



Maryland Department of Agriculture

Agriculture | Maryland's Leading Industry

Office of the Secretary

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Maryland Agricultural Fair Board Minutes March 23, 2022

Attendance:

Board- Linda Brown, David Cavey, Diane Geary, Daniel Mast, Rob Moxley, Connie Palmer, Carl Hobbs, Rebecca Stem, Hal Spielman

Staff- Jessica O'Sullivan

Minutes for February 2022

Motion to accept David Cavey and seconded by Rebecca Stem to approve.
Motion Passed.

Report/ Update by Executive Secretary

The secretary gave an update on the fairs and shows brochure and the process that has been done to publicize the brochure this year. It was discussed and agreed to print out the brochure this year. It was also discussed to cut back on the amount of brochures that were printed this year. The group agreed on 20,000 copies of the fair and show brochure to be printed and distributed throughout the state of Maryland. The secretary also contacted the fiscal department to gather information on funds that were received, our current balance and the expected carry over for the following fiscal year. It was determined that our current amount expended was \$1,143,474.91 leaving our racing fund balance 679,469.91. This would ultimately lead to a carryover from FY22 to FY23 of 486,585. It was also determined that there is nothing mentioned in the statute requiring the mandated funds to be paid in full if carry over occurs. The board voted and decided that we would not be going back and paying the mandated funds in full and would use the carry over toward other fairs and shows.

Update from Board

With the carry over the board discussed raising some funds that are given out to fairs and shows to try and get everyone over the 50% threshold. The board also voted and agreed to raise premiums making cattle \$20 a head, sheep, swine and Goat \$10, dogs \$7 and chicken and rabbits \$5.00 for those fairs and shows that we pay full premiums. It was requested that the secretary call these fairs and shows and let them know about the increases. The board also requested that web focus reports be scanned to them showing the fair boards balance, revenue and expense summary. We switched over to one stop this year which has caused some issues with financial documents not being sent and having to go back and print everything out and scan it to everyone. For next year it was requested that financial documents be included in the emails and we also add a section to the application indicating who will be attending the regional meeting for each fair and show. The after activity reports will also be forwarded to the board members in the future. The board was reminded to fill out their ethics commission form. Unfortunately the replacement for Hal was a conflict of interest and we are still looking for a replacement. This will also sadly be Diane Geary's last meeting. A list of all the members and terms was emailed out to each board member. The board discussed what each fair/show would be receiving for FY23 and a motion to approve was made 1st by Daniel Mast and 2nd by Hal Spielman and all agreed.

Upcoming Board Meeting

The next meeting will be October 26th at 10:00 at the MDA where we will discuss the FY24 budget, fairs and shows that have occurred throughout the year and the upcoming grant application.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made 1st by Danny Mast and Second by David Cavey. Chairperson, Connie Palmer adjourned the meeting at 12:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Jessica O'Sullivan Executive Secretary