

**POLK COUNTY 4-H AND FFA FAIR ASSOCIATION  
MONTHLY BOARD MEETING Minutes**

**March 18, 2026**

**7:30 PM - Polk County Extension Office**  
1625 Adventureland Dr. Ste A, Altoona IA 50009  
[Zoom Link](#)

**Call to Order - Nick Griffieon - 7:34 pm**

**Open Forum** – this is an opportunity for visitors to address the Board. The Polk County Fair Board allows time for the public to present information or opinions on any topic to the elected Board. Each participant will be limited to five (5) minutes. This is not a discussion with the Board, and no action will be taken at this meeting. Ideas shared may become agenda items at future meetings. No defamation of character or profanity will be tolerated during this forum, and office personnel issues will be directed to the proper chain of command and not discussed in this forum. The person addressing the Board will be required to share their name and address. The Board has the right to modify or combine speakers if the same information or opinion is being delivered.-

**None**

**Attendance-** Roll call question- What does fair mean to you? Attendance - see below. Each Board Member and youth member present was asked what the fair means to them.

**Approval of February 2026, Board Meeting Minutes**

- **Moved by Jessica B**
- **2nd by Chad A**
- **Unanimous approval**

**Treasurer's Report**

- **Vision Balance - \$12,163.24**
- **Restricted funds - \$31,156.34**
- **Unrestricted funds - \$18,993.10**
- **Auction Acct and CD's - \$78,120.45**
- **Income - \$4,969.14**
- **No expenses this month**
- **Moved by Chad A**
- **2nd by Jessica B**
- **Unanimous approval**

**County Council & FFA Youth Reports**

- **Preston V - BF FFA - March 7th competed at Districts, 2 Teams going on to State, preparing for Banquet.**
- **Mackenzie Kokke - Co Council - working on committees for Fair.**
- **Montana Rold - Saydel FFA - have a list of things that they want to do.**
- **Makayla Allen - SEP FFA - went to Districts, 2 Teams going on to State.**

**Extension Staff & FFA Advisor Report**

- **Marci V - Extension Staff - have a total of 39 chickens in first round of chick hatching. Will be in 6 different classrooms, session at SEP Middle School for 3D Printing after school club. Planning an Omaha Zoo trip for 4, 5, 6th graders.**
- **Caitlin R - BF FFA - Strawberries came in before spring break, 2 Teams going to State, selling State qualifying t-shirts. Preparing for Banquet.**

- **Jamie Waddingham - NP FFA - Feb 20th had 50th anniversary, new building, had 2 groups advance to State, Envirothon - 2 Teams competing in that. Plants are growing in greenhouse, should be ready at end of April. March 31st CTE Advisory Mtg.**

### **Old Business**

1. 2026 Polk County 4-H & FFA Fair Dates- July 18-24
  - a. Swine- April 18
  - b. Sheep & Goat- April 25
2. Department Superintendents – Do You Have Your Judges For Our 2026 Fair?
3. Fair Logos- Vote on one

### **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Auction and BBQ Food -
  - a. Last year 800 BBQ, 150 Auction. Will do same numbers this year.
2. 2026 Daily Fair Clean-Up Restrooms – Suggestions. Nick will ask around. Will report back next meeting with ideas.
3. Fair Clean-Up Bids for 2026 Fair – Place Bid in Newspapers in April/Open in June
  - a. Greg V moved to do the clean-up ourselves instead of putting out for bid. Trevor G 2nd. Unanimous approval.
4. Updates from meeting with ISF
  - a. Jessica, Nick, Megan, Deb, and Marci provided an overview of the meeting we had a couple of weeks ago with Jeremy regarding expectations for the Polk Co Fair. Many of the misconceptions were cleared up regarding what was not allowed in the past may now be allowed going forward. We will continue to work with the State Fair regarding any changes we would like to make and opening up options for adding some new features.
5. Other Items?
  - a. Deb D and Megan A gave a recap of the IAFE Zone 5 meeting held in DSM on March 6-8th. Speakers were great and we took a lot of good information away from it.
  - b. Other items - can we do a venmo so people can pay for BBQ through venmo?
  - c. Fair Board T-shirts - will discuss further

### **Committee Reports**

- **Fair Schedule/Fair Book** - Nick Griffieon - schedule is good.
- **Fair Set-up** – Greg VandeLune - No report
- **Fair Trash-Clean-up** - Greg VandeLune - No report
- **Herdsmanship** – Deb & Jolynn - No report
- **Skill-a-thon** - Caitlin Remington - looking at a new format for this year.
- **Ribbons, Trophies, Awards** – Nicky Smith - looking at designs for banners. Horses will be added to banners this year.
- **PR/Fundraising** - Chad Allen - No report
- **Queen/King Contest** – Deb & Jolynn – co-chairs - Deb and Jolynn met with Tracy to hand over the information for this year. Application needs to go out, but we will change up the judges and interview questions for this year.
- **Bill Riley** – Deb & Jolynn – co-chairs - we will be taking over from Tracey.
- **Exhibit Building** – Deb & Jolynn – co-chairs
- **Safety** – Mike Twohey - No report
- **Livestock Sale** – Ben Shivers - No report
- **Supreme Showmanship** – Amy, Deb, Nick - No report
- **Inventory**- Marci Vinsand - No report
- **Kids Zone**- Remington & Brittain - No report

- **Social Media-** Jessica Boor, Deb DeDecker & Megan Allen - please go out and Like the Polk Co Fair & FFA Assn Facebook page. We are updating it. Group texts will be sent for people to go out and like and share our FB posts. We will also start to post to Instagram.

**MEETING ADJOURNED - 9:22pm, Moved by Chad A, 2nd by Greg V. Unanimous approval.**

**NEXT BOARD MEETING –April 15, at 7:30 PM at Polk Co Extension Office.**

**Fair Book Workshop-**

**Attendance:**

Nick Griffieon, Shawn Von Stein, Deb DeDecker, Trevor Gallagher, Brian Wilkinson, Renee Fiala, Amy Chance, Melissa Smith, Jason Lihs, Chad Allen, Nicky Smith, Ben Shivers, Melissa Eshelman, Greg Vande Lune, Mike Twohey, Jessica Boor, Megan Allen, Justin Hutton, Allison Pederson, Mariah Laven, Preston Von Stein, Makayla Allen, Keaton Smith, Montana Rold, Marci Vinsand, Caitlin Remington, Jamie Waddingham.