



# LAKE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY MEETING MINUTES

## DIRECTORS SIGN-IN SHEET

November 6, 2025

Dave Wilcox	Bob LaForce	John Farrell
Mark Lafoot	Jeffery Myers	Bob LaForce
B. Parker	Michelle Byram	Bob LaForce
Jeff	Jeff	
Chad	Jeff	
Michael Peplowski	Mike Cott	
Jim Day	Bob J.	

Caretaker: David Afferman

Concessions:

Auxiliary: \_\_\_\_\_

4-H Extension Rep: Bob J.

## Minutes: November 6, 2025

President Joe Slansky called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

**VISITORS:** Lanny Ware and Pat LaForce were in attendance as visitors to just observe the meeting.

**MINUTES:** Mike Peplowski made a motion to approve the minutes from October 2, 2025. Dave Wilcox seconded. All in favor and minutes were approved.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:** October 2025 accounts receivable report: Michelle Byram reported on the financial for October 2025. Bob Dawson made a motion to approve the financial report. Mike Peplowski seconded. All were in favor.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** There was no correspondence to report.

**OLD BUSINESS: OFMA Convention: January 14 – 18, 2026.** Michelle reported info will be turned in. Please notify her if reservations are needed. Rooms at the Hyatt are not available at this time. Bob Dawson stated that an insurance company of Commissioner Morris Beverage III is a major sponsor of the OFMA convention.

- **Committees:** Joe Slansky reported Cindy and himself met and set up the committees. Please see either of them if changes are needed.

**NEW BUSINESS: Planning Budget:** Bob Dawson reported there is a summary at the end of the proposed budget. The budget is for December 1, 2025 through November 30, 2026. This is the fiscal year for all fairs per the Ohio revised code. The budget shows the actual from 2024, the budget for 2025, the current actual and the budget for 2026. The actual only goes through

September. Bob wanted to thank all that participated. All operating income and expenses were addressed before going into the capital. Reminder that \$90,000 will be spent before the end of November, which includes the purchase of a tractor for \$46,000 and the backflow valve of \$45,000 that need to be put in. On the revenue side: It was decided to change the admission to fair from \$10 to \$12, The ride box from \$8 to \$10 and pit passes from \$20 to \$25. For the expenses: Painting of the Community Center at \$3,500, WIFI at \$9,000. Joe spent a lot of time talking with people about the wifi. This would be for a maintenance and service agreement. Employee pay went from \$36,000 to \$39,000 for Michelle Byram and from \$51,000 to \$55,000 for Dave Herroon. This is approximately a 7% increase in income. Capital spendings discussed were: a brush cutter coming in January of \$4,411 which includes a \$4,500 trade in. The grandstand capital improvements would include a handrail down the center, fencing and a roof and siding for the announcer's booth totaling \$17,900. The grandstands are 40 years old and with the structural report being positive, these recommendations were listed. Infield fencing at the cost of \$33,400 was proposed for the permanent pit area. With C.A.R.E.S. not being involved, people were coming into the pit area unpaid. This would help to illuminate this issue. This price would also include 3 or 4 gates and the gate on Fairgrounds Road. Wade stated the material supplier would hold the cost if we pay for this in January and put it in later in the year. Livestock cupolas in the amount of \$6,500 to be put in. Some of this cost will be paid by livestock and/or other groups. Total revenue would be \$35,726. Bob reported the planning budget can be changed if needed. The committee usually would not be so lean but we also have funds in the bank.

Bob also reported stipends for employees for the 2025 year were discussed at \$2,000 for Michelle Byram and \$3,000 for Dave Herroon.

Cindy Woodman made a motion to adopt the FY26 Planning Budget as presented including General Admission from \$10 to \$12, ride box from \$8 to \$10 and pit passes from \$20 to \$25. Also, large ticket expenses of painting the Community Center at \$3,500, WIFI maintenance and service agreement of \$9,000. Seconded by Mike Peplowski. All were in favor.

Dick Parker made a motion to approve Secretary/Treasurer and Grounds Superintendent salaries as included in the FY26 planning budget to be: Michelle Byram at \$39,000 and Dave Herroon at \$55,000. Todd Demshar seconded. All were in favor with Sam Taylor abstaining.

Cindy Woodman made a motion to acknowledge budgeted capital spending plan including JD 8' brush cutter at \$4,411, grandstand improvements at \$17,900, infield fencing at \$33,400 and livestock barn cupolas at \$6,500. Todd Demshar seconded and all were in favor.

Mike Peplowski made a motion to pay 2025-year end stipends to Michelle Byram at \$2,000 and Dave Herroon at \$3,000. Kenna Covert seconded the motion. All were in favor, with Sam Taylor abstaining.

- **Convention Delegates:** Cindy Woodman was nominated for delegate and Jeremy Hejduk as an alternate delegate.

- **Directors Christmas Dinner – Thursday, December 4.** Michelle reported invitations will be sent out by Ladies Auxiliary.

**COMMITTEES:**

**-Entertainment:** Joe Slansky reported he will have a meeting with all infield and grandstand committees.

**-Grounds:** Wade Crofoot reported material for the backflow has been delivered. There was damage to one piece that needs to be replaced. The fencing for the pit area will be put in around April or May. Copulas will need to be painted before being put in.

Joe Slansky reported some lights are out and will be taken care of. Probably new eyes are needed for them.

**-Draft Horse:** Steve Ohmes reported pullers will send a contract out sometime next week.

**-Police-Safety-First Aid:** Bob Dawson reported that at the District 9 meeting, most fairs were successful. Added attention was given to security to all. Everyone is onto using drones. Use of cameras on the grounds is something that is being used by other fairs and has proven to be useful. By watching the gates, they can monitor problems before they occur. This is something to consider at our fairgrounds.

**-Rentals:** Cindy Woodman reported she met with the gentleman regarding building bikes. He is concerned about water damage and mold and would like to do a mold test. Cindy told him he could use the area until June 30. He thinks it is a temporary need and not annually.

**- Technology:** Michelle reported she got the pictures from the photographer from fair today. A lot of pictures, but nothing exciting. Bob suggested we retain Courtney, who did our facebook marketing this past fair. She was here daily and took many pictures.

**4-H EXTENTION OFFICE REPRESENTATIVE:** Lisa Manning did not have anything to report.

**OTHER MATTERS: HAPPY BIRTHDAY JEREMY & ROB!**

Cindy Woodman made a motion to pay bills and adjourn. Seconded by Mike Peplowski, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Michelle Byram  
Secretary

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, December 4 @ 7:30 p.m.**