

**EATON COUNTY FARM BUREAU  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 21, 2009**

A regular meeting of the Eaton County Farm Bureau Board of Directors was called to order at 7:20pm by Jim Orr, President.

Board Members in attendance Chris Densmore, Bobbie Garnant, Fred Marquardt, Jim Orr, Henry Pray, Derik Rickerd, Brett Roberts, Holly Schaeffer, Sheryl Smith, Duane Smuts, Lynn Stanke, Steve Tennes, Ben Tirrell and Laura Hamlin.

President Jim Orr led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Duane Smuts moved to adopt the agenda with the addition of YPCS under "Unfinished Business" and Farmer's Care Action Team under "New Business." Chris Densmore seconded. Motion passed.

Steve Tennes moved to amend the March meeting minutes to include the minutes from the executive session and have them available for approval at the May meeting. Duane Smuts seconded. Motion passed.

Duane Smuts moved to accept the March Financials and place them on file. Lynn Stanke seconded. Motion passed.

Sheryl Smith moved to accept the New Member Applications as categorized. Steve Tennes seconded. Motion passed.

**Committee Reports:**

Duane Smuts moved to accept the committee reports as submitted. Ben Tirrell seconded. Motion passed.

**Unfinished Business:**

The AWEP support letter the board approved in March was passed around for review.

The executive committee made the determination to go with Gardenscapes for lawn care and snow removal for the upcoming year.

Sheryl Smith moved to place \$10,000 in an Eaton Federal Savings Account, \$10,000 into a 12 month CD with Farm Bureau Credit Union and an additional \$10,000 into a 24 month CD with Farm Bureau Credit Union. Duane Smuts seconded. Discussion pursued. Sheryl Smith moved to amend her motion to not put \$10,000 into a 24 month CD, but instead put it into a 6 month CD and then upon maturity roll it over into a 12 month CD with approval from the executive committee. Lynn Stanke seconded. Amendment passed. The board discussed the new motion: "to place \$10,000 in an Eaton Federal Savings Account, \$10,000 into a 12 month CD with Farm Bureau Credit Union and an additional \$10,000 into a 6 month CD with Farm Bureau Credit Union and roll it over into a 12 month CD upon maturity with the approval of the executive committee." Motion passed.

Ben Tirrell reported that he should be able to find two students to fill the spots for YPCS.

**New Business:**

Nikki Dotson passed out committee budget forms that will be due back in the office by Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> to be considered for the 09/10 budget.

Sheryl Smith moved to have a youth essay contest focused on animal welfare to be due during the Farm Bureau Day at the fair with the winner to be announced at the Sweepstakes awards on Saturday receiving \$150 from the Promotion & Education committee. Steve Tennes seconded. Motion passed.

Derik Rickerd moved for \$50 to be awarded to the grand champion showman and \$25 to the reserve champion showman in each large animal category with the remaining \$175 going to the small animal department for award sponsorships. Duane Smuts seconded. Motion failed.

Steve Tennes moved to have a committee of three with full control over the \$700 fair sponsorship budget to make a determination on how the funds should be divided within the next two weeks and report back to the executive committee. Duane Smuts seconded. Motion passed. Ben Tirrell, Jim Orr and Brett Roberts were appointed to the committee.

Jim Orr appointed Henry Pray to be the chair of the Nominating Committee.

Derik Rickerd is in the process of finding Young Farmers to complete the four awards for recognition at the local and state level. All nominations should be presented to him. Applications are due July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Jim Orr announced that MFB is hosting a "Name the Cow" contest for the Michigan cow. Winners will receive \$250.

Steve Tennes discussed the County Journal articles for May and June. May's topic will be on Gardening and the board is requesting Anne Pease to follow-up on this article. June's topic will be on Bees and Holly Schaeffer will be in charge of writing this article. July's topic will be on animal welfare and will publish the winning essay from the youth essay contest.

Jim Orr discussed the Farmer's Care Team and asked for nominations to the team from the floor. The following people were nominated: Joe Shook, Chris Langmaack, Jim Droscha, Jim Lilly, Jeremy McKay, Brett Roberts, Steve Tennes and Phil Conklin.

Laura Hamlin gave the regional representative report and focused on the slow moving vehicle posters and the euthanasia bill discussed at the Legislative Breakfast.

Derik Rickerd moved to adjourn the meeting. Duane Smuts seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Nikki Dotson  
Secretary/Administrative Manager