

Mission- To promote the diverse agricultural and cultural heritage of Marion County through active participation of its citizens.

Marion County Fair Board Special Meeting

Virtual by Zoom

May 22, 2023 5:30 PM

Meeting Convened: 5:31 PM

I. Call to Order/Introductions

In Attendance

Fair Board: Mike Adams, Joel Conder, Brandi Crandall, Shannon Gubbels, Amy Goulter-Allen,

Staff: Denise Clark, Kelli Weese, Chris Eppley

Guests: Jill & Scott Ingalls; Melanie McCabe

Key Volunteers: Greg Martin

II. Budget Change Documents- Jill Ingalls

The reason these budget change items are coming forth are either because costs have gone up with the fair going from a 3-day fair to a 4-day fair, or an item didn't get sponsored as we had hoped.

Budget Change Forms presented:

- Air Conditioning Unit for fair office- up \$625.76; Money to come out of the Office Copier cost as that came in less than expected
- VIP Hospitality for Friday and Saturday nights has not yet been sponsored. It will increase from \$800- \$1000; coming out of Carryover
- Back Stage Catering increase from \$1097 to \$1200; coming out of Carryover
- Marketing and Advertising increase from \$26,600 to \$30,133. Increased costs due to 4th of July event at fairgrounds; Hispanic Outreach and digital media. Coming out of Carryover
- Wasteless increasing from \$23,000 to \$29,413. This may all be covered by the Public Works grant, but if not, \$6,413 will come out of Carryover.
- Grounds arena work-up increased from \$1600 to \$2,000; money to come from Carryover.
- Big Name Entertainment Catering increasing from \$800 to \$1200

Joel made a motion to accept all of the Budget Change Request Forms as presented; Brandi seconded. Motion passed.

III. 2023 BOC Opening Day Barbeque Catering Exemption- Kelli Weese

Kelli indicated that the Board of Commissioners (BOC) are asking for an exemption from the new catering policy regarding the Opening Day BBQ. They want to provide the food themselves with two staff members who will do the cooking. (They do have restaurant experience between them as far as food handling practices.) They want the rest of the entrees to be potluck style. She suggests that they

complete the food catering accounting form, even if there is no money paid for it and the dollar amount to the fair will be zero. The BOC has discussed it with the Health Department who has given them the okay to provide the food themselves since it is an “invitation only” event.

Discussion ensued.

- The fair doesn’t allow public parties to come in and do a potluck.
- Will this set precedence for other county departments wanting to do this?
- In the past Marion County Public Works has had their annual company picnic three years in a row and that was a potluck format.
- We’ll need to modify the catering policy to address county department potlucks.

Jill noted that she had a conversation with Andrew Dawson of the Health Department. He said that if a dish is brought from home for a potluck, and there is an outbreak of people getting sick off of it, they will shut down all of the food vendors until they find the source.

The food handling will be supervised by someone that has had a commercial kitchen, Gary White, out of the BOC office.

It was suggested that we need to have on file all the insurance and licensing requirements that we would have for anyone providing food. Response- the county’s self-insurance should cover it.

Joel motioned to allow the BOC to hold a potluck this year for the opening day barbeque, granting them a one-year exemption. In the fall, we need to review the catering policy and “tighten up” the process; Shannon seconded the motion. Motion passed.