



Fair Board Meeting

Date: January 26th, 2026

Facilitated by Joan Kutchin, President

Recorded by Megan Byrne, Asst Secretary

Present: Chad Horling, Seth Hulst, Kevin Graftema , Maria Dunneback, Joan Kutchin, Jon Monroe, Karla Potts, Curt Visser, Braden Monroe, Mike Wells, Karla Willcome, Mary Willcome, Karla Willcome, Fred Karel, Ken Zahm, Curt Visser, Dylan Visser, Brenden Visser, TJ Murphy, Tom Killebrew. Curtis Kruithoff, Lindsey Robach, Kristy Pike, Terri Graftema, Tyler Austin

Absent: Michelle Seifert, Andy Pike, Teddy Omlor

Topic	Discussion
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
1. Approval of Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motion to approve made by Kevin Graftema second by Curtis Kruithoff. Motion passed.
2. Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Received a Christmas card from VanDenburg Website Design.
3. Raceway Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raceway is not present. No report.
4. Treasurers Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Banks are reconciled through December 15th, 2025. • Raceway is 3 months behind on paying rent. Chad is going to talk to Mike to catch this up. • We did get an invoice from Contract Electric for \$11,000 – this was part of the grant.
5. Committee Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive – No update. • Facilities – We met with Plummers to look at the tiling on the raceway, just looking for a break in the weather to do the work.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial Vendors – Starting to get vendor applications in. Randy made a motion to raise indoor cost to \$225 (including electric) currently at \$200. Outdoor we charge \$200 and would like to raise that to \$225, second by Chad Horling. All those in favor, motion passed. • Still Exhibits – No report. • Livestock – We held a livestock leader meeting tonight. Still planning on doing 2 photographers like we have done in years past – will continue to do pig photos by the barns (this seems to be working very well). We went over YQCA, Sam at Coopersville high school has those dates for us - Saturday April 18th at 8am. Monday May 11th at 6:30pm and Wednesday May 27th at 2:30pm. Feeder Calf weigh in will be May 2nd from 10am-12pm. We will be tagging calves at weigh in so you do not need to send photos in. This will include lamb and goat weigh in as well. We are going to allow 7-year-olds to show hogs again this year based on room. Once again, the volunteering will be mandatory to be able to sell in the auction again this year. We will remain at the same hour wise. Turkey hand out will be Saturday March 14th here in the meeting room from 9am-10am, chicken hand out will be May 9th 9am-10am. Chad Bennink has farm hogs available again - \$110 a hog. His number is 616-318-0618. Reminder we implemented a weigh limit on hogs last year and we will stick to that again this year – this is 330 pounds. Market rabbits have to be as always 70 days old or less by fair. Breeding date will be March 27th or after, it can not be after that. We briefly discussed matching up the feeder calf and big beef classes – this will be determined we have to have more discussion on this. Tag pick up for hogs will be March 16th from 6pm-7pm. Declarations are all on the website – rabbit, goat and lamb are all due by March 2nd. Arte theme this year is stars, stripes and summer nights – think patriotic. Reminder that we will have a date right around 2 weeks of fair, where we will have haul ins to line up blood draws for pregnancy checks. We will have a date picked out as that nears closer. • Winter Storage – No update. • Parking – No report. • Adv & Promotion – Letters went out and we are starting to receive sponsorships in the mail.

Topic	Discussion
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entertainment – Lots of options that we found at MAFE recently. We will be having an entertainment committee meeting soon to discuss possible options. • Rodeo – Met with them at MAFE – they have a large LED sign that they will use to help us post our sponsors throughout the two days. • Grandstand – Schedule for the week - Truck and Tractor pull (Tuesday) Annual Car and Tractor Show & Draft Pulls (Wednesday) Kiser Brother Motorsport – bump and run/demo derby (Thursday) Rodeo (Friday/Saturday) Draft Pulls – last year they were \$2500, this year it will be \$3000. • Horse – No report. • Camping – Sending in the camping permit tomorrow. • Social Media – The website has been updated to include our monthly fair board minutes. So far all of 2025 has been uploaded. In addition, we have made an update to the homepage to refresh it (suggestion made at last meeting). Teddy has also started to post thank you posts on Facebook to our 2025 sponsors, please like and share these as you see them.
6. Old Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beef Show – Brought flyers to the meeting tonight to hand out. • MAFE – two different companies that do Ax Throwing, talked to them to see about pricing. Pure Michigan – we need to update this (still shows outdated on grounds entertainment and grandstand events). Fairs.com – they are very similar to other online ticketing vendors but this is a new company. They are 100% targeted towards fairs, this could be something we may want to look at. There was also a company that comes in and helps with your auctions. They gave us rates and this may be something we want to discuss. They would assist with clerking and cutting checks (would not work the money trailer).
7. New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zone meeting May 12th at 4:30pm in Lake O Dessa. We need to get a deposit check to Lake O Dessa for the bleachers per Chad, he will connect with Maria to get this done. • We do have one position open on the board. We need help on the Grandstand Committee/Entertainment Committee. We do truly have a very heavy livestock base so we need someone outside of that realm.
8. Good of the Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Schoenborn would like to sponsor a hay bale toss during fair week.

Next Meeting is Monday, February 16th, 2026 at 7:00pm.