**MEDINA COUNTY JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SHOW**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**OCTOBER 12, 2020 SOUTH TEXAS CORN MAZE**

Members present: J Balencia, C Brown, M Echtle, C French, D Garza, C Graff, C Luedke, J McLaughlin, S Miller, A Segura, K Outlaw, M Pedroza, B Perez, K Persyn, W Rogge, Ch Saunders, S Simpton, B Steubing, R Welch, C Weyerts, K Williamson, M Zinsmeyer, D Zipp. **Quorum established**.

Guests present: Clay Binford, Laurie Lentz

Members not present: W Beard (school function), C Billings, C Burns, P Clarke (quarantine), R Crossland, E Davis, J Flores (unable to attend), K Marmor, R McElroy (unable to attend), J Mello (4H meeting), J Naegelin, Ca Saunders (business appt), B Scott, Michelle Tatsch (unable to attend), T Tatsch (unable to attend), T Tschirhart, J VanDamme, R Wheelus (ill), M Woodall, J Zinsmeyer

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm by Secretary Craig Luedke, presiding officer. The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and accepted as presented.

The financial report was given by B Prestage. The account balances are as follows:

\*Operating Account at CNB: $72,168.90 (excess from Auction account was moved to this account, as per board decision at August 18, 2020 meeting)

\*Auction account at Vantage: $11,000.00 ($5000 minimum balance plus enough to cover two exhibitor checks from 2020 show that have not been cashed)

\*CD at HNB: $77,977.00

C Luedke then introduced Caroline Weyerts, the new County Agent for Medina County.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Interim proposal for lease agreement on fair ground facilities: C Luedke reported that has been tabled due to the resignation of the Hondo city manager and the presence of an interim city manager.
2. M Echtle requested that guest, Clay Binford (on agenda under new business) be allowed to give his presentation early; C Luedke agreed. C Binford, a local municipal bond attorney, was introduced by S Simpton as a source of information for the purchase of land and building of a facility for stock show use. Binford explained the petition process necessary to be able to call for a county bond election. Major points included:
	1. 1500 county residents’ signatures needed on a petition which would be presented to county judge and commissioner’s court
	2. Capital project for livestock use as well as other uses, much like the facilities in Uvalde, Kendall, and Gonzales counties, all of which Binford helped acquire.
	3. Possible $.01 (one cent) property tax increase that would finance a 5 to 6 million dollar project; that would be the maximum amount needed.
	4. Petition could result in the call for a bond election in May, 2021; favorable timing due to off-year election cycle, which tends to favor bond approvals.
	5. Other county entities need to be involved such as the Medina County Fair Association.
	6. Favorable use agreement necessary so that livestock show events would have priority over other events.
	7. County would control the facility if built through a bond election; this would include maintenance, marketing, and management.
	8. Discussion of amount of land needed; possibly as much as 100 acres.
	9. S Simpton has the necessary petition paperwork and will get it to extension office for production and distribution. Script also needed to use when seeking signatures so we have message consistency.

**Motion (R Welch, M Echtle) to support obtaining petition signatures to present to Medina County Commissioner’s Court for a May, 2021 bond election for the purpose of building a multi-use event center to support youth livestock programs; motion passed.**

The following board members will seek petition signatures from their areas of the county:

 Devine area: Chuck Brown and Josh Balencia

 East Medina county: Scott Simpton, Mike Echtle, Kevin Persyn

 West Medina county: Dalton Zipp

 Hondo area: Craig Luedke, Colin Graff

Facilities committee, chaired by C Luedke, will approach Medina County Fair Association for their input.

1. Judges for 2021 show were reviewed; all are in place and are on the MCJLS website.
2. Update on validation: 30 commercial heifer pens were tagged/validated. D Zipp: sheep and goat validation will be held on Saturday, October 17, 2020 at Hondo Ag Project Center. S Simpton will bring an additional rack. Schedule for workers was finalized.
3. Swine prospect show set for Saturday, November 28. S Miller updated group: T Tatsch has ordered the buckles; ribbons and chairs have been ordered by B Prestage.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Buckle donor list for county show was reviewed by C Luedke; many sponsorships still available.
2. Foreign exchange student possibility reported by B Prestage. A local breeder had called extension office requesting information about a foreign exchange student validating with host family. No other specifics were known about school, family, etc. It was determined that if it did come up, Patrick Clarke, as swine validation chairman, would seek guidance from state validation office.
3. Covid 19 plan for 2021 county show and swine prospect show: Board officers will review the plan used by MCFA for their prospect shows, which had been approved by the city of Hondo previously. It was determined that a **tentative** set of guidelines would be necessary when exhibitors begin entering the show. B Prestage will write those up and get approval from board officers.
4. Rabbit Validation: Set for Saturday, January 2, 2021 at Hondo High School Project Center, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. S Miller will make arrangements through Hondo ISD.
5. Petition signatures: by November 16, community leaders (as stated previously in minutes) should report to B Prestage about the number of signatures obtained to that date.
6. Next meeting set for Wednesday, December 16, 2021, 6:30 p.m. Tentative location is South Texas Corn Maze; to be confirmed by C Graff.

Meeting was adjourned t 8:06 p.m.