

December 14, 2024

The 2024 Annual meeting of the Calumet County Agricultural Association was called to order at 1:01 p.m. by President Jeff Wunrow.

The Proof of Notice was read.

Clara Hedrich read the minutes from the 2023 Annual meeting.

Bob Kesler moved to accept the minutes as read. Judy McGlin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

President's Report - Jeff Wunrow gave his President's report. Thanks to everyone for a great fair. The weather was great. The work on the Arena is completed. All of the bills are paid but we did need to take some out of savings thus we will continue to run fundraising for another year. A big thank you to Wayne Kees, Kathy Kess, Paul Juckem, Gary Juckem, Chuck Leonhard and Connie Leonhard for all of their work for the fair.

The roofs on the Sybold and Morke need to be repaired.

1st Vice President's Report - Mike Wunrow gave the 1st vice president's report. A thank you to everyone and special thanks to our grounds keepers Chuck Leonhard, Wayne Kees and Barry Brokal. The Friday night tractor pull was cancelled due to the fact that the clay track had too many stones. The clay that was put down on the track turned out not to be of quality. Thanks to those that helped with the clean up.

The beer sales were up on Friday and Saturday night but down on Sunday night. Overall sales were up \$10,000.

The Rodeo will be run on Friday night instead of the NEW tractor pull.

The wine walk went well.

2nd Vice President's Report - Sarah Gebhart gave the 2nd Vice President's report. A sincere thank you to all. Thanks to sponsor businesses. Thanks to those businesses that sold Neil McCoy tickets. Thank you to Randy and Macey Pingel who did the golf outing. The money raised was split between the Calumet County Farm Bureau and the Calumet County Fair.

A thank you to Kenny Sprangers who hangs a banner for us every year in Darboy. Thank you to Bonnie Schneider for organizing the ID workers for the underage drinking program. Thanks to the community for supporting the fair. Thank you to Don Schmidt and Sharon Ott for their years of Service on the Calumet County Fair Board.

Gate Report – Sharon Ott gave the gate report. Changes were made at the gate with Friday and Monday being free. Credit card machines were added this year to make it easier to collect at the gate. 291 transactions were made on the machines. The addition of the credit card machines went well. A sincere thank you to all of the groups that provided workers at the gates. Thank you to Chuck Petrie for handling

the workers for the parking of the fair goers. Thank you to Karen Gries and Cory Wittman for handling the tickets and workers for the grandstand events. The fair paid out \$5600 back to community groups that provided services for the gate or parking.

Sharon Ott thanked everyone for giving her the opportunity to be treasurer for 30 years. She has been on the board for 31 years and will not be seeking re-election.

Clara Hedrich gave the secretary's report. A thank you to all of the volunteers and community members that make the fair a possibility. A thank you to Tami Gasch for her work in working with the youth and the fair entry program. The majority of our entries were done online with the fair entry program. A handout was handed out Entry Premiums by Division which shows each division and the premiums paid out for that division. The areas of growth are in the Goat Division and in the youth Cultural Arts division and the Foods Division. Scanners were used to enter the results of data. Results were posted online shortly after judging. Thus exhibitors could find their results online.

Sharon Ott gave the Treasurer's report. Sharon Ott handed out the annual report and then went over the high points. The fair is in good financial standings. Due to the Arena building project a \$50,000 CD was cashed in. Thus, the reason for continuing the building fund drive for one more year. The idea is to raise enough funds to replace these funds for the CD.

Deb Stebane moved to accept the treasurer's report as given. Dean Gebhart seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Deb Stebane gave the Fairest of the Fair Report. Emily Boll was unable to attend due to a prior commitment. Leah Koch Jr. Fairest of the Fair gave a thank you and what she had learned from being the Jr. Fairest. Deb Stebane read a letter from Emily Boll who will be representing the Calumet County Fair at the State Convention in the Fairest of the Fair Contest.

A thank you to the families of the Fairest and the fairest committee members which include Jeanne Gasch, Kathy Stebane, Tracey Nett, Gloria Regan, Ashley Pagel, Judy McGlin and Jenna McGlin. 11 bill boards were put up by 4-H clubs advertising the fair. The wine walk had 150 participants. Next year planning on raising the number to 200 participants. A sincere thank you to Just For You Flowers and Gifts and Tobie Vanhandel for their continued sponsorship of the Fairest Program.

Dean Gebhart gave the Birthing Barn report. Lake Breeze supplied the cows for the tent and had 3 cows that calved in the 3 days. Thanks to Autumn Gomez Tagel that helped in the birthing tent along with the other volunteers. Dean Gebhart was also responsible for the food vendors at the fair. He added a Food Truck rally on Friday night that went over well. Thanks to everyone for their support of the fair. Our fair is becoming the fair to attend.

Anna Hickinbotham reported on the Car Show and Bingo. Bingo went over well. They handed out 100 bingo bags to the first 100 people. Thanks again to the German American club for helping with the bingo. The car show was the largest it has ever been with 163 cars. Thanks to Bill and Jeannie Levknecht for helping with the show.

Lanetta Mahlberg gave the Merchants report. The buildings were full and the outside was good. People enjoyed the Veteran's Memorial Display that was coordinated by Judy McGlin. All vendors got along well. Good year.

Judy McGlin reported on the Veteran's Memorial Wall Display. \$489 was raised for the veterans. A collection was taken up at the Sunday morning church service and \$163.00 went to the Lutheran Church in Chilton.

John Petrie gave the Horse Promoter's report. The exhibits are steady. The horse pull was up a couple of teams. The Bulls and Barrels event went well and it will be moved to Friday night.

Cory Ott reported on the Dairy Cattle. All exhibitors fit into the Arena building. The Futurity had 11 entries and a little under \$7000 was paid back to Futurity exhibitors. People enjoyed the Futurity program.

Nathan Hacker gave the Market Animal Report. \$252,191 taken in for the Market Animal sale with \$226,545 being paid back to the kids. It was the best sale yet.

Chuck Petrie reported on the parking. Challenge to get enough people to help with parking. This was probably the fullest the parking area has been in a long time. Thoughts on moving all parking to the south end and having just vendors and handicap parking on the north end.

Gloria Regan reported on Dairyland. A sincere thank you to Ashley Pagel, Jessi Jensen, Lucy Kesler and Kathy Pagel for their help with Dairyland. 123 people participated in the Skillathon. The dog event on Monday was well received by the exhibitors that put on the demonstrations and the people watching the event.

Shawn Lamers reported on the Poultry and Rabbits. The numbers are similar to last year. Poultry exhibitors had several fundraisers to help raise money for their poultry cages. The Cornhole tournament went well and had 32 teams participate.

Cory Wittman reported on the Grandstand workers. Appreciative of the people helping with the selling of grandstand tickets and ticket taking.

Autumn Gomez Tagel reported she had a great first fair.

Karen Gries reported on the First Aid Tent. It is hard to get people to work the first aid tent. As a result, not sure what the status will be of the tent for the fair for next year.

Question was raised about what type of plaque will be put up for the donors for the Arena. Would like to have a plaque up for next year's fair.

Individuals identified by the nominating committee to be placed on the ballot for fair board members are as follows:

Nathan Hacker, Anna Hickinbotham, Gloria Regan, Cory Ott, John Petrie, Melody Thiel, and Cory Wittman.

A call for additional nominations from the floor was made three times. No additional nominations.

Dean Gebhart moved to cast a unanimous ballot. Bob Kesler seconded the motion. The motion carried. Welcome to the board for a 3 year term are Nathan Hacker, Anna Hickinbotham, Gloria Regan, Cory Ott, John Petrie, Melody Thiel, and Cory Wittman.

The fair dates for 2026 are Sept 4-7, 2026.

The temperature outside is 33 degrees.

Paul Juckem moved to adjourn. Dean Gebhart seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 1:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Clara Hedrich, Secretary