

May 12, 2020

The Butler County Agricultural Society met for a zoom meeting on May 12, 2020 at 7:00 PM. At roll call the following members were present Turner; Bittner; Gerber; Hiltbrand; Mignery; Robinson; Simpson, Vollmer and Wells. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as read. Mignery moved to accept the financial statements, second by Gerber motion passed. Mignery moved to pay all monthly bills including payroll, second by Vollmer motion passed. OFMA asked for every fair to provide a cost estimate to hold their junior fair. Turner presented the board with an estimate of \$118,865.00 for a seven day long junior fair. Simpson thought the water and electric estimates of \$6000.00 for water and \$10,000.00 for electric were a little low. Mignery asked Simpson if the county health board has had any discussion about the fair. Simpson said not at this point. Simpson reported if the Ohio State Fair proceeds as usual they are looking at losing \$2,000,000. Turner reported no one is sure if there is going to be any support for fairs if someone contracts Covid-19. Wells stated we need to weigh the long term financial affects if we have a fair and lose money and can not pay our bills. Tim Ross suggested talking to city and county governments about support for the fair. Jason Beckner, with Zimmer Tractor, has said they would support the fair any way they can and is willing to be a day sponsor if we have a fair in 2020. Simpson stated if we move forward and have a fair it needs to include the special interest as well as the livestock departments Bittner suggested that the cost of showing at the fair may have to be adjusted this year. Tim Ross asked if there is a drop dead date that the board has to decide if we are having a fair in 2020. At this time there is no date set for a final decision. Linda Bonham suggested looking at drive-in shows and an online sale as alternatives. Wells moved to go into executive session to discuss personnel. Second by Mignery, motion passed. Vollmer moved to leave executive session, second by Gerber, motion passed. Simpson moved layoff the office staff affective May 4, 2020 indefinitely. Second by Vollmer, motion passed. With no further business to discuss Mignery moved to adjourn, second by Gerber. The board will meet on May 26, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the fairgrounds for a call meeting.