ST. CLAIR COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Minutes of meeting held on Monday, October 13, 2025

1) ROLL CALL

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

Excused: Alan Thueme, Kent Renn, Tom Vincent, Kylie Veldman

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

2) AGENDA

Add under New Business A, electrical. A motion was made to approve the agenda with the addition by T. Warchuck, supported by K. Smith.

Motion carried.

3) SECRETARY'S REPORT

Thank you cards were received from Leah Lafferty and the Thueme Hog Farm fundraiser. A motion was made to approve the minutes of September 8, 2025 by R. Ruemenapp, supported by T. Warchuck.

Motion carried.

4) TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made to approve the treasurer's report by C. Ruemenapp, supported by R. Ruemenapp.

Motion carried.

M. Tomasek proposed changes to the 2026 gate prices of $12 for individuals, $35 for daily carload, and weekly admission of $70 prior to July 2, $80 from July 2 through day before fair opens, and $90 for the week during the fair. Further, each exhibitor would receive $5 cash when they pick up their premium/livestock checks after the fair, helping to offset the cost of mailing.

A motion was made to approve the recommendations for increase in 2026 gate prices by M. Tomasek, supported by L. Pennazoli.

Motion carried.

Premium checks and livestock checks will be distributed earlier in 2026 since beef exhibitors are already purchasing their next year's project animal before they receive their livestock monies. They will be distributed around Labor Day.

5) HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Melissa Wilson thanked Fair Board for their partnership with the Farm Museum. Yvonne Markel and Melissa Wilson will be accompanying Fair Board to the MFEA convention.

6) FAIR OFFICE REPORT – None.

7) MSU EXTENSION

Open House was held on October 11th with 4-5 clubs participating, having about 100 people coming to the event, giving out 25 business cards for them to follow up.

L. Warchuck has interviewed about 18 new volunteers. Workshop committee will be meeting with Thumbcoast and working on additional workshops. SNAP workers in the MSU Extension office have become 4-H volunteers to help further some of their work. Enrollment just opened, there are 106 volunteers, 200 4-H members and 38 Clover Sprouts signed up so far. Leaders' Banquet will be held in November.

8) COMMITTEE REPORTS

A) AG EDUCATION AND ENTERTAINMENT
Johnathan Rand will be booked for 2026. Big Blue Blocks are available on Thursday during the sale for an additional $600. Agri-Golf contract approved.

B) AWARDS
Need to set a date to count ribbons for 2026 to place an order. Working on MAFE entries for submission.

C) AUDIT
Need to do the 120-day report.

D) CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
R. Usakowski talked to Dennis Delor about sound system and he thought it was a great idea. Parks would like to have it in their office. We can store regular trash barrels in the gold barn. We need to work on getting more trash barrels this year.

E) CRATER – No report.
F) ELECTRONIC TICKETING – No report
G) FACILITIES – No report.
H) LIVESTOCK – No report.
I) PARKS & RECREATION – No report.

J) PERSONNEL
A motion was made to approve the superintendent applications of Alyssa Newberry as dog superintendent, Amanda Francek as goat co-superintendent, Maddie McKee as sheep co-superintendent, Beth Brown as walking fleece co-superintendent and Luke Weber as handicap tram co-superintendent by T. Warchuck, supported by K. Smith.
Motion carried.

A motion was made to approve the Dusty Corners contract for 2026 by C. Ruemenapp, supported by C. Provost.
Motion carried.

I) PUBLICITY
Committee will meet with 4-H workshop committee on October 29th at Thumbcoast.

J) SPONSORSHIP
The 2026 Eventny page has been loaded. Updating our price list for any of our sponsorship packages. Prices are going up based on increased admission prices. May be cutting the craft show out.

K) STILL EXHIBITS – No report.

9) OLD BUSINESS – None

10) NEW BUSINESS

A) LLAMAS

With the increased number of llamas in 2026, we will need to update the obstacles for the fair which are falling apart and dangerous.

A motion was made to donate $1,000 for construction of obstacles which will be stored at C. Ruemeanpp's house by M. Tomasek, supported by L. Pennazoli.

Motion carried.

11) ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn at 8:23 p.m. by L. Pennazoli, supported by L. Uppleger.

Motion carried.

Chris Ruemenapp, Secretary