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Massey Agricultural Society
Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 28, 2025,
Geiger Public School, 6:30 pm

Attendance: Interim President, Leslee Salo; Treasurer, Dianne Emiry; Secretary, Jolie Bianchin; Directors: Ernie Desjardins, Jessical Rainville, Lindie Weston, Gary Vermeer. Associates: Keith Emiry, Jane Withers Weston.

Members: Ursula Robinson, Don Wilson.

Regrets: S. Phillips. Lina Vermeer.

1. Call to order 6:40 pm
2. **Statement of Indigenous Respect & Acknowledgement.**
3. Confirmation of Quorum. We have a quorum.
4. Rules/Decorum/Info
5. Declaration of conflict of interest: None
6. Agenda Adjustments
7. Approval of Agenda
- 8.

Be it Resolved that the MAS membership approves the Agenda as presented. Motion by Dianne Emiry. Seconded by Ernie Desjardin. All in favour. Non Opposed. CARRIED. Motion # 10.28.25 – 01

9. Approval of Previous Minutes - Minutes were not available for presentation.

10. Treasurer's Report

Year-end: October 31

If you have bills from 2024-2025, please submit them ASAP so they can be reflected in this year's books

Assets:		Liabilities:	
Chequing Balance:	\$ 34,073.84		
VISA	\$ 58.41		
Lottery Account:	\$ 2,317.49	Cheq	\$ 100.00
GIC's	\$171,500.00	Security	\$2,893.49
		Uline	\$1,465.02
TOTAL:	\$207,891.33	TOTAL:	\$4,516.92

*still waiting for ISET funds, Sagamok funds, and final sponsorship payment from Algoma Chrysler

COMPARISON

October 2024

October 2025

Chequing: \$ 53,674.23
Lottery: \$ 13,740.61
GIC: \$ 75,000.00
\$142,414.84

Chequing: \$ 34,073.84
Lottery: \$ 2,317.49
GIC: \$171,500.00
\$207,891.33

- Submitted haunted trail report
- Square should have been used - if possible
- Year-end Oct 31, 2025. Please submit any receipts for this year as soon as possible.
- Haunted trail proceeds go back to our community.

Discussion:

- Motion: Donate to St. John's Ambulance for \$2,170 (as suggested by St. John's Ambulance)
- Motion: Donate to Massey Foodbank for \$1,000
- Motion: Donate to S. Geiger and St. Mary School breakfast programs for \$500 per school
- Motion: Donate to Massey Interchurch Council Friday Free Lunch for \$500
- Motion: Donate to the Espanola High School Arm Wrestling team for \$500

Be it Resolved that the MAS Membership approves a donation to St. John's Ambulance of \$2,170.00. Motion by Dianne Emiry. Seconded by: Keith Emiry. All In Favour. Non Opposed. Carried. Motion #: 10.28.25 - 02

Be it RESOLVED that the MAS membership approves a donation to the Massey Food Bank of \$2000.00. Motion by: Dianne Emiry. Seconded: Leslee Salo. All in Favour. Non Opposed. CARRIED. Motion # 10.28.25 - 03

Be it RESOLVED that the MAS membership approved a donation of \$500.00 TO S. Geiger St Mary breakfast programs. MOVED by Ernie Desjardins. Seconded by: Dianne Emiry. All in Favour. Non Opposed. CARRIED. Motion #: 10.28.25 - 04

Be it RESOLVED that the MAS membership approves a donation of \$500 to the Massey Interchurch Council Free Lunch program. MOVED by Dianne Emiry. Seconded: Keith Emiry. All in favour. Non Opposed. Carried. Motion #: 10.28.25 - 05

Be it RESOLVED that the MAS membership approves a donation of \$500 to the Espanola High School Arm Wrestling Team. MOVED by Dianne Emiry. Seconded

Leslee Salo. All in favour. Non Opposed. Carried. Motion #: Motion #: 10.28.25 - 06

Be it resolved that the Mas Membership approves a donation to the Massey Area Museum for \$250.00. Motion by Jolie Bianchin. Seconded by Jessica Rainville. All in Favour. Non opposed. Carried. Motion #: 10.28.25 - 07

11. Correspondence

Jeff Sebben (Vendor). Beavertail - discontent that we denied him attendance. (Northern Foods)

Friendly Reminder. Business Excellent Night. Legion.
7 to 9 pm

12. Reports

a) Fair - Jolie

- Consideration should be given to hiring Bartenders and Gate Staff. Use security if we can for gate staff. This will open up our volunteers for all of the other things that need to be done. We can afford to hire staff. These are long and hard jobs. Also, by hiring, there is more accountability.
- Signage for the gates worked really well, and we received a lot of positive feedback. However, we missed including time slots for these gates.
- We have received complaints from seniors about the lack of a daily senior price. While we offered good rates online and communicated this to them, many seniors are not comfortable purchasing tickets online. Therefore, daily senior rates should be available, not just on weekend passes. It's important to advertise these rates as seniors/elders, being mindful of using appropriate indigenous terminology.
- We should also promote the exit points. Gates 1 and 6 should be designated for exit and kept open until 11 PM on Friday and Saturday nights, as some people arrive late for the show.
- Gate 6 should include premade envelopes for horseshow, campers, etc, with their wristbands and instructions. At Gate 1, we could have a VENDOR table to get that moving faster and more efficiently.
- Gate times should be advertised on our website as well.
- Consideration for senior parking and for those with any sort of disability. It was suggested that the front ditch be filled in. We could use this for parking? If so, we should move on with this with the municipality.

- Prioritize Wi-Fi access for the gates during the winter months. Additionally, consider renting a satellite for Gates 4 and 5.
- Gate times should be clearly advertised so that people know where to go and when. This information should also be included on our website.
- More training is necessary for those operating our systems. Shockingly, many individuals resisted inputting cash transactions. We need to work over the winter to finalize an effective and efficient way to manage cash.
- While the committees functioned effectively, the heads of these committees need to understand that they cannot make decisions without board approval. All suggestions and plans should be discussed and communicated to the board. I noticed that conflicts arose when individuals outside of the committees made decisions that affected them without consulting the committee leads.
- Send a communication to the municipality to take over lawn cutting this upcoming season. It should not be an issue to include them on our insurance.
- We must do something about vendor vehicles. This is for food and craft vendors. Big trucks were taking up our vendor spots. It looks messy and disorganized. Vendors will have to park in another area and use dollies/trolleys to bring more stock to their area? How do other fairs manage this?
- In closing, under the circumstances we faced, I feel that as a team we really supported each other and we got it done.

b) Haunted Trail - Jessica

Awesome. Unfortunate incident with the assault. Proud of what we accomplished in a short order. Mandatory Tail Gate Meetings.

Be it resolved that the MAS membership approves the purchase of storage bins of up to \$500.00. Motion by Dianne Emiry. Seconded by: Gary Vermeer. All in Favour. Non Opposed. CARRIED. Motion #: 10.28.25 - 08

Discussion:

Leslee - great conversation with security. One from Pakistan and one from South Africa. Impressed with the setup. Not impressed, going by themselves would like to go in pairs.

Action: Set up a Google Drive document to track what worked/what did not - **Jolie to start one and send it to the board.**

c) OAAS AGM - Keith

Keith to send the information

Jane and Jolie - on waiting list for rooms.

Building community leaders program. Afternoon before and morning of.
F18.19 - Leadership workshop. February 20th

Brand new program. You make the difference. [Fair.com](https://www.fair.com) leadership development program. Launched in Canada - launch in spring meeting - April 18th here in Massey.

Action: Jolie to use Assist expo sign up.

13. Old Business

Grant Update - Dianne

- Dianne had a virtual coaching meeting with Natalie Normand from Trillium re: Grow Grant, currently available. We are not eligible to apply because in 2023-2024 we earned over \$500,000. This requires an audited financial report (we have a financial review).

Going forward, we need to decide:

1. obtain a fully audited financial report from our accountant (cost approx. \$10,000 vs \$5,000)
2. Reduce the size of our program so that we can access Trillium funds without needing an audit report
3. not apply for Trillium funds

Be it RESOLVED that the MAS membership approves obtaining a fully audited financial report from FCR. Moved by: Keith Emiry. Seconded Jolie Bianchin. All in Favour. Non Opposed. CARRIED. Motion #10.28.25 - 09

b) Planner Visit Update

Dianne presented the estimates. We will not be able to apply for the Trillium fund for this year to pay for this.

Discussion:

Do we need more info? Could we get them to look into trailers in the back area?
Motocross - we need more spots for camping.

Action: Dianne will get some more information and defer to the next meeting.

c) Christmas in Massey - shopping night. Massey Fair will get a free spot. Sell sweatshirts/t-shirts/memberships/ Lottery licence - scratch tickets. December 5th - Friday. Jolie will volunteer. 6 pm to 9 pm

Action: Jolie volunteered for this.

d) Journey to Bethlehem - December 6th to 7th. We have not received a letter for confirmation, but it is being advertised on social media. It is a go.

14. New Business

a) Storage - Jolie

Jolie presented to the Directors the need for improved and safer equipment for storage. The presentation focused on an electric dolly to help with moving larger boats and trailers.

Be it RESOLVED that the MAS membership approves reimbursement to Jolie Bianchin of \$2,258.86 for the purchase of an electric dolly. MOVED by Ernie Desjardin. SECONDED Gary Vermeer. All in Favour. CARRIED. MOTION # 10.28.25 - 10

b) Facebook Groups - Leslee

Leslee is unable to use FB Messenger due to the overwhelming volume of messages she receives, often between 30 and 40 at a time. This makes it difficult for her to keep track of important information from Directors that is discussed in these chats. I believe all communications should be conducted via email instead..

Discussion:

Messenger is fast.

Stuff is being decided by people who are not Directors.

Having a fire on the haunted trail.

Let's get back on track with communicating appropriately.

c) MAS Motopark Logo - Jessica deferred to next meeting.

d) Youth of the Month - Nominated **Azna Zinn**

e) Board Members' Resignation - Jamie Fournier has missed 3 meetings in a row and communicated verbally to Keith Emiry that he will not be returning.

Be it RESOLVED that the position held by Jamie Fournier is vacant as per our constitution. MOVED by Dianne Emiry. SECONDED by: Keith Emiry. All in Favour. Non Opposed. CARRIED. MOTION # 10.28.25 - 11

Discussion:

We now have 2 Director Positions available.

Jolie Bianchin nominates Lindie Weston. Lindie accepts.

Keith Emiry Nominates Don Wilson. Don is not able to commit at this time.

Be it RESOLVED that the MAS membership accepts Lindie Weston as Director. All in Favour. Non Opposed. CARRIED. MOTION # 10.28.25 - 12

f) Zoom vs in-person meetings

Some members have inquired about Zoom options for our meetings. It is challenging unless we have someone designated to run this and facilitate the request. Touchettes, Morgan, and Montana are all requesting Zoom.

Discussion: The Constitution reads that the Annual Meeting be held virtually if we are in

a lockdown. The consensus is that it is too difficult to manage virtual meetings at this time. Further discussion is needed. We will try it next month.

g) Siding in Emiry. Keith. Rona will give us some quotes on some interior and exterior types of finishes. Sawers hemlock rough lumber. Refinish the interior. Waiting on quote.

Discussion: Do we need a building permit? Do we need to change anything electrical?

ACTION: Keith Emiry to follow up.

h) Wild West Donation - Keith. Discussed. Consensus was not at this time.

i) Golf cart

Be it RESOLVED that the MAS membership approves a budget of up to \$3,000 for Keith Emiry to purchase an electric Golf Cart.

Motion by: Keith Emiry. Seconded Dianne Emiry. All in Favour. Non Opposed. CARRIED. MOTION # 10.28.25 - 13

15. Comments/Announcements

Ernie: The President resigned. What is it that we need to do for Motocross? Why did they think we needed to do a rezoning and application for \$1800.00?

Culvert - Ernie. Ernie is collecting culverts. Donated by SS Forestry. Crack in them - goes to scrap.

Next Meeting November 25th at 6:30 pm.

ACTION: Leslee will provide Anne Whalen with information about the change in the presidency and clarification regarding communication, then report back to the board.

16. Adjournment - 9:46 pm

Be it RESOLVED that the MAS membership closed business at 9:46 pm. Motion by: Jolie Bianchin. All in favour. Non Opposed. CARRIED. Motion #10.28.25 - 14

Interim President - Leslee Salo	Secretary - Jolie Bianchin