ST, CLAIR COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

Minutes of Monday, May 11, 2026

1) ROLL CALL

Present: Robin Vigneron, Colleen Provost, Mike Tomasek, Chris Ruemenapp, Rob Usakowski, Alan Thueme, Bernie Dudek, Kylie Veldman, Donna Wojtysiak, Linda Taylor, Lindsey Uppleger, Rick Ruemenapp, Linea Burch.

Excused: Kent Renn, Natalie Tesluck, Tom Vincent, Jake Sieloff, Liz Pennazoli, Kevin Smith, Tim Warchuck.0

Guests: Ken Sieloff, Megan Klemmer, Theresa Whitenight, Kelley Kujat, Brent Whitenight, Janel Whitenight, Jeremy Modrich, Val Fusee, Jodi Veldman, Ethan Molesworth, Yvonne Markel, Melissa Wilson, Mr. Thrushman, Jenn Putney, Breck Putney-Ernst, Breer Putney-Ernst, Dave Goretski, Randall Hale.

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

2) AGENDA

A motion was made to approve the agenda by M. Tomasek, supported by R. Vigneron.

Motion carried.

3) SECRETARY'S REPORT

A motion was made to approve the minutes of April 13, 2026 by A. Thueme, supported by R. Ruemenapp.

Motion carried.

4) TREASURER'S REPORT

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

Motion carried.

5) HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

B. Dudek read a letter by Bob Blumerich who is planting beans regarding his position on the adoption of the Livestock Rule in the beef project. The Livestock Rule adopted for beef is: Adults will not be allowed to physically assist in the preparation of the animal while at the show. Verbal instruction will be allowed, but no physical assistance permitted. Physical assistance may be rendered by other junior-aged members in good standing in 4-H and FFA programs.

Theresa Whitenight explained beef is a year-long project for exhibitors and families that can be dangerous.

Discussion was held as to what the rule means and the misinterpretation by some parents that they are not allowed to hold the animal or walk the animal or assist the child while washing, etc. This is the child's 4-H project, a culmination of their learning throughout their project year. Many individual scenarios were discussed by many parents and exhibitors who were present.

There was an exhibitor who did not bring their sheep for weigh in, expecting to just pick up tags. C. Ruemenapp will go and weigh the sheep to institute the .4 lbs. per day. The

exhibitor is not eligible for grand or reserve champion or premiums in the market sheep project due to this violation of the weigh in rule.

Matrix Graphics will do the new backdrop for auction photos. Jodi Veldman is working on getting flowers donated. Barb Hurley is working on getting help for the auction registration table. They may need additional money for centerpieces for the dinner table.

6) FAIR OFFICE REPORT
The entertainment brochures are available tonight for pick up.

7) MSU EXTENSION
There was a shooting sports committee meeting, a goat workshop, dog workshop, SC4 Resource Fair, Horse Leaders' meeting and John Tate Memorial Show which MSU Extension has all been involved with or coordinated. Thumbcoast TV was at the goat workshop and put out a video for the fair. A motion was made to donate money to purchase 500 bags for Fair Trade for the fair by C. Ruemenapp, supported by A. Thueme.
Motion carried.

8) COMMITTEE REPORTS
a) AG EDUCATION
Everything is set for the fair.

b) AWARDS
Ribbons have been received and will do the ribbon boxes at the office. Samples of trophies sent. Suggestion to lump billboard, trash barrel and beautify the fairgrounds into one large prize, such as $500. No action taken on that.

c) CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
The fair is going to be applying for the water improvement grant.

d) CRATER
Alan Thueme is going to talk during fair about composite dumps to determine the cost.

e) ELECTRONIC TICKETING
Date scheduled for training for gate workers and fairs.com personnel to be here the first 3 days of fair.

f) FACILITIES
Committee met tonight. Trams have 10 drivers lined up and it looks good.

g) HANDICAPABLE DAY
There won't be a luncheon this year, but will have activities and large participation.

h) LIVESTOCK
Discovery Day went well. Going to work on QR code for exhibitors for add-ons to their project areas. We have had buyers do add-ons at the auction table each year and have had requests from exhibitors to have it more formalized.

i) PUBLICITY
Thumbcoast is working on a goat workshop video and going to do a horse video as well. Farm Bureau got a grant and going to do Farms, Barns & Blue Ribbons on Tuesday, July 14th at Goodells with a brunch. They will have farm to table vendors and inviting 100 community influencers. Fair Board is invited to attend and there's a RSVP.

j) PERSONNEL – No report.
k) SAFETY – No report.
l) SPONSORSHIP – No report
m) STILL EXHIBITS – No report

n) EARTH FAIR
There's a meeting June 3rd at 9:00 at the Nature Center for a wrap up of 2026.

9) OLD BUSINESS – None

10) NEW BUSINESS
a) WADHAMS EQUIPMENT
They donated $1000 and would like to see it go to 4-H youth. They are going to sponsor the 4-H exhibitors ice cream social and thank you note writing.

b) HORSE PROJECT
There are 112 light horses and 20 minis with 20 clover sprouts. They will be filling all the stalls in the barns. We may have a problem with housing for llamas, walking fleece.

c) WIFI
We've had additional requests for wifi at the fair, a dedicated service.

11) ADJOURNMENT
A motion was made to adjourn at 8:42 p.m. by A. Thueme, supported by R. Ruemenapp. Motion carried.

Chris Ruemenapp, Secretary