

Union County Fairboard Meeting

January 23, 2024 - Fairgrounds Alcester, SD- 7pm

President Ann Soenen called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

Members present: Gene Ericson, John Gates, Tom Noll, Dave Smith, Darla Reppe, Paulette Vanderham, Ann Soenen, Sadie Jensen, Commissioner Kevin Joffer, Fair manager Shawn Tabke and guest Vicki Ahart.

Tom Noll moved to approve the minutes from the August meeting, John Gates seconded, motion passed.

Shawn Presented the budget/treasurer's report.

- \$6,600 in donations to date (1/17/24)
 - 2022 total \$5900, 2023 total \$11,070
 - 2024 goal \$16,000
 - Bought pig/sheep scales
 - Commissioners increased budget for this year

Old Business

- Vicki Ahart from Chamber of Commerce, gathering information. The Chamber will choose someone to fill the vacant seat.
- Bylaws, states attorney reviewing

New Business

- Discussion on FCS scales/traffic through fairgrounds
 - Discussed having land surveyed so we know where the property line is.
- Vendor proposal- change hours to thur/fri/sat 10-8pm
- Mission statement for Fair Book Proposal- Ann & Shawn will choose one and present it for approval.
- Events
 - Thursday Ag Olympics
 - Friday ??
 - Saturday ??
 - Sunday Tractor Pull
 - Discussion on holding the tractor pull on Saturday, earlier in the day (talked to Kyle about potential to move it to Saturday)
- Things booked
 - Zoomobile, Mr.Twister, Kids Pedal Pull, Dumpsters, Port-a-potties, Christine Seal cleaning

- 2024 Fair Sustainability
 - Discussion on how we can use these funds to better the fair.
 - Cornhole Tournament, Dunk Tank
 - Beer garden? BBQ competition?
- Educational Presentations
 - Host in exhibit building and commercial building to have something going on more frequently during the day
- Improvement Project Ideas 2024
 - Water project \$25,000 to finish
 - Insulate & Heat Poultry Barn (for shooting sports)
 - Rewire: beef, dairy, showing, poultry, and commercial building
 - Grandstand - 6' fence, concrete entrance/under bleachers, add sidewalks, beer garden tent, construct bathrooms, add more lighting.
 - Add covered stage for presentations & entertainment throughout fair
 - Discussed taking down ash trees, and planting new trees
- Bid from 3G Bucking Ponies \$9500, must have at least 3 people to help set up/tear down, also heard from Al Stokely about putting a bid forward.

Next meeting is set for March 26 @ 7pm at the Fairgrounds

Gene Ericson moved to adjourn the meeting, Sadie Jensen seconded, motion passed.