll call vote was taken 7-0.

**NHSFR Update** – Bohaty is very proud of the relationship we've created with James at NHSFR. Noted it was an emotional decision but all concluded it was the better choice. Sump stated that the team did a fantastic job and would love for it to return but it is clear that we just don't have the infrastructure and/or large

enough campus for the ever-growing event. Overall, there was a lot of backlash but also plenty of positive comments. Rawlinson posed concern about the LES transformer and if that will get fixed. Bohaty stated that the team has been working hard at determining what next summer will look like. The team is very eager.

Other Business – Ronnau reviewed the upcoming events with the board and team. Pickrel-Smith stated that staff Holiday party has been set. The theme is A Very Die Hard Christmas. The Team has also put together a "Survivor" party to celebrate the long stretch of work this summer between Rodeo and Super Fair.

Adjournment – Ronnau then asked if there was any additional questions or discussion. There were none. Ronnau asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Sump made a motion. Suing seconded. Meeting Adjourned at 9:31pm.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED as set forth herein on this 15th day of October, 2026. Submitted by the LANCASTER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY IN THE STATE OF NEBRASKA.

President Kendra Ronnau Kendra Ronnau

2nd Signature