



**Maryland  
Department of Agriculture**

*Office of Marketing, Animal Industries and Consumer Services*

**Wes Moore**, Governor  
**Aruna Miller**, Lt. Governor  
**Kevin M. Atticks**, Secretary  
**Steven A. Connelly**, Deputy Secretary

*Agricultural Fair Board*

Agriculture | *Maryland's Leading Industry*  
mda.maryland.gov

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## Maryland Agricultural Fair Board

### Minutes

March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 – 3:00 PM

**Present:**

Connie Palmer  
David Cavey  
Rob Moxley  
Linda Brown  
Carl Hobbs  
Dawn Stiles  
Harrison Palmer  
Secretary Kevin Atticks (Virtual)

<b>Member Name</b>	<b>County</b>	<b>Term</b>
Connie Palmer (Chair)	Frederick	6/30/2024
David Cavey (Vice Chair)	Baltimore	6/30/2025
James “Rob” Moxley	Howard	6/30/2024
Danny Mast	St. Mary’s	6/30/2024
Linda Brown	Talbot	6/30/2025
Becky Stem	Carroll	6/30/2025
Carl Hobbs	Montgomery	6/30/2026
Dawn Stiles	Washington	6/30/2026
Vacant	<i>Lower Shore</i>	

**Absent:**

Danny Mast

**Guests:**

Charlotte Davis, Rural Maryland Council

**Call to Order:**

- The March 2024 Maryland Agricultural Fair Board meeting was called to order by Connie Palmer, Chairperson, at 3:16 pm.

**Approval of Minutes:**

- Motion to approve the February 2024 meeting minutes was made by David Cavey, seconded by Rob Moxley.

**Presentation:**

- Charlotte Davis, Rural Maryland Council

### **Executive Secretary's Report:**

- The Executive Secretary, Harrison Palmer gave a report on the continued collaboration with the Maryland Department of Agriculture's Animal Health (MDA AH) program.
  - o On 2/29/2024 a letter was sent to Fairs & Shows on 2/29 in conjunction with Dr. Odian and the Animal Health team to address their clarified position on continued support of fairs & shows.
  - o MDA Animal Health has held one of two lunch & learn sessions geared towards proactive education for fair & show leadership, sharing tips & tricks for livestock check-in procedures and what MDA AH is looking for when they are performing check-in.
  - o Harrison is exploring opportunities to connect with new graduates, vet school students, or other options to support MDA AH at fairs & shows, recognizing that there are several challenges to fairs staffing livestock check-in (availability, cost, etc.).
  - o MAAFS spring forum was officially cancelled, however MAFB and MDA AH will be putting on a joint Animal Health Clinic at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds on Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>.
  - o Dr. Odian has resigned, Dr. Davenport will serve as the acting State Veterinarian in the short term until a new State Vet is appointed.
- Fiscal updates:
  - o Maryland 4-H sent a delayed after-activity report on March 8<sup>th</sup> that will be funded at 100% of the updated grant amount per the July 2023 emergency meeting.
- Literature Distribution:
  - o The 5,000 brochures and 5,000 post cards have been delivered and will be dispersed amongst the fairs & shows that requested them. Board members are asked to take a stockpile and distribute as appropriate.

### **Chairperson & Board Reports**

- There were no official reports from the Chair or board members. Outgoing board members Connie Palmer, Rob Moxley, and Danny Mast were each recognized by Secretary Kevin Atticks for their service to the State of Maryland and given a citation in appreciation of their dedication.

### **2024 Fair & Show Funding**

- The board discussed the funding allocations for 2024 fairs & shows in anticipation of a shortfall in funding.
- Grant funding was determined for each applicant for the 2024 MAFB grant cycle. Motion to approve the funding decisions was made by Connie Palmer, seconded by Carl Hobbs.
- Executive Secretary will prepare and send grant agreements to the awarded applicants.

**General Updates & Action Items**

- The board discussed best practices for transition for onboarding members.
- The board requested that the Executive Secretary look into name tags for fair board members.

**Election of Officers**

- David Cavey was nominated by Connie Palmer to serve as Chairman. Linda Brown and Carl Hobbs were both self-nominated to serve in the Vice-Chair role and agreed to serve in conjunction as Co-Vice-Chairs to support the board.
- There was no opposition to the proposed slate of officers. Rob Moxley moved to accept the slate as proposed, seconded by Becky Stem.

**Adjournment:**

- Motion to adjourn made by Connie Palmer, seconded by Carl Hobbs.

Respectfully submitted by Harrison B. Palmer, Executive Secretary