



LAKE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY MEETING MINUTES

DIRECTORS SIGN-IN SHEET

May 7, 2026

Wade Crofoot	Bob Dawson	Joe Slansky
Bob Dawson	Mike Peplowski	Michelle Byram
Kim Curtis	Bob Dawson	Cindy Wood
Jim Slansky	Wade Crofoot	
Michelle Peplowski	Nick Pacheco	
Joe Slansky	Todd Demshar	
Joe Slansky	Farrell	

Caretaker: Dan Callahan

Concessions: _____

Auxiliary: _____

4-H Extension Rep: Al Thamy

Minutes:

President Joe Slansky called the meeting to order at 7:38 pm.

VISITORS: There were no visitors in attendance.

MINUTES: Mike Peplowski made a motion to approve the minutes from April 2, 2026. Todd Demshar seconded. All in favor and minutes were approved.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Accounts receivable report: Michelle Byram reported on the financial for March and April 2026. Bob Dawson noted that the check received from Lamar is the annual payment for the rental of the billboards on the fairgrounds. Mike Peplowski made a motion to approve the financial report. Wade Crofoot seconded. All were in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE: Michelle reported a thank you was received from Tracy Koszalka, District 9 leader for putting on a very nice District 5 & 9 meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: District 5 & 9 Meeting – April 19: Bob Dawson reported all went well. There were approximately 170 in attendance. Bob stated he goes to around four of these meetings every year, for several years and ours by far was one of the best meetings.

- **Reverse Raffle – April 25:** Michelle Byram reported the Ladies Auxiliary Reverse Raffle went very well with a profit of over \$14,000.

- **Scholarship Judging:** Michelle reported that no scholarship applications were received this year. Bob discussed that there has been discussion in the past about funding this scholarship. Maybe this is time to revisit it and looking into something different.

-**990 filing:** Michelle reported the 990 for the fair was filed on April 8, using taxact.com.

NEW BUSINESS: OFMA Passes: Joe Slansky stated that the OFMA passes have been distributed.

- **Audit:** Michelle informed the Fair Board that the 2024-2025 audit is being conducted and all looks pretty good but there are two findings. One is Fraud training that Michelle took needs to be taken every 4 years by all employees and Directors. It was suggested to conduct the training at a Fair Board meeting. Michelle informed the board that this will be held at the June Fair Board meeting.

The second finding was that a computer disaster recovery program needs to be in place. This will be drawn up to satisfy the finding.

COMMITTEES:

-**Advertising: Publicity:** Bob Dawson reported we received a sponsor for the monster truck show from Just For Fun Honda. Bob reported we have rehired Courtney Smith for our advertising. She will also do the photography this year.

-**Camping:** Michelle reported renewal of campsites will be May 20, switching of sites will be May 27 and new registration will be on June 3.

-**Entertainment:** Joe Slansky reported the entertainment is coming together. Joe will probably have a meeting next week sometime.

-**Fair Queen:** Michelle reported applications have been send out for the fair queen and are due back in on Thursday, May 14. Interviews will be held on Saturday, June 13.

-**Garage Sale:** Dave Wilcox Jr reported there are only a few outside spaces left. Bob reported that there are three different screens on the electronic billboard showing the GGS.

-**Gates & Tickets:** Bob Dawson reported we have three gates that are in need of ticket takers.

-**Government Coordination:** Todd Demshar reported he is still waiting on the America 250 page for the premium book.

-**Grounds:** Wade Crofoot reported we are taking bids for electricians to work at the fair. Wade reported he is working with Sam Miller on getting the cupola and grandstand booth done. Joe stated he will get the lights off of the announcer's booth. Also, the coolers in the agricultural building need to be checked.

-**Insurance:** Michelle reported the person that ran into the fence on the fairgrounds does not have insurance and a claim has been turned into our insurance company for it.

-**Parade:** Joe Slansky reported he will have another meeting about the parade route and he will advise the change after he gets the permit.

-**Parking & Transportation:** Mike Peplowski reported the armory only needs to be manned Saturday and Sunday of fair.

-**Publications:** Michelle Byram reported the first draft of the premium book has been send back for review. Each Director is to check for corrections for their department and get back to Michelle by Tuesday of next week.

-**Rentals:** Cindy Woodman reported the Viking Festival is ready, and Lieutenant Raico has been in contact with them for security.

-**Technology:** Bob reported we need to have a cyber security policy starting June 1.

-**Voice of the Fair** – Natalie Pachinger reported it is going well. Natalie also informed the Fair Board that she is expecting mid-July!

4-H EXTENTION OFFICE REPRESENTATIVE: Lisa Manning reported the stuff the truck will take place again this year. Lisa suggested holding a competition with municipalities or businesses. Dave Wilcox Jr. suggested maybe next year as it is too close to fair now.

Lisa reported that the Commissioner have been awarded a grant for climate change related activities and the Commissioners asked that the staff submit something related to the fair and the youth in Lake County for \$85,000. Unfortunately, the parameters are tight and do not include in construction activities.

OTHER MATTERS: HAPPY BIRTHDAY BOB, KEN & JAMES!

- Bob Dawson provided a brief OFMA report that in Warren County the Agricultural Society and the County Commissioners were having a disagreement over control of the fairgrounds which is deeded to the county. ORC 1711.31 clearly gives control of the fairgrounds in these circumstances to the Agricultural Society. A public meeting is scheduled for May 8th on the Warren County matter. Our Jim Farrell had successfully defended Lake County in a similar matter several years ago and that finding is expected to be presented in the Warren County Case.

-Award for Dave Herroon: Joe announced that at the District 5 & 9 meeting, Dave Herroon was awarded the Special Appreciation Award by GOSA, nominated by Jeff Otterbacher for all of his hard work and dedication for having such a nice-looking fairground. Congratulations Dave!

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

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle Byram
Secretary

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