**ANNUAL MEETING – OCTOBER 1, 2026**
President Joe Slansky, following the Elections of Directors that took place from 3:00 – 7:00 PM, reopened the Annual Meeting.

ELECTION RESULTS: Secretary Michelle Byram reported that 138 members voted at the Director Election. Elected to 3-year terms ending September 30, 2029 were:

Robert Dawson representing At-Large-East
David Wilcox Sr. representing Kirtland
Richard VanPelt representing Leroy
Michael Peplowski representing Madison
Anna Barthol representing Mentor
Jessica Sidley representing Painesville

Fair Board Director member Jim Farrell administered and notarized the Oath of Office to the Directors.

MINUTES: Michelle Byram emailed the minutes to the Directors on September 29, 2026 for review. Mike Peplowski made a motion to accept the minutes from the October 2, 2025 Annual Meeting. Wade Crofoot seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS: **Hall of Fame Candidates**: Bob Dawson reported that the Hall of Fame Induction that formally was held on opening night of the fair was becoming difficult to do since there were so many activities going on. It was decided to change to the announcing at the annual meeting and presenting at the clambake in October. There are two 2026 recipients:
Nelson and Teresa Cintron have made Latino Day what it is. Fairs represent the population and the Latino population is strong in Lake County. Sunday is winding down day for the fair. The Latino Day event has helped to make Sunday our largest day of the fair. Our ride company, Kissel Amusements, tells other fairs how well the event is attended.
Wade Crofoot has been involved with the fair most of his life. He has worked around the fairgrounds in a large capacity on building and grounds. Wade, while running his own company, would come to the fairgrounds on evenings and Sundays. Wade became a Fair Board Director in 2005, replacing Art Warren. Wade also has provided leadership to Perry Township as Service Director for the past 23 years. Wade thanked the Board for the nomination and said it is all about the family that we have here.

With there being no further business, Dave Wilcox Sr made a motion that the Annual meeting for 2026 be adjourned, seconded by Mike Peplowski. All were in favor and the motion carried with the meeting adjourning at 8:02 pm.

**REORGANIZATIOIN MEETING – OCTOBER 1, 2026**
Joe Slansky, immediately following the adjournment of the Annual meeting, called the 2026-2027 Reorganization meeting of the Lake County Agricultural Society, Inc. to order.

Cindy Woodman nominated Joe Slansky for President. Bob Dawson seconded. With no other nominations being received, ballots for President were closed. Bob made a motion to close the ballet with Joe Slansky unanimously receiving the vote for President.

Dick Parker nominated Cindy Woodman for Vice-President, seconded by Bob Dawson. With no other nominations being received, Bob Dawson made a motion to close the ballot for Vice-President, seconded by Wade Crofoot. All were in favor and Cindy Woodman was elected as Vice-President.

Mike Peplowski nominated Michelle Byram as Secretary-Treasurer, seconded by Wade Crofoot. With no other nominations being received, Wade Crofoot made a motion to close the ballot for Secretary-Treasurer, seconded by Dick Parker. All were in favor, with Sam Taylor abstaining and Michelle Byram was reelected as Secretary-Treasurer.

Cindy Woodman made a motion to adjourn the Reorganization Meeting, seconded by Wade Crofoot. All were in favor.

# LAKE COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY MEETING MINUTES

## DIRECTORS SIGN-IN SHEET

**October 1, 2026**

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Caretaker: _____ Concessions: _____

Auxiliary: _____ 4-H Extension Rep: _____

**Minutes:**

President Joe Slansky called the meeting to order at 8:05 pm

**VISITORS:** There were no visitors in attendance.

**MINUTES:** Mike Peplowski made a motion to approve the minutes from September 3, 2026. Jeremy Hejduk seconded. All in favor and minutes were approved.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:** Accounts receivable report: Michelle Byram reported on the financials for August and September 2026. Dave Wilcox Jr made a motion to approve the financial report. Wade Crofoot seconded. All were in favor.

**CORRESPONDENCE: Thank you from Sr Market Livestock:** Michelle read a thank you card received by the Livestock Committee.

**OLD BUSINESS: Fair Summary & Fair Income vs. Expenses:** Bob Dawson reported there was an error in ticket sales that increased the attendance at the fair. All other numbers are pretty solid.

**NEW BUSINESS: Albert Dilorio's Special Surprise:** Bob Dawson reported that Albert Dilorio, who is on the board for the Painesville Senior Center came to let us know that the group has money from insurance and property sales from when their center burnt down that they are donating to causes for seniors in the Painesville area. Bob informed Albert that the fair hosts the Senior Day at fair and would like to apply for sponsorship funds. Albert and Duwayne Henke, the President of Painesville Area Senior Center, presented a check for $10,000 for Senior Day entertainment at the Fair. This is to be used for $1,000 per year for the next ten years.

- **OHHA Grant Application:** Bob Dawson reported that OHHA gives most of the purse money and an additional $15,000 to the general funds for fair. They have a matching capital grant for 2027. The fair is looking to apply for the grant to improve the racetrack that is need of a lot of work. The last time anything major was done on the track was in 1975. If done now correctly, it will not need to be done for another 25 years. It will need #9 & 10 stone. The project should take around 3 weeks and will be done in the spring of 2027. This will be a matching grant of $96,980. Our match will be $25,000 in cash and the balance will be in-kind. Bob stated he talked to Judy Parker about using funds they provided to the Foundation for this project and Judy agreed the funds could be used. A letter is needed from the Fair Board to put the $25,000 towards the project. The application needs to be turned in by October 31 and will be announced January 31. Wade Crofoot made a motion to move ahead with the grant application. Mike Peplowski seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- **Storage help October 24, 31 & November 7:** Dave Herroon reported he only needs around four people the first week, but will need more the second and third weeks.
- **Ladies Auxiliary Clambake:** Saturday, October 17. Tickets are available.
- **2027 Ohio Fair Funds Request:** Michelle reported the fair funds request needs to be Approved and turned in before October 30. Cindy Woodman made a motion to request general operating, track maintenance and purse money from fair funds for 2027. Dick Parker seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- **2027 Fair Date Request:** Michelle reported the fair dates of July 27 – August 1, 2027 needs to be requested by October 30. Mike Peplowski made a motion to accept the fair dates. Wade Crofoot seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.
- **Committee Sign Up Sheets:** Joe Slansky reported committee sign up sheets are in the packet and would like them to be returned by the end of the meeting.
- **Convention Forms:** Michelle reported hotel reservations have been made but activities at convention needs to be turned in before the next meeting.
- **Budget Meeting:** Thursday, October 24, 6:00 pm. Bob reported a budget needs to be approved by December 1 so the meeting needs to be held in October to be approved at the November meeting.

**COMMITTEES:**

**-Garage Sale:** Dave Wilcox Jr reported the garage sale went well even though the weather was rough.

**-Grounds:** Wade Crofoot reported the handrail has been put in on the grandstands and will need to be painted.

Joe Slansky reported we need to get electric to the backflow.

**4-H EXTENTION OFFICE REPRESENTATIVE:** Lisa Manning stated there was nothing to report. Interviews will be held on Tuesday, October 6 at 10:00 am at the Extension Office.

**OTHER MATTERS: HAPPY BIRTHDAY MIKE, CINDY & RICH!**

Wade Crofoot made a motion to pay bills and adjourn. Seconded by Jeremy Hejduk, the motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Byram

Michelle Byram
Secretary

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, November 5 @ 7:30 p.m.**