

Ohio Fair Managers Association Inc.
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ohiofairs@att.net Minutes Meeting Tuesday May 16, 2017
Crowne Plaza Hotel 2nd Floor Columbus, Ohio

President Robert Buxton called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. Booklets of information were presented to all attending.

In attendance were: President Bob Buxton, VP Dan Bullen, VP Rodney Arter, Treasurer Robert Dawson, Richard King, Wade Flory, Chris Brust, Stanley Strode, Tom Stocksdale, Roger Smith Paul Harris, Bev Fisher, Cara Muhlenkamp, Past Presidents, Darrel Cubbison, and Doug Guinsler.

Guests: Dale Arnold and AEP Contractor Dana Koppes, Theresa Call, Amanda Sines, David Drake, Tom Archer, Jo Ellen Albanese and Mike Vartorella.

Correspondence: Lawrence County Fair in answer to their question on why they did not receive their OFMA passes.

Board Minutes: Tom Stocksdale moved to accept the January 5, 2017 Board meeting minutes, 2nd Bev Fisher, motion approved.

Financial report: Treasurer Robert Dawson handout an extended financial report, revenue, expenditures and investments. Richard King moved to accept, 2nd Wade Flory, motion approved

Convention Program: Paul Harris reviewed the 2018 program planning meeting that occurred after the Spring District 1&2 meeting at the hotel, Paul will get the program out by Mid July. The topic of vendor presentations was reviewed and the proposed cost of \$1000 and limited to 4 total was discussed by the Program committee. Paul Harris moved and seconded by Richard King to establish the policy of 4 total vendor presentations, they must have a booth space and the sponsor cost of \$1000. Motion carried.

Battelle Hall usage quote is \$3150 for 2018, \$3307.50 for 2019 plus incidental staging for the Saturday General Session. For 2019 additional rooms rentals were included if needed of 4 rooms with rates of \$260. to \$357.50 based on demand usage for the 2019 convention when the tradeshow will be all on the 2nd floor. The Video screen will be 2 screens and a cost of \$6,000 per year for audio and video using the house sound is \$6,000 based on a 2 year agreement. Bob Dawson moved to approve the costs for Battelle Hall, the audio video costs Bev Fisher second, motion approved.

Queen Program: No report at this time.

Hotels: Rodney Arter reviewed the Drury Contract with a rate of \$138 and a \$20 rebate on 445 rooms for 2021. Stanley Strode moved to accept, second, Dan Bullen motion approved. All other contracts are executed.

Junior Fair: No report.

Communication and Hall of Fame Awards: Discussion led by the group on awarding by fair not category, Bev Fisher moved, second by Stanley to award on Sunday the communication awards by Fair. Motion approved.

Meals and Banquets: No report

Trade Show: Have Convention Center contract for 1st floor space for 2018, last year that that will be leased. Howard to work up the floor plan for approval by the Fire Authority. Richard King moved to accept the fee structure of \$4140 for the 1st floor based on 30 spaces and a setup fee of moving the furniture, total \$4140. Second Stanley Strode, Motion approved

Talent Showcase: Bob Dawson, The tradeshow committee met and recommend the following, dropping the meal, no admission charge for the evening, sell 30 tables for a 50/50 drawing to the table holder and the PAC. Hold an early arrival drawing for \$500 in nice door prizes. Appetizers, snacks and deserts will be part of the evening. Staying with 6 acts.

Bob is requesting the showcase committee meet to review and Howard will review participation history

Spouse: Dan Bullen 2 Wine seminars and 1 Wine and Paint planned, possibly a barrel head panting session. .

Auction-Gala: Steve Cronebaugh, Jon Overmyer, no report

Registration: Tom Stocksdale, will need to open 1 hour earlier on Friday for the district meetings attendees.

Promotions and sponsors: Dan Bullen discussed Red frogs approach and the Magic Money that was used in Florida this year for midway money cashless systems.

Budget: Bob Dawson proposed the 2017/2018 Budget. In the proposal is an increase of \$10 for registration

taking the fee to \$50 and late fee to \$60. Bob went over the 2016/2017 budget comparisons to the proposed budget. After discussion Bev Fisher moved to accept the 2017/2018 Budget with the increased registration, second Tom Stocksdale, motion approved.

Legislative: Government Advantage Group reported by Amanda Sines with handout materials

Logistics: Chris Brust reported need new signage.

Audit: Tom Stocksdale: May 15 the Audit Committee met at the Crowne Plaza Hotel and found the financial records in good order. Tom issued a written report for the record. Richard King moved to accept, 2nd Wade Flory, motion approved. .

Resolutions/Recommendations: Reviewed the 3 items included in the packet,

Tour Planning: Howard reported that the route will be into Missouri, Texas, Mississippi, Tennessee and Kentucky. October 7-14. Have 38 signed up.

Old Business:

Grant Program was reviewed still about 2.5 million not spent. Each attending director went over their fair amounts and Mike Vartorella needs that information. No idea on what the balance will be at this time.

Spring meetings, All went very well. 2018 Dates set 5&9 looking for a location and 1&2 may be at Hancock Fairgrounds new facility.

New Business: Battelle Hall Contract, Drury Contract, 2018 Budget and the 2018 Convection Fees topics were all discussed in those chair reports. Discussion on the Lorain County Fair e-mail that related that Ohio Fairs do not have to abide by the Sunshine law is not correct. Amanda will be doing some background work on this.

AEP Issue: Dale Arnold from Ohio Farm Bureau and Dana Koppes PE from AEP attended the meeting to relate that the rates for fairs are the same, and that AEP is offering a load survey program. This issue cannot be solved by Legislative actions.

Associate Reports:

ODA: Mike reported that \$2,050,326 was paid out to date, 26 have spent the full \$50k. Fulton and Lucas are definitely not going to tap these funds. Mike needs input on what each director fairs are doing. 18 fairs have used the \$50k. New Games Rules are out and Mike will be sending electronically these inspection and rule out.

OHHA: Renee not available today and did supply a report for distribution. In part here is the report: *At the April 2017 Board Meeting the OHHA Board allocated the Fair Purse and Support monies from the VLT revenue share. The purse allocation was increased by the Board slightly to \$6,200 per division and the Fair Support was authorized to again total \$11,000. Keep in mind that we have 2 added Fairs in 2017 and now have 67 Fairs that race.*
Increases were seen in Signature Fair Race Grant Support (10%) and On-Track Insurance, which was up 2.4% with the Board approving payment of Two Days of On-Track Insurance for every racing Fair again in 2017. The Fair support to the Racing Fairs increased 4.1% and the overall support for all sources for 2017 is \$4,429,164 from the Ohio Horsemen's VLT Net Revenue Share. Note that the overall increase for the Fairs in 2017 year-over-year was 4.2% with the Ohio Fairs Fund down for 2017 and stretched a thinner with two additional racing Fairs. The total revenue to the Fairs from the Ohio Fairs Fund and Ohio Horsemen's VLT revenue share for 2017 is \$5,246,885.95.

4-H Extension: Tom Archer, Extension continues to fill open positions, Pike County just filled and the agents at Fulton and Adams announced their retirement plans, Funding in the next state budget is adequate in the house version, wait and see on the Senate conference.

GOSA: David Drake and Jo Ellen Albanese representing Greater Ohio Showmen's thanked the board of directors and OFMA for a very successful spring meetings and the ability to again recognize those fair leaders. New Game Rules went into effect and an issue with the inflatable rules being challenged is ongoing and hearing this week in front of the Senate Committee is being held and David Drake and Howard Call are speaking in opposition to the changes. Discussion ensued and Paul Harris moved to support the Ohio Department of Agriculture on this opposition to change Stanley Strode Second, Motion Approved.

Meeting adjourned by Wade Flory, and second Stanley Strode, Motion approved
Minutes Authenticated by Executive Director Howard Call

Howard L. Call, CFE

Howard Call, Executive Director

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