

## April 11, 2023

The Butler County Agricultural Society met for their regular meeting on April 11, 2023, at 6:00 PM at the Fairgrounds. President Turner called the meeting to order. At roll call the following members were present Turner; Bittner; Gerber; Green; Idle; Mignery; Ross; Simpson; Vollmer and Wells. The Minutes of the March meeting were approved as read. Mignery moved to pay all monthly bills, including payroll, second by Ross, motion passed. Mignery moved to accept the financial statements, second by Gerber, all present voted yes. Carrie Robinson presented a proposed rule change from the small animal department. The proposed change would lower the entry fee from \$6.00 per head to \$5.00 per head. The board raised the entry fee last year and will keep the entry fee at \$6.00. Simpson reported on the district meeting. At the meeting they had cards with QR codes that contain all of OSU Extension's rules and deadlines. OFMA talked about trying to get more funding from the state level. Security on fairgrounds was a major topic. Some fairs have tried closing general admission gates at 8:00 PM, not allowing anyone under the age of 18 admittance without an adult or limiting the group size. The best option has been added security and the use of cameras. Turner reported United Rental has camera towers available to rent for the week of the fair. Ross asked about placing one around the livestock barns as well. There is a meeting at the fairgrounds on Monday April 17 with the police and fire departments to discuss emergency plans and protocols. Turner reported House bill 45 has passed. As a result, the board received \$47,872.34 from the State of Ohio. The blacktop project at the fairgrounds is supposed to start April 17, and the parking lot in front of the office will be covered in the project. Turner will ask if the board can pay to have the A lot paved at the same time. Turner and Idle have discussed putting a catch basin in front of the office to help with ponding water when it rains. The company laying the blacktop will grade everything so there should not be any water ponding in front of the office. They are going to mill the blacktop in front of the goat, steer, small animal and open class sheep barns to eliminate the standing water there as well. Congressman Warren Davidson's representatives have reached out to the board asking if we would like to meet with him. Turner will try and set up a meeting the same evening as the May board meeting. Turner has not received a signed contract back from Pro Equipment for the golfcarts. After confirming the dates the board would need the golf carts they contacted Turner and said for the number of days and carts we needed they would not be able to provide carts for the agreed price. The cost would have to increase. After discussion Vollmer moved to sign a three-year contract with Pro Equipment to provide golfcarts for \$10,764.00 per year. Ross second the motion, all present voted yes. Butler County Soil and Water are interested in bringing their display trailer to the fair again. Turner has spoken with Matt from EMA about putting Soil and Water next to the smoke house and other emergency responders. Matt thought they would be able to work them in and will speak to Chief Thomas. The \$750,000.00 grant for the grandstand project will not be needed for six months or more. Bittner moved to split the money into thirds and place in CD's and money

accounts. Second by Wells, motion passed. Wells reported everything is set up with Hometown Ticketing, and we will be able to take credit card payments at every ticket booth for general admission tickets. Green, we need to check for wind damage on all the barns. He had boards missing from the hog barn and noticed metal missing on the small animal barn. Ross, the wrestling promotion will have another event on May 13 at the Fenton Center if anyone is interested. Simpson had several questions from the committee on the grandstand project. The products the contractors use need to be specified. The board needs to prioritize the repairs to be made and hold money back for any unforeseen issues. Simpson would like the project to be bid by the lineal feet, while Turner just wants a price on the entire project. After discussion the committee will meet and report again at the May meeting. With no further business to discuss Mignery moved to adjourn, second by Idle. The board will meet on May 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 Pm at the fairgrounds.