MONDAY, JULY 13, 2026 – GOODELLS COUNTY PARK

1) ROLL CALL

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

Excused: Kent Renn. Jake Sieloff.

Guests: Megan Klemmer, Kristy Hardy, Connie Murray, Melissa Wilson, Ken Sieloff, Dave Goretski.

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

1) AGENDA

A motion was made to add to the agenda issuing 1099's and fair bucks for park employees and approve the agenda as amended by M. Tomasek, supported by A. Thueme.

Motion carried.

2) SECRETARY'S REPORT

A motion was made to approve the May 11, 2026 and June 8, 2026 minutes by R. Ruemenapp, supported by A. Thueme.

Motion carried.

3) TREASURER'S REPORT

Alex Vigneron is requesting an additional $1,000 for the additional work that he's performed this year, including setting up a network, security cameras, new computers, etc., all which are beyond the scope of his agreement with the fair. A motion was made to approve the additional amount by A. Thueme, supported by T. Warchuck.

Motion carried.

4) HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

The horse project will need two post pounders on Friday for set up.

Melissa Wilson on behalf of the Farm Museum asked about timing of roping off the sawmill area prior to the carnival being laid out.

There will be a robotics demonstration on Saturday of the fair, they will need 8 passes. C. Ruemenapp will send them to Dave Goretski.

The gate workers had questions such as do first responders get in at no cost. First responders in uniform will be admitted, such as EMT's, fire, police.

5) FAIR OFFICE REPORT

The office building has been sold. The new owner reached out to L. Burch and there was assurances that nothing will be changing. We will likely need to sign a lease with the new owners.

6) MSU EXTENSION

There are a lot of new volunteers coming in. There were 13 kids that went to Exploration Days. There were 56 county shooters and archers. There are more than enough volunteers to cover the state shoot. Cats want 10 tables in the Visitors' Center for their show, and all doors locked except one. The dogs need 4 folding tables and 10 chairs and 2 EZ UPS. There are 25 dogs this year. The hope is the show will be done by 2:00 p.m. so the petting farm can begin to set up, but they will wait until the show is over. There should be 3 vendors serving food on Saturday and Sunday.

7) COMMITTEE REPORTS
   a) AG EDUCATION & ENTERTAINMENT
      Everything is confirmed and ready to go.

   b) AWARDS
      An additional sash was ordered to cover the 6th female on the court. There are adequate sponsorship funds to cover the additional cost. A motion was made to cover the additional expense by R. Ruemenapp, supported by T. Vincent.

   c) AUDIT – No report.
   d) CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS – No report

   e) CRATER
      Everything is all set for the week.

   f) ELECTRONIC TICKETING
      There was a meeting prior to tonight's meeting that went well. Fairs.com will be here Monday-Wednesday of the fair to troubleshoot.

   g) FACILITIES
      A couple canopies for the trams that were on clearance at TSC were purchased. A motion was made to reimburse that amount by C. Ruemenapp, supported by T. Warchuck.
         Motion carried.

      Two sets of aluminum bleachers were also purchased for $250 each. A corner is bent, but very useable. A motion was made to reimburse for the purchase of the bleachers by T. Warchuck, supported by T. Vincent.
         Motion carried.

   h) HANDICAPABLE DAY
      There are more people coming than anticipated. Early On has 36 families coming, 42 kids from Woodlands and 100 from Life Skills programs. We will block off the parking lot next to the poultry barn for the participants' vehicles.

   i) LIVESTOCK
      Poultry cages are being picked up in Indiana. We received a plaque from John Radford's daughter who was on the committee who started the auction in 1961. T. Warchuck will call John Tomashko to confirm he's coming to the auction.

Discussion held about setting up the ring to have handicap accessibility and an area for seating.

A motion was made to purchase materials for two additional rabbit show tables by R. Ruemenapp, supported by T. Vincent.
Motion carried.

j) PARKS AND RECREATION
We plan to set up the gates as in past years. The church has been active on Sundays, we may want to reach out to them in the future.

k) PUBLICITY
Thumbcoast is doing the last Spotlight on Saturday. Camelot Studios updated our video. They offered to do drone coverage for an hour and a half for $250.

l) SAFETY
Everything is all set.

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

8) OLD BUSINESS
a) 501(c)(3) – No report.

9) NEW BUSINESS
a) FARMS, BARNS & BLUE RIBBONS
There is a brunch tomorrow with vendors and give aways. We will take them for a ride around the grounds, however there isn't much happening until Wednesday.

b) 1099
After discussion, we won't issue 1099's this year.

c) FAIR BUCKS
We will give the parks employees $20 each of fair bucks to spend at the fair.

d) TRAMS
Ken Sieloff wants to make sure we have enough tractors this year for the trams.

e) VOWS WITH COWS
There are two couples participating, one hasn't responded the last few contacts. We will be using cows that are being exhibited at the fair.

10) RECESS
The meeting was recessed at 8:15 p.m. to resume on Monday, July 20th at noon.

MONDAY, JULY 20, 2026 – Noon

Present: Natalie Tesluck, Chris Ruemenapp, Linda Taylor, Tom Vincent, Kent Renn, Chris Ruemenapp, Ken Sieloff, Liz Pennazoli, Mike Tomasek, Mary Ruemenapp, Linea Burch, Amy Podgorski, Rob Usakowski, Alan Thueme, Bernie Dudek, Donna Wojtysiak, Robin Vigneron, Kylie Veldman, Nate Kenner.

PORTA-JOHNS - Porta Johns were set up with locks. Someone pulled a lock off. We need to have a bank of porta johns open on Saturday. We need 10 porta johns for the carnival workers.

SERVICE CLUB BUILDING ROOF – A vendor took out the corner of the roof of the Service Club building and it was repaired quickly by T. Vincent, M. Liebetreu, S. Tesluck and M. Tomasek. The vendor reimbursed us for all expenses relating to that.

CHLORIDE - Nate Kenner is going to have chloride done on Wednesday morning.

Everyone is reminded to tidy up the grounds, tie up gates.

MDARD will be on grounds tomorrow morning at 10:00 a.m., K. Smith will be the liaison.

Tuesday, July 21, 2026 - Noon

Present: Linda Taylor, Amy Podgorski, Nate Kenner, Tom Vincent, Robin Vigneron, Kylie Veldman, Natalie Tesluck, Colleen Provost, Mike Tomasek, Linea Burch, Rick Ruemenapp, Chris Ruemenapp, Shane from fairs.com, Kent Renn, Ken Sieloff, Tim Warchuck, Alan Thueme, Liz Pennazoli, Lindsey Uppleger, Mary Ruemenapp, Bernie Dudek.

Fairs.com is going to give us a rundown tomorrow.

ROAD COMMISSION – Bill Hazelton will be out today.

Wednesday, July 22, 2026 - Noon

Present: Kevin Smith, Robin Vigneron, Natalie Tesluck, Mike Tomasek, Shane from fairs.com, Alan Thueme, Tom Vincent, Bernie Dudek, Lindsey Uppleger, Nate Kenner, Kent Renn, Shane Tesluck, Bob Blumerich, Rick Ruemenapp, Mary Ruemenapp, Liz Pennazoli, Carlie Vertz, Bob Skerbeck, Linea Burch, Kylie Veldman, Jake Sieloff, Linda Taylor, Amy Podjorski, Ken Sieloff.

TRUCK SELLING HAY – There is a random truck selling hay. Pictures of the hay, no one approved that.

LLAMA GATES – C. Ruemenapp asked to use 10 gates after the fair and will return them and make them readily available for Project Red, Open House, etc.

STEER – There is a steer that is questionable whether it's tame enough to go into the sale ring. If it's determined it's too wild, we will take a photo and display it on the TV instead of bringing it into the ring. This is a not a new situation where this steer is raised. The steer will be sold last. There was inappropriate behavior on behalf of Charlie Lewis in relation to discussions about the steer. He will be sent a letter reminding him that he needs to abide by the Code of Conduct.

GATES – Monday was on par with other Mondays. Weather has been a big factor in gate sales. Despite the rain on Tuesday, the gates were good. The rest of the week is going to be cooler and no rain.

Shane from fairs.com will send a report with his findings. Monday gates got backed up a bit, but it's been going very smoothly ever since.

B. Dudek reminded the pony pulling and draft horse association that any out of state pullers need to have out of state veterinary paperwork.

Discussion held about having the fancy poultry in the rabbit barn in 2026 since the poultry barn is getting full and there's room in the rabbit barn. Everyone should take a look at the two barns this week.

We had an exhibitor and parent complain that they are being stalked on social media by someone who has attended the fair, talking to them relative to watching them at the fair. The name has been given to the Sheriff's Department.

Neighbors from County Park Drive approached us asking if they can get passes to the fair. Fairs.com showed us how we can give them passes that allow a certain number of scans daily. Each home requesting passes will get 3 passes that have 5 scans on each of them.

MDARD found one animal not appropriately tagged, but that was corrected before they left.

TRACTOR MANEUVERING – This event went well, they would like an adult version.

NSF CHECK – We have a NSF check from someone who previously wrote us a NSF check. She needs to be contacted here at the fair to make good on the check and we won't take checks from her any longer.

SWEATSHIRTS – We've sold $1600 in sweatshirts due to the cool weather.

Friday, July 24, 2026 – Noon

Present: Kylie Veldman, Rick Ruemenapp, Kent Renn, Clint Podgorski, Natalie Tesluck, Rob Usakowski, Amy Podgorski, Nate Kenner, Mary Ruemenapp, Chris Ruemenapp, Robin Vigneron, Tim Warchuck, Tom Vincent, Linda Taylor, Mike Tomasek, Donna Wojtysiak, Bob Skerbeck, Carly Skerbeck, Alan Thueme, Matt Gillett.

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS – There was an exhibitor and parent suspected of using a walkie-talkie device and communicating with the exhibitor in the ring. There are photos of this transpiring. This needs to be added to the Code of Conduct and/or Livestock Rules.

LIVESTOCK AUCTION – They want a courtesy cart for next year to get buyers to their cars. Sale total in 2025 was $603,000. 2026 will be about $650,000. The Hunter Thorner pick sold for $10,000 and purchased by Jason Hillis Concrete.

DRONE - A motion was made by L. Taylor, supported by C. Ruemenapp to have Camelot Studios do drone footage.

We will meet tomorrow at 11:00 due to sweepstakes showmanship.

Saturday, July 25, 2026 – 11:00 a.m.

Present: Rob Usakowski, Donna Wojtysiak, Matt Duetsch, Alan Thueme, Kevin Smith, Clint P, Amy P, Kent Renn, Mary Ruemenapp, Linda Taylor, Bernie Dudek, Chris Ruemenapp, Kylie Veldman, Liz Pennazoli, Mike Tomasek, Natalie Tesluck, Linea Burch.

CAMPING – Craig Albany has been having camping issues all week with someone that is camping nearby. He has PTSD from his service in the military and his complaints are related to the generator running past 11 p.m., and an unattended fire. Mr. Albany was told earlier in the week that we would refund his money if he chose to not camp or we offered a camping site that was quieter, but he rejected both. He was informed the fair attempts to enforce the rules, but there are a lot of campers and difficult to be everywhere and campers are asked to abide by the rules. There has been communication with the person who Mr. Albany is complaining about and those issues have been addressed with him.

There was an issue on the tram last night, an incident report was filed. The trams need to be checked daily to ensure there are no loose bolts.

There was a steer loose in the barn, but the cameras indicated that the steer next to it rubbed the halter off and released the steer next to it. Matt Duetsch reported no other issues.

Trailers will be coming in at 7 p.m. to start hauling out livestock. A second bander was purchased to band gates together.

PONIES & DRAFT HORSES – There were 10 teams of ponies and 13 teams of draft horses, the largest event we've held.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Chris Ruemenapp, Secretary