

YORK COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

MINUTES of September 17, 2024 Budget Hearing & MINUTES of the September 17, 2024 Regular Monthly Meeting

Budget Hearing

The Board of Directors of the York County Agricultural Society met Tuesday September 17, 2024 at 8:00 p.m., in the York County Extension Office for the Budget Hearing. The Meeting Notices were published September 11, 2024 in the York News Times and on or before September 11, 2023 in the York County Court House, York State Bank (Main bank location), Cornerstone Bank (Waco Branch) and the York County Extension Office.

Ten (10) Directors were present; Cast, Ditloff, Gloystein, Heine, Heskett, Holtmeier, Jackson, Quiring, Rathjen and Ziemke. Five (5) Directors were present via phone; Chrisman, Hoffman, Hoffschneider, Ziegler and Zoubek.

Guests: None

President Gloystein called the Budget Hearing to order at 8:00 p.m.

Secretary Ziemke announced to all those in attendance that the Open Meetings Act has been placed on the meeting table for one and all to examine.

At least three (3) copies of the proposed budget statement have been and still are available to the public.

Ziemke made a presentation outlining the key provisions of the proposed budget statement, including, but not limited to, a comparison with the prior year's budget.

The floor was then opened for public comment on the proposed budget statement. Public comment ensued. All members of the public wishing to address the governing body were provided a reasonable amount of time to do so.

Motion #1A was duly made by Heskett and seconded by Rathjen to close the budget hearing. There was no further discussion. Fifteen (15) votes for (Ayes), Zero (0) votes against (Nays). Motion #1A Carried/Passed.

The Budget Hearing was closed at 8:21 p.m.

There being no further business, Motion #2A was duly made by Jackson and seconded by Rathjen to adjourn the Budget Hearing. There was no further discussion. Fifteen (15) votes for (Ayes), Zero (0) votes against (Nays). Motion #2A Carried/Passed.

Budget Hearing Meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

September 17, 2024 Regular Monthly Meeting

The Board of Directors of the York County Agricultural Society met Tuesday September 17,

2024, Following the Budget Hearing, in the York County Extension Office. The Meeting Notices were published September 11, 2024 in the York News Times and on or before September 11, 2024 in the York County Court House, York State Bank (Main bank location), Cornerstone Bank (Waco Branch) and the York County Extension Office.

Ten (10) Directors were present; Cast, Ditloff, Gloystein, Heine, Heskett, Holtmeier, Jackson, Quiring, Rathjen and Ziemke. Five (5) Directors were present via phone; Chrisman, Hoffman, Hoffschneider, Ziegler and Zoubek.

Guests: None

The monthly meeting was called to order by President Gloystein at 8:28 p.m.

Secretary Ziemke again announced to all those in attendance that the Open Meetings Act has been placed on the meeting table for one and all to examine.

Additional items to the agenda: NIRMA Insurance

Minutes of the August 20, 2024 York County Agricultural Society meeting were reviewed. There were no additions or corrections.

The Directors reviewed the August 2024 Financial Reports. Discussion on: August Profit and Loss spreadsheet; roughly \$15,500.00 for all of the Fair advertising; \$1,445.00 Seward Independent Newspaper, Fair advertising which includes the Advantage Paper; there is nearly one box of Fairbooks left over, we need to order less next year; \$1,250.00 Mash The Gas check was to Matt Wize, the second half of his Figure 8 Race Officiating fee; City of York water bill seems high – we sowed new grass in front of the 4H and Ag Hall buildings, with it being dry this summer it took a bunch of water; \$2,300.00 Critel Enterprises – Updating and labor on Mercantile Building air conditioning systems; \$2,675.00 Klein’s Blue River Power – golf cart rentals for Fair use; Cost of animal bedding for the Fair. Motion #1B was duly made by Rathjen to approve the minutes of August 20, 2024 and the August 2024 Financial Reports. Seconded by Holtmeier. No further discussion. Fifteen (15) votes for, Zero (0) votes against. Motion #1B Carried/Passed.

Motion #2B was duly made by Jackson to increase the total Restricted Funds Subject to Limitations by an additional 1%. Seconded by Ditloff. No further discussion. Fifteen (15) votes for, 0 (zero) votes against. Motion #2B Carried/Passed.

Motion #3B was duly made by Heskett, that the Board approve the 2024-2025 Budget for the York County Agricultural Society as presented on the 2024-2025 State of Nebraska General Budget Form which was reviewed during the Budget Hearing. Motion was seconded by Holtmeier. No further discussion. Fifteen (15) votes for, 0 (zero) votes against. Motion #3B Carried/Passed.

Motion #4B was duly made by Rathjen, that the Board elects to use the 2024-2025 Budget Document as our Audit Waiver. Motion was seconded by Ditloff. No further discussion. Fifteen (15) votes for, Zero (0) votes against. Motion #4B Carried/Passed.

Under Old Business:

Julie Hoffman, YABAC Accessibility and Inclusiveness – Gloystein hasn’t heard from her.

NIRMA Insurance – Rathjen reported to the Directors that the NIRMA Insurance Group will be sending out a representative on October 3rd to look over all of our buildings (inside and out), grandstand, and equipment to make sure that we are insuring them to at least 80% value. At the present time we are probably not up to 80% on everything. If they raise everything up to the 80% level how much will our insurance premium go up? It could go up drastically. Two years ago their rates went up 12% and last year the premium went up 30%. We can't deal with these kind of increases. If it does go up drastically, we do not get enough funds from the current taxes to cover the premium and it could possibly cause our Fair to fold. Is there any way to ask for an increase in tax funds to cover the added expense? What are other County Fairs doing for insurance on their properties? Rathjen is already talking with some other insurance companies about looking into our insurance needs to see if they have better rates.

Billy's Grilled Cheese – He is wondering what it would cost to park his food vendor vehicle on our Fairgrounds over the winter. It could be outside but he needs a 110 volt hook up. We could possibly have him park it under the Grandstand or in the Small Animal Barn. Holtmeier will contact him to let him know we would ask for \$200.00 per month to cover parking area and electricity.

Building Committee Report:

Fair Office – Mike Wright is working on finishing up the trim and the replacement windows.

Crow's Nest – Mike is working on finishing the interior plywood liner and insulation, otherwise it is finished.

Ag Hall – Critel Enterprises has two used 4-Ton air conditioning units that he would donate if we pay the labor and materials for installation in Ag Hall. What will the materials and installation cost? Ziegler will contact Chris Critel to get a more detailed estimate. Critel would also keep his eyes open for an addition two units if we do the air conditioning project. We will need to upgrade the electrical to and in Ag Hall along with update the four by-pass doors. We want to make sure not to change the internal ambiance of the rustic building.

Sheep, Goat and Small Animal Barn – Ziemke will contact Matt and Adam of Lincoln Creek Electric to get an estimate of the cost to upgrade and add to the electrical system in the building.

Mercantile Building – We are getting some ceiling insulation damage due to leaks in the roof. Is it due to loose screws? Is it due to past hail damage to the roof tin? Rathjen will have the NIRMA representative look over the roof, after the hail events that we had NIRMA insurance said that the damage to the roofs was only cosmetic and their insurance did not cover cosmetic damage. Maybe the damage was actually more than cosmetic.

Cornerstone Ag & Event Center – Gloystein will talk with Mike and Bob about resealing the concrete floor. The part for the projector screen was incorrect and now the correct part is ordered.

AED Units – Nancy has the cabinets for the AED units. Locations to mount the cabinets: the wall between the serving counter and the entrance to the restrooms will work in the 4H Building and on the south wall near the entrance of the Cornerstone Ag & Event Center should work for the second unit. Nancy will put the cabinets in the Fairgrounds shop for Mike.

4H Building – Amy Pohl, operator of the 4H Food Stand, said that the Food Inspector asks that we have an air gap under the sink. The food inspector is also asking that we have a mop sink installed somewhere in the building. Due to serving food in the building, mop water can not be dumped outside and needs to be dumped down a mop sink.

City of York Certified Letter – We have received a letter from the city informing us that we have two dead or dying trees in our north tree line by the swine barn. We have fifteen days to have them removed or face fines.

New Business:

York County Fair Foundation & Calendar Raffle Updates

- Heskett has more raffle ticket for the 2024-2025 Calendar Raffle.
- We need to sell at least 168 tickets to break even on the Callendar Raffle.
- All 2024-2025 sold or unsold Calendar Raffle tickets need to be turned in before September 30, 2024.
- Drawing the winners of the 2024-2025 Calendar Raffle will take place on September 30, 2024.
- There is approximately \$41,000.00 in the Foundation account and approximately \$8,000.00 in the 2023-2024 Calendar Raffle account.
- We need to get all the expense records organized for the Crow's Nest and other building construction and repairs so we can make some reimbursements to the York County Agricultural Society from the York County Fair Foundation for the Fairgrounds repairs/maintenance/upkeep.

Additional 2023 Fair Comments:

Jackson

- Felt it was a good Fair overall.
- The west parking lot was about the fullest he has ever seen it on Friday and Saturday evenings.
- We need to remove the old northeast storage shed, that is leaning, so we can have a cleaner and more organized 4H/FFA Exhibitor camper parking area. By removing the old storage shed we should be able to accommodate up to 18 campers.
- We need to have camper quiet hours. There was quite a bit of loud music being played between 2:00 a.m. and 3:00 a.m. this year.
- There were a couple of people who asked if we would ever consider having Junior York County Agricultural Society board members. Yes, other Ag Societies have them. We have the ability to do so now as they can be Associate Members.
- Should we look into having some of the businesses that have programable marquis signs do some advertising on them for us the week prior and during Fair? Businesses such as Klute or Wendy's.
- There were some issues with camper hook-up breakers having to be replaced this year. Could it just be over use due to the air conditioners and high temperatures or was it lightning from one of the spring storms?

2025 Fair Plans July 31 – August 3, 2025

- Rascal Martinez out of Sutherland, Nebraska
 - 3.5 hour performance, full production, \$6,000.00 plus two hotel rooms.
 - 3 piece band
 - Under the tent?

- How quick does he get booked?
- He has a very good following.
- Does he have Saturday night of August 2, 2025 open? He did when Ditloff talked with him on August 22nd.
- How many people can we fit under the tent? We order 500 chairs for tent seating.
- Could we ask \$15.00 or \$20.00 per ticket?
- He will be at the Bierhaus Maisschaler in Lincoln and the tickets are \$20.00.
- Logan Mize was contacted and he would charge us \$20,000.00 to do a concert under the main tent. He charged \$10,000.00 for his concert in McCool Junction this past June.
- Casey Chestnutt, son of Mark Chestnutt. His wife is from Exeter.
- Ditloff will follow up with the Chamber on their intensions for exhibitor premiums this year and next.

November Director Election:

Chrisman will be the Nominating Committee Chairperson. Nominating committee members are: Chrisman, Ditloff, Holtmeier, Ziegler and Zoubek.

Terms expiring in 2024 are: Brad Gloystein, Nancy Heine, Charles Hoffman, Craig Heskett and Julie Cast.

There being no further business to come before the Directors, the meeting was adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

Douglas Ziemke

Douglas Ziemke
Secretary