ST. CLAIR COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Minutes of Monday, January 12, 2026

1) ROLL CALL

Present: Lindsey Uppleger, Alan Thueme, Rob Usakowski, Liz Pennazoli, Kevin Smith, Rick Ruemenapp, Kylie Veldman, Mike Tomasek, Tim Warchuck, Chris Ruemenapp, Linea Burch, Tom Vincent, Linda Taylor, Colleen Provost, Bernie Dudek, Donna Wojytsiak, Robin Vigneron.

Excused: Kent Renn, Jake Sieloff, Lori Warchuck.

Guests: Melissa Wilson, Megan Klemmer, Tom Stickley, Connie Murray.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

R. Ruemenapp asked to add discounted ticketing to the agenda. L. Pennazoli asked to add 123 IMP to the agenda. A motion was made to approve the agenda with the additions by A. Thueme, supported by K. Smith.

Motion carried.

3) SECRETARY'S REPORT

A motion was made to approve the minutes of November 10, 2025 and December 8, 2025 by T. Vincent, supported by L. Uppleger.

Motion carried.

4) TREASURER'S REPORTS

R. Ruemenapp had a question about one entry on income and expense by category. A motion was made to approve the treasurer's report by K. Smith, supported by R. Ruemenapp.

Motion carried.

5) HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Melissa Wilson from Farm Museum thanked us for letting herself and Yvonne Markel attend the MAFE convention with the Fair Board. The Farm Museum is starting to put together the Fall Harvest Days and they need 18-24 people to run gates and they don't have enough members who are active and they are looking for volunteers. C. Provost, C. Ruemenapp, B. Dudek, L. Taylor and T. Vincent volunteered to help.

Tom Stickley stated the CAP uniforms are changing as of November 1st, going to the same as Army and Air Force.

6) FAIR OFFICE REPORT

L. Burch mailed out 230 trophy donor letters.

7) MSU EXTENSION

T. Warchuck stated on behalf of L. Warchuck the Commissioners approved a 2-week overlap in the 4-H Program Coordinator's position, which will be posted by January 28th.

8) COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) AG EDUCATION & ENTERTAINMENT

D. Wojtysiak stated that the owner of the Agri Golf was glad they're coming back. A motion was made to approve the contracts for the Pony Pulls, Draft Horse Pulls and Laser Tag by T. Warchuck, supported by R. Ruemenapp

Motion carried.

Due to changes in the schedule and inclusion of laser tag, we will not be doing Music in the Meadow any longer and do not need the stage. C. Ruemenapp will notify Parks & Recreation.

b) AWARDS

B. Dudek placed orders for Regalia and Action Awards. Need to place order for Clover Sprout ribbons. Awards committee will look at colors of placing ribbons 1-10 for 2027.

c) AUDIT – No report

d) CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT

R. Usakowski to meet with Alex Vigneron. We would like a wireless PA system to reach from one side of the park to the other. T. Warchuck would like a handicap tram. C. Provost stated she talked to a vendor about modifying one of our trams, but that was not feasible.

e) CRATER

A motion was made to sign the TTPA contract by C. Ruemenap, supported by K. Smith.

Motion carried.

f) ELECTRONIC TICKETING

We received a quote from Fairs.com which would cover electronic ticketing, a new website and marketing. Details of the contract were discussed. L. Pennazoli stated Skerbeck's use 123IMP. Signing with Fairs.com would not eliminate Eventny, we would still use them for vendors.

A motion was made to sign the contract with Fairs.com as stated in the contract we all received by A. Thueme, supported by K. Smith.

Motion carried.

We may want to reconsider selling physical carnival passes and going entirely to electronic carnival passes. There are still more than $14,000 sold by cash/check through the office.

g) HANDICAPABLE DAY

This will be held on Wednesday with a different group of individuals than RESA due to RESA being off school that week.

h) LIVESTOCK

Beef weigh in is January 31st. Sweepstakes Skill-a-thon is January 17th. Next meeting is February 4th.

i) PARKS & RECREATION

R. Ruemenapp stated we need additional water for the wash racks, hogs and both beef wash racks and asked if they can hook them up to the community building well. We would like to talk to Parks and Recreation and have discussion regarding solving wash rack problems. Like to add additional cement to backside of beef barn to make it longer so you don't have to walk in the mud on the southeast corner of the barn and add cement to the south side, 4-8' and put in dividers so animals have less room to move while being washed.

Livestock would also like to put in railroad ties behind the stalls in both the south and north side of beef area of the barn. This would help keep the dirt in the stall. Unsure how long they would have to be, because the pre-existing beams were too short and the beef stood over them and into the aisle.

j) PERSONNEL – Nothing

k) PUBLICITY
Trolley art design is being finalized to put on the Port Huron Museum Trolley from March to July. K. Veldman is ordering pens for 2026 and 2027. Thumbcoast occasionally has extra spots available if we have things to highlight. Signage at the fair is a priority, let L. Taylor know if you need signage so it can be ordered. Need to add no pepper spray allowed and everyone at the fair is a guest and must abide by the fair's rules as stated in the fair book on the website.

l) SAFETY
The camera towers have gotten too expensive to rent. We will have additional cameras throughout the park and in barns.

m) SPONSORSHIP – No report.
n) STILL EXHIBITS – No report

o) EARTH FAIR – They are meeting Wednesday

9) OLD BUSINESS
a) MAFE CONVENTION
Convention was great. Directors would like to see roundtables and sessions run simultaneously. Some people don't like to attend roundtables and/or sessions and would like options. L. Pennazoli reached out to Carly Skerbeck about laser tag and they have no problem with that.

b) 501(C)(3)
R. Usakowski put it on the MAFE Collaboration page, but he wants to reach out to someone from Schiawasee County.

c) DISCOUNT TICKETING
Previously we held discussions about situational discounted ticketing. There are 182 people just showing still exhibits and 339 livestock exhibitors at the fair. Offering discounted tickets to exhibitors would cost the fair between $12,000 to $23,000 as discussed previously. Fair Board previously voted in favor of giving exhibitors $5 when

they pick up their premium checks and/or livestock photos. That could cost anywhere from $5-$3,000 back to the exhibitors.

10) NEW BUSINESS

a) T-SHIRT SALES

T. Warchuck will check with L. Warchuck regarding a cabinet in the 4-H office to sell t-shirts from.

A motion was made to purchase a cabinet to store T-shirts at the MSU Extension office up to $600 if necessary by R. Ruemenapp, supported by A. Thueme.

Motion carried.

11) ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. by L. Pennazoli, supported by L. Uppleger.

Motion carried.

Chris Ruemenapp, Secretary