South Lake County Agricultural Historical Society

Board of Directors Meeting 8-11-2025

The Board of Directors Meeting of the South Lake County Agricultural Historical Society was called to order by President Bill Wiater. The Secretary’s report is on the website. Lori Zemaitis gave the treasurer’s report.

We have a workday this Saturday August 16 at 9am, breakfast at 7:30 at Sandbar for those interested. We will be working on getting equipment ready for harvest. We have straw for sale ~25 bales and can sell it for $5 per bale. The nominating committee will consist of Irene Doty and Sandy Stropky. All the officers and all the directors are up for re-election this year. We will be taking the people movers to Gary Airport for the Chicago Air show. They were moved last Friday by Dave Fritz and Greg Kleine. We need people to ride on them, Dave Fritz will do both days, Paul Horst will do on Saturday and Lori Zemaitis will do Sunday. They will pick them up on Monday after the Air Show. The Lake County Historical Society must relocate out of the Old Lake County Courthouse. Discussion was held regarding if we could use any of the things in it.

New Business: The Lowell Parade was discussed. Kelly Miller made a motion to not participate this year. The application wasn’t submitted on time. Seconded by Dave Martens and passed unanimously. The Beans were sprayed again for the 2nd time. Bill Wiater and Jerry Heick cut down the volunteer corn plants. Buckley Homestead Days was discussed. It will be October 11-12. Discussion was held regarding what to take down there. Kelly Miller and Daniel and Tyler Kester will look at the Huber threshing machine they have at Buckley to see about taking wheat down there. It was suggested that we bring the Sawmill, Buzz Saw, People Mover, Letz Mill and the Pie Kitchen. Bill Wiater will speak with Perry McLemore and see if Justin Livengood can get pie pumpkins again. Sandy Stropky made the motion to get a tote of pumpkins to sell, seconded by Irene Doty and passed. Sandy Stropky will contact Ann Marie Wicik about the pie booth, and she said her son can sell the pumpkins. We will have our Fall Picnic on October 18, we will have a potluck, the club will provide Chicken and play bingo. Sandy Stropky made the motion to approve $150 for Bingo Money and seconded by Irene Doty and passed. The Christmas Party was discussed, Lori Zemaitis will get prices from Scrementis and Rob’s Meat Market. Our next meeting will be September 8 at the Fairgrounds, 4H Building. Dave Fritz gave a report on the Senior Day at the Lake County Fair with the people movers. Sean Dixon, Perry McLemore and Chuck Kopas also helped. We got $37 in donations. We will have our elections during our September meeting. Bill Wiater thanked Paul Horst for taking his skid steer and bush hogged the wheat field and the ditches. The NIHPA show will be on September 26,27, 28. Paul Horst said the LaPorte County Draft Horse Association will have their show on September 3-4 and would like to approach them about coming to the show next year. Kelly Miller wasn’t at the post show meeting but said our numbers were down again this year and it’s hard to find the motivation. He feels that we are a secondary show rather than a primary show and should consider becoming a secondary part of another organization. We should seriously consider what we want for our future. Workdays with only 4-5 people are unacceptable. He feels we should consider raising our dues to $40-$50 for an investment in our organization. 52 people haven’t paid their dues yet this year. Sandy Stropky suggested that we go to $20 per person for dues and 10 hours of volunteer work. Ray Mattox suggested even $25 per person for membership, that seems to be what other tractor clubs that he belongs to have done. Kelly Miller made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Sandy Stropky. 18 members were present.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Fritz Secretary