MONTGOMERY COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS - MINUTES OF MEETING
October 13, 2026 – CALUMET CENTER CONF ROOM #187

Board President Tim Colston called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm

ROLL CALL:

Present: Wade Flory, Tom Hoffman, Michelle Neff, Lou Potter, Bob Spoon, Tim Colston, Wally Stiver, Petey Grilliot, Russ Banks, Mark Jimison, Rob Griffin, Ben Wright, Steve Steck, John Friedline, Jeremy Deschler, Bob Hull
Excused Absence: Tom Simon,
Also, Present: Madison Watts; Office Assistant, Allison Ostrander; Jr. Fair Coordinator, Leeoria Willis, Jack Warner, Andee Comley, John Mahan, John Mahan, Jason Michael, Phil Bruner, Pat Comley-Bruner, Angela Seim, Bruce Rowley, Linda Rowley

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Jack Warner
  - Thanked Lori for sending P&L

Stated following concerns regarding the fair P & L

- Entertainment tent $12,000
- Fire Truck Show
- Electric- Why did those expenses happen

Tim Explained all of the electrical issues that we had

- Asked if there are other electricians

Gates:
Asked why we have a gate at calumet

- Reserved parking
- 4H kids
- Campers
- We are not allowed to close that gate, we have to have it as an emergency ingress & egress

Asked about Security

- Why are we having that many sheriff's here, are we deciding how many are here, or do the sheriffs.

BUSINESS MEETING:

- Resolution 26-39 approving meeting minutes from September 8th, 2026, 2026 Fair Week Daily Meetings, and September 21st, 2026 Work Session. Wade Flory moved to table Resolution 26-39 until the following meeting. Steve Steck seconded. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
- Resolution 26-40 approving the August and September 2026 financials. Lou Potter moved to adopt Resolution 26-40 as presented, Ben Wright seconded, Wade Flory abstained. **MOTION CARRIED – MAJORITY IN FAVOR**

MCAS REPORTS:

MCAS Executive Director: Lori Page reported the following:

FACILITY TOURS & POTENTIAL RENTALS

September included a strong mix of facility tours and potential rental opportunities. Tours were conducted for:

Weddings (2)	Fundraising Event
Gala of Hope	Construction Career Expo

Honor of Flight	Five Rivers Metro Parks
Car Show – National Street Rod Association	Dance
Reunions	Baby Shower

MEETINGS & OUTREACH

- Met with Senator Willis Blackshear and sent a follow-up email regarding the Fairgrounds and future funding needs.
- Made contact with Representative Young and aide Payton Arbuthnot.
- Made contact with Representative Creech regarding potential funding opportunities.
- Fairs.com / Box Office - Fair wrap-up meeting.
- OFMA's Ohio Fair Professionals meeting.
- IAFE Convention free training opportunities.
- Met with Silco regarding the alarm system.

OFMA CONVENTION UPDATE

Hotel rooms have been secured for the upcoming OFMA Convention. I currently have one room remaining at the Drury for two people. After those two spots are filled, anyone else attending will need to stay at the Hilton.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE / FINANCIAL & ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

- Beginning in January, employee payroll will move from weekly to biweekly. This will cut our payroll processing frequency in half and is expected to save approximately $1,600 annually in processing fees.
- I recently created a Google post-event survey for our rental venue. The survey will be sent after each rental, allowing us to consistently collect feedback, identify areas for improvement, and better track how we are doing as a rental facility.
- I transferred $40,000 from the STAR Ohio account to LCNB which is the bank on file and then transferred to Operating Account and have temporarily suspended the monthly transfer of equipment funds into savings. I will continue tracking the designated equipment funds on the monthly report so we can rebuild the account balance when our financial position allows.

STAFFING

I interviewed a candidate for part-time, as-needed grounds and facility help. The candidate was not a good fit, so the position remains open.

BAND APP - FAIR & RENTAL VENUE COMMUNICATION

Madison introduced the idea of using the BAND app for both Fair and rental venue communication. This could be a great tool for keeping information organized, improving communication, and making updates easier to access.

LOOKING AHEAD

September included a great deal of outreach and behind-the-scenes work. We continue to pursue funding opportunities, increase rental activity, reduce operating expenses where possible, and improve our internal processes as we plan for the future of the Fairgrounds, Fair, and rental facilities.

Facility Maintenance: Lori gave the following report on behalf of Jerry;

- Silco;
  - We are getting non-stop trouble notifications and false alarms (which automatically notifies the sheriffs)
  - Trying to get the alarms taken care of, these alarms are from 4&5. This is the only company that we can afford at this time

Board President: Tim Colston gave the following report;

- Rain Garden
  - Grant was applied for by the Master Gardners on our behalf
  - The question is whether or not we should continue the Rain Garden or to discontinue it
  - Leeoria let us know that the cost of the Rain Garden should remain within the grant money
    - If it is not, then the reminder will be supplemented from the Master Gardners Association
    - Tim asked the Board if there were any objections to moving forward; there were none
- Electrical issues within the grounds
  - Explained the issues that we seem to be having is with our transformers; noted that there is a design issue. During the fair this year, we had low voltage issues. This seems to be an initial design issue, we don't have equipment to hold the amount of voltage that came through during the fair this year.
    - Lou asked if AES could just up their voltage that came into us
    - Tim explained that we are consulting an attorney to see if there is anything we can do about the engineer or contractor that initially approved the design
- Animal Pavillion
  - He and John Friedline have met with a few design engineers, and contractors. Hopefully by the Fall Festival they should have an estimate as to what that should cost so that we can continue to move forward on fundraising for the building.

Jr. Fair Board Coordinator: Allison Ostrander gave the following report;

- She has been helping a lot with the Fall Festival Committee, Sponsorship Committee, and Junior Fair Board
- They have an application link for anyone wanting to be on Junior Fair Board
  - Must be 14 by July 1st and going into 9th grade
- There is an auction with Northmont Area Sales Network at Polk Grove Church on November 5th. Doors open at 6pm
  - Make sure you are checking their Facebook for the flyer
  - It is also hung in the foyer, as well as flyers you can take
- Starting January 1st, they will be collecting non-perishables for Stock the Trailer which will be dispersed in July to local food pantries. Asked that every time that people come to the building to bring in non-perishables

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

OMFA Report: Wade reported the following:

- OFMA; had their monthly meeting in Columbus a couple of weeks ago
  - Most important thing is that fair dates have to be in by end of October.
- Approaching date for OFMA Hall of Fame
- Convention is coming up, and hotels are selling out, if you want a room; get it now

- There are no funds until 2028
    - Fairs went through state reps to get funding
- Harness Races happened at Holleywood Gaming on the 5th
    - Estimated profit of just over $6,000
    - Sometimes we get a small percentage of the betting that happens, we have not received numbers if we will be receiving any.

Extension Report: Leeoria Willis gave the following report in place of Rebecca Supinger:

- Enrollment opens November 1st
- QA training in November
- OSU has some holiday closures coming up, so make sure you call before arrival
- Rebecca is out for a bit, call the main line

Jr. Fair Livestock Committee Report: No Report – Stuart Not Present

OLD BUSINESS:

- Resolution 26-41 – 2027 Fair Discussion – 2027 Fair Dates
    - Dates have to be in to ODA by October 30th
    - Tim proposed July 11th-17th as discussed during the E-Committee meeting
    - Proposed also not opening until 4pm, and then track events on the weekends specifically
    - Acknowledged the comments that have been made about having a fall fair, and also to stop changing dates
    - Important thing is to work with Junior Fair to get a concrete schedule
    - For the Fair planning committee we want public help, not just Board members.
    - It was noted that the awards ceremony attendance was diminished due to dates
    - It was also brought up that there were no animals on the weekend, and there are many fair-goers that come to see animals
    - Wade stated that he doesn't like to see us bounce back and forth
        - Wade Made motion to set our 2027 Fair dates to Sunday, July 11th-Saturday, July 17th, Rob Griffin Seconded. Tom Hoffman opposed. **MOTION CARRIED – MAJORITY IN FAVOR**
- Set the Fair Planning meeting for Wednesday the 21st at 6:00pm

NEW BUSINESS:

- Resolution 26-42 – Jimmy Martin Replacement
    - Acknowledged that John Luke Mahan was eligible and took out a petition during elections
    - Petey Grilliot moved to nominate John Luke Mahan. Rob Griffin seconded.
        - It was brought up that he will have to run come next election. When he runs at the next election, he will run for the remaining term length (until 2028).
            - After checking the By-Laws; he will be appointed until elections. At elections next year, he will have to run for the remaining term.
                - **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**
- Lou stated that himself and Wally were working on sponsors for the electric gates. If they get this sponsored, would we be able to use the campgrounds year round.
    - Lori stated that yes, it would allow for us to use the campgrounds outside of events and the Fair.
    - Lou asked if that is something we want to pursue if it is donated. And if they cannot get it all donated, they will come to us with a proposal.

- Wade stated that John Friedline violated the Code of Conduct during a meeting at the Fair. Wade Flory made a motion to have John Friedline removed from the Board. There was not a second to the motion. Motion is dead.

ADJOURNMENT:

Wade Flory moved to adjourn the board meeting at 8:29 PM; Lou Potter seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Lori Page, Board Secretary