

Fair, Recycling and Parks Standing Committee
September 27, 2023
Meeting Minutes

The September 27, 2023 Fair, Recycling and Parks Standing Committee meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chair Kerry Severson in the Conference Room at the Richland County Fairgrounds. Present were Kerry Severson, Sandy Campbell, Eric Siemandel, Cindy Chicker, Gary Deaver, Gary Manning, Scott Gald, Cathy Cooper, Candace Pesch, Josh Elder, Steve Williamson, Dominic Smith and Colton Wall. Tim Gottschall was absent.

#2 Proof of Notification. The agenda was posted on the courthouse bulletin board and on the County website.

#3 Agenda Approval- Cindy Chicker moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Scott Gald. All said aye. Motion approved.

#4 Public comment- No one was present for this item

#5 Previous Minutes- Gary Manning moved to approve the August minutes and the September minutes from the fair. Seconded by Gary Deaver. All said aye. Motion approved

#6 Closed Session pursuant of Wisconsin State 19.85 (e) Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session pursuant the Demolition Derby. John Collins moved to approve going into closed session to discuss a contract for the 2024 Demo Derby. Seconded by Scott Gald. All said aye. Went into closed session.

#7 Return to Open Session- Gary Manning moved to return to open session. Seconded by Scott Gald. All said aye. Motion carried

#8 Discussion from closed session- The committee will have the gentleman come back once they have more information. John Collins said he would like to see if they get other fairs.

#9 Financials- The financials were posted in the committee folder. Kerry Severson asked if there were any questions. Hearing none, he moved on.

#10 Nick Entertainment 2024 Fair Contract- Some of the committee members noticed at times there were not many kids at his shows. The committee will wait to review the contract after going to the 2024 Fair Convention to see what else is out there for kids' entertainment.

11 Half Twisted –Half knot 2024 Fair contract- The committee will back to this contract after the 2024 Fair convention. This was very popular with the kids.

#12 Updated Dog Ordinance for the Fairgrounds- Corporate counsel needs to be consulted to make sure the County doesn't have things in the ordinance that are not in compliance with the law.

#13 Request for Truck and Tractor Pull the Weekend Prior to the Fair- The committee said no because it would interfere with setting up the grounds for the fair and would take away if there was a tractor pull during the fair.

#14 Departmental Staff and Structure- Candace Pesch presented several different scenarios. Parks will move under Highway as well as the mowing and maintenance at the Fairgrounds. The committee had asked what other county fair are doing. Some are county run; the rest are either fair association or ag societies. Each of these has a person employed wither full time or part time to manage the aspects of the fair and events held at the fairgrounds. If the county goes with either a fair association or ag society, the grounds would still be owned and maintained by the county. In this case, an agreement would need to be developed between the county and the fair association or ag society. The profits from any events held at the fairgrounds would go to the fair board or ag society. Much discussion followed. No decision was made at this time.

#15 Private Citizen Cutting and Removing Dead Ash Trees on Fairground- Unless the county staff is cutting it, this would need to be bid out and a contract signed.

#16 Fair & Recycling Report- No report

#17 Parks & Trails report- Highway cleaned up the rifle range. Cathy will put out for bids the 2 riprap sites along the snowmobile trail. Bids will be opened at the meeting on October 25th. The grant applications for bridges 9 & 10 on the trail were not approved by the Snowmobile Council. Will need to look at possible other sources of funds. Cathy said she needs to work with Josh about getting the campsites at Viola Park and the ones on the backside of the rock at Pier Park approved by the state.

#18 Future Agenda Items- Bid opening for riprap projects.

#19. Adjournment- John Collins moved to adjourn until October 5, 2023 at 5:00 pm to discuss storage at the Fairgrounds. Seconded by Eric Siemandel. Motion carried

Respectfully submitted

Cathy Cooper
Secretary Pro Temp