ST. CLAIR COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Minutes of Monday, March 9, 2026 – Goodells County Park

1) ROLL CALL
   Present: Mike Tomasek, Linea Burch, Colleen Provost, Tom Vincent, Kevin Smith, Bernie Dudek, Lindsey Uppleger, Alan Thueme, Kylie Veldman, Rob Usakowski, Rick Ruemenapp, Linda Taylor, Chris Ruemenapp, Donna Wojtysiak, Robin Vigneron, Jake Sieloff, Liz Pennazoli.
   Excused: Tim Warchuck, Lori Warchuck, Kent Renn.
   Guests: Bob Blumerich, Melissa Wilson, Yvonne Markel, Crystal Jurczyszyn, Dave Goretski.

2) AGENDA
   R. Vigneron requested adding Vows with Cows and Farm Museum grant and cancellation of Go Daddy to the agenda. A motion was made by R. Vigneron, supported by T. Vincent to approve the agenda with the additions.
   Motion carried.

3) SECRETARY'S REPORT
   C. Ruemenapp read a note from L. Warchuck regarding her retirement. A motion was made by A. Thueme, supported by L. Uppleger to approve the minutes of February 9, 2026.
   Motion carried.

4) TREASURER'S REPORT
   A motion was made by A. Thueme, supported by T. Vincent to approve the treasurer's report.
   Motion carried.

5) HEARING OF THE PUBLIC
   Melissa Wilson stated as a part of the 2026 County Promotion Outreach from the Farm Museum, Connecting Communities. It's an event to promote agriculture, reaching out to pediatricians and how food affects growth of children. They want to include local hospitals, educators from SCR from their new ag program, FFA, 4-H and they would like to host a lunch on Tuesday or Wednesday before fair so they can see what goes into the fair. They would like Fair Board to be a part of highlighting individuals in communities. Farm Bureau would host the lunch and would like Fair Board to participate.

6) FAIR OFFICE REPORT
   Cards for MDOT are done and started to work on putting together the entertainment brochure.

7) MSU EXTENSION – No report.

8) COMMITTEE REPORTS
   a) AG EDUCATION
      The committee met and working on a map for the brochure. We will have Sir Speedy do the map so it can be easily updated annually.

   b) AWARDS
      A sample banner was passed around. We will be ordering banners and trophies this month. Ribbons have been received.

c) AUDIT – No report.

d) CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT
We are not eligible for a MDARD grant this year, which would cover the PA system we wanted to put in. We are still talking to the county's IT in what it would take to accommodate a facility-wide PA system. DTE is interested in doing more projects at Goodells County Park. They will get the VIP tent for Monday night for their past and present contributions. We would like to put in lights along the north drive into the park and permanent power to the north gate, as well as power to the Old Campgrounds for a year around camping location for Parks.

C. Ruemenapp reminded Fair Board the walking fleece project would like eavestroughs on the pavilion.

e) CRATER – No report.

f) ELECTRONIC TICKETING
We won't be using the Fairs.com for sale of shirts.

g) FACILITIES
We should start looking for more trams. We need a light tower at each gate. Need an additional $1,500 to finish the power panels. A motion was made by A. Thueme, supported by L. Pennazoli to spend up to $1,500 to finish the power panels.
Motion carried.

h) HANDICAPABLE DAY – No report.

i) LIVESTOCK
There were 42 steers tagged, with a beef workshop being held April 11th. Rimrock Acres is having a beef show in the arena and they would like to borrow gating for May 3rd.

Committee requested a photographer at the fair each day to photograph the livestock shows. This has evolved into a fair photographer for the six days of fair. We posted the position and received 7 responses. A motion was made to hire Morgan McKay for $7,500 with the livestock committee paying $3,500 and the Fair Board paying $4,000, and the livestock auction exhibitors would be charged $5 for the buyer's photo and the exhibitors can download their photos from the gallery after the fair. We will pay Morgan McKay to print the buyer photos. The exhibitors will not be paid $5 to pick up their checks by R. Ruemenapp, supported by B. Dudek.
Motion carried, several opposed.

j) PARKS AND RECREATION
We need to address with Parks & Recreation the water situation at the show arena.

k) PUBLICITY
Thumbcoast is putting together videos and needs to do a promo video.

l) SAFETY – No report.

m) SPONSORSHIP
All VIP tents are sold. Other sponsorships are going well. There is an entertainment brochure meeting May 27th. R. Usakowski will attend the March 27th meeting to show everyone how the electronic ticketing works.

n) STILL EXHIBTS – No report.

o) EARTH FAIR
There is a meeting with the committee Wednesday at 9 a.m.

p) 501(c)(3) – No report.

9) OLD BUSINESS – None.

10) NEW BUSINESS

a) VOWS WITH COWS
There are 4 couples chosen and believe it will take about 2 hours.

b) SHOWORKS
Hope to have it online the end of March.

11) ADJOURNMENT
A motion was made to adjourn at 8:23 p.m. by R. Ruemenapp, supported by T. Vincent. Motion carried.

Chris Ruemenapp, Secretary