

# Rural Revival Minutes

November 23, 2022, 8:00 P.M.  
Freeman Public Library

**Directors Present:** Brent Brockmueller, Dennis Lehmann, Dee Millar, Roy Kaufman, Lillie Eisenbeis, Beth Kaufman, Phil Eisenbeis.

**Directors Absent:** Andre Eisenbeis

**Members Present:** Dennis Jurkovich, Tim Eisenbeis

**Minutes from October Meeting:** Moved to accept minutes with one correction. Brian Wieman should be Ryan Wieman. Motion by Roy Kaufman, seconded by Dee Millar. Unanimously passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Lillie E. submitted a Rural Revival Financial Summary for 2022. Receipts were \$7,897.86. Disbursements were \$5,800.24. The Balance on Hand as of 11/28/2022 is \$8,165.88.

## Committee Reports:

1. **Education:** At our January meeting Malynda Penner, advisor for the Freeman Public School Future Farmers of America, will speak at the beginning of our meeting.. We moved up the time of our meeting to 7:30 P.M.

The Education Committee met on Monday, Nov. 14, 2022. For pre meeting programs we suggest the following people: local businesses that have a connection to food and farming such as Fensel's Greenhouse, Norm's Pharmacy, Jamboree, Shopping Center, Rural Manufacturing, Kaufman Feeds, local banks, etc. local 4H sponsors in Turner and Hutchinson Counties.

Possible people for articles in The Courier: Nathan Epp, Sherilyn and Will Ortman, Daniel Gering, Cameron Hofer, Beth Kaufman, Todd and Susanne Koerner, Marnette Hofer, Richard and Lorraine Ensz, Kyle Waltner, Jon Graber.

Possible programs at the Community Center: Future Farmers of America, Backyard Farming, Cheese Making, Kombucha Making, Dehydration of fruits and vegetables, Planting Fruit Trees, General Tree Planting Tips.

2. **Local Foods:** The Freeman Farmers Market had 23 different vendors this past season, 15 full time. The first time is free for all vendors no matter when they come.

There was a Local Foods Conference in Sturgis, SD which several of our members attended. Around 100 people attended. There were three main speakers and also breakout sessions. Hannah Breckbill from Iowa quoted Adrian Brown, "You can move at the speed of trust." Attendees visited Bear Butte Gardens which has a store on site and caters to tourists.

They got to see 50 acres of different wheat varieties. Well known musician, Eliza Blue, lives on a nearby ranch and hosted a fiber art weekend. Extension agents were at the conference and talked about living mulch, interplanting clover with peppers, squash and broccoli and crop trials at Beresford, SD.

3. **Land Access:** Brent B. talked with Ryan Wieman. Ryan encourages us to do an educational meeting on FSA loans to beginning farmers which can be used for land or buildings. Sioux Falls has a loan officer for Turner County and Mitchell probably has one for Hutchinson County. Ryan recommends one of these loan officers to present at a

community meeting. Katie Mueller is a local loan officer who could give options for those who are selling. We could also find a local attorney who can talk about land sales.

The following questions were posed by members of our group: How can we talk about property and money? How did Steve Graber get two of his sons to stay in this community and farm, not to mention two of his daughters located on farms? What are the responsibilities of landowners to their community? How do we encourage local food production? Can we begin telling our stories? What is our long term vision? Roy has a chapter in his book putting forth his long term vision for the Freeman Community. How do we help people realize the trend we are on?

**Next Meeting:** January 23, Monday at 7:30 P.M. Malynda Penner will be speaking about the local FFA.

Motion to adjourn by Dee M. and seconded by Phil E. Unanimously passed.

Minutes submitted by Dennis Lehmann