

Meeting Minutes – Ag-Ed Boosters – Marion Township Building, Industrial Park

Meeting date: Monday, July 21, 2014

Attendees: There were approximately 80 people in attendance. Included in this number were members from the Ag-Ed Boosters and the school board, Superintendent Mike Pohlman, and parents and concerned citizens in the district.

President Larry Reichert called the meeting to order by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes from the June 16, 2014 meeting were approved as read.

TREASURER'S REPORT: (Reflects activity from 6/16/14-7/21/14)

Beginning Balance:	\$20,804.06	General Fund
Beginning Balance:	\$5,000.00	- Scholarship Fund
Ending Balance:	\$20,804.06	- General Fund
Ending Balance:	\$5,000.00	- Scholarship Fund
Total on Hand	25,804.06	

Linda had a bill for \$53.14 for a planter which was sent to Lucy after the birth of her daughter. Don motioned and Bart seconded a motion to pay for the planter. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Concession Stand at the Plowing Match: The FFA members raised \$584.33 (food) and \$86.61 (donations for produce from the garden).

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Scholarship Committee: Dustin Meyer sent a thank you note for the scholarship he received.

Membership Committee: Nothing.

Planning Committee: Nothing.

NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent's Remarks: Mike Pohlman addressed some of the rumors that were going around. He said the Ag Ed program was going to continue at Marion and the Ag Ed students were not going to be attending classes in St. Henry.

Plans for continuing the program:

- Keep the program science based
- Year One-the teacher will follow Lucy's plan
- Good possibility we will hire a long term sub and probably open up the position at the end of the year.
- The sub would be expected to attend conventions, field trips, etc.
- Career Tech Programs can hire someone in the industry who eventually obtains his/her teaching licence over a three year period.

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-Mike mentioned that the education part of the program would always come first then the FFA. Molly Hardesty spoke about how the FFA influenced some of her college decisions.

The subject of Career Tech Money came up. It must be used within the fiscal year and can only be used on certain items. The state has a cap on the amount of career tech money that a school can receive each fiscal year.

Therese Homan asked how we were going to attract a teacher since we do not have an Ag building and there is definitely a shortage of teachers state and nationwide. We also have very little time to hire a teacher. Several people in attendance remarked about the quality of our students and hoped that would be enough to attract someone.

Joe Meyer mentioned our booster organization and asked about its role. Mike said we are to support the teacher.

Mike Pohlman thought a sub would be hired this week.

Building/Greenhouse: Brad Garmann from Garmann/Miller is going to join us at our next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Don moved and Bart seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Next meeting will be Monday, September 15, 2014 in the MLHS Ag Ed Room.

OUR MISSION

**"TO PROMOTE, SUPPORT, AND GUIDE THE AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION
OF THE MARION COMMUNITY".**