

Pickaway County Agricultural Society – Special Meeting 2-5-2020

7:00pm Randy Smith opened the meeting by leading the pledge.

Von offered for anyone attending the meeting to speak from the audience advising them that this was their only time they could speak about the subject matter before the fair board took up the issue. No one spoke.

Von gave a summary of the situation. Because of fair date, we don't have the time to wait. We need to decide what we are going to do about the ractopamine issue ASAP. This might help facilitate competitiveness in packer bids as well.

Caleb E. discussed the plan of action as the hog chairman. Handout was passed out highlighting the new rules.

Craig W. was concerned about our kid's animals being "in the barn" already and potentially punishing those kids with a show ban.

Brad L. suggested the possibility of making a probation period in order to allow for the possibility of not getting the info to the kids in time.

A question was asked about the types of tests that can be used to determine if ractopamine had been fed to hogs. Mark L. said tests could be done anytime and some tests can be used 40+ days after ingestion that show whether the hog had ractopamine or not. Mark supports punishments on the "lighter" side, especially in this first year. Believes we need a ractopamine ban. Our current packer said that they are probably not going to pay what they did last year. Fair hogs are going to be hit this year and there are less packers competing for the bids.

Von said if the packer finds just one hog to test positive, then the packer will reject the whole lot.

Craig said probation would only be for the first year. Probation will not be an option next year. Only the money would be forfeited in the first year.

Chad wanted to know the types of tests and how many hogs would be tested. Mark said that the tests are liver, eyeball fluid, urine and hair where the latter two are the least accurate.

Von said that the packer is saying that all pigs will be tested.

Chad suggested the possibility of a non-terminal show and no packer bid. That would remove the liability for the fair board.

Brad L. suggested that we consider sharing the liability between the board and the kids in 2020 because of the timing of our fair and what our kids are expecting to happen in just a short five months.

Von answered a question from an audience member regarding who signs the liability. Von ensured the audience that an adult will sign the affidavit not the child.

Von answered a questions about breeders signing the affidavit. Von said that they asked to sign the affidavit, but might not sign. However, they won't be selling hogs to the kids

Von brought up the possibility of a terminal show in order to lessen the risk of cross contamination or keeping those people who plan on taking their hogs home who might be fed ractopamine.

Brad made motion to pass rules with the addition below. Brad Shannon second. Motion carried with no nays.

Proposed line 6.

IN 2020 ONLY:

Exhibitors whose hogs are tested positive for ractopamine will receive probation and be subject to other penalties including financial restitution, forfeit of premium and prize money. If those Exhibitor's in probation have hogs that test positive for ractopamine in 2021 or beyond, the maximum ban may be levied including financial restitution, forfeit or premium and prize money.

Von discussed the possibility of the show being terminal.

Brad L. made the following motion:

In order to ensure a fair competition between hogs, and

in order to avoid hogs not allowed ractopamine feed from accidentally ingesting the feed from other hogs than are planned to be taken home and,

in order to prevent communicable diseases from spreading that the hog show be made a terminal show.

Motion failed for a lack of a second.

Brad L. made the motion to adjourn, Caleb second. Meeting adjourned. 8:10pm.

Minutes submitted by Brad Lutz



Home of the



Notification to All Livestock Exhibitors, But Specifically Pertaining to Swine

1. Pickaway County Fair will be ractopamine free in regards to its Junior Fair swine projects.
2. A completed Affidavit of Ractopamine Free hogs will be due at fair swine weigh-in from each exhibitor. No affidavit = no show.
3. Grand and Reserve Champion hogs will be tested for ractopamine as testing permits. If ractopamine is found, the exhibitor will forfeit all premium and prize money. The exhibitor will be banned from showing any animals at all county fairs and Ohio State Fair for a period of three years.
4. Any and all hogs are subject to testing. Testing may take place during the fair by fair personnel or after fair by a packer or harvest facility. Any non-champion exhibitor whose hog is tested and found to have ractopamine will be subject to penalties including a 1-3 year exhibition ban, financial restitution, forfeit of premium and prize money. The exhibitor will be banned from showing any animals at all county fairs and Ohio State Fair for a period of one to three years.
5. If for any reason a packer is unable to be contracted, exhibitors will be responsible to take their market animals home for food or breeding purposes. These animals may not be sold and shown as part of another county's Junior Fair program. This does not include Grand and Reserve Champion market animals which must be terminal.
6. **IN 2020 ONLY:** Exhibitors whose hogs test positive for ractopamine will receive probation and be subject to other penalties including financial restitution, forfeit of premium and prize money. If those Exhibitors in probation have hogs that test positive for ractopamine in 2021 or beyond, the maximum ban may be levied and other penalties will be enforced including financial restitution, forfeit or premium and prize money.

