

**Minutes of Tuesday, February 21, 2024
El Paso County Fair Board Meeting**

Board Members: Mel Tafton, Kate Johnson, Mike Publicker, Grant Harris, Michael Miller, Jeff Lapsansky, Amanda Hensen, Ed Dills

Associate Members: Amanda Sorrell, Matt Zeiger, Felicia Publicker, Wade Canaday

Staff: Theresa Odello, Andschana Aljets, Adam Baker, Dana Nordstrom, AmyJo Fields, Skye Bogle

Guests: Stacy Cantu, Patty Woodward

Excused Absence: Leasha Labruzzo

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Mel Tafton at 6:32 p.m. We had two new Associate Members join the Fair Advisory Board who were welcomed and introduced. Afterwards everyone else introduced themselves. This meeting was held at the Fair & Events Center in Swink Hall.

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Minutes had an incorrect date and was amended, Kate Johnson made a motion to approve the January 2024 meeting minutes, 2nd by Grant Harris, the motion carried with approval.

Ed Dills made a motion to approve the Agenda, 2nd by Mike Publicker, the motion carried with approval.

It was noted that next meeting we will implement approving the Meeting Minutes and Agenda in the same motion.

Public Comments

- None

Board and Staff Comments

- Grant Harris reminded all Fair Board members to let him know about their 2024 Fair camping space needs since there is limited availability.

Action Items:

4.A. Andschana Aljets held the Officer Election. We did a silent nomination and then a public voting by the Fair Advisory Board members. The new executive officers were elected as follows: Kate Johnson as Chair, Mike Publicker as Vice-Chair and Jeff Lapsansky as Secretary. Amanda Hensen made the motion, 2nd by Mike Miller, motioned carried.

4.B. Theresa Odello presented information on the Fair Board Committee Appointments. New Fair Advisory Board Associate Members were asked to join a committee by the next meeting.

4.C. Theresa Odello presented information on the Fair Advisory Board By-Laws. Responsibilities for Fair Advisory Board Members were outlined and provided more information on volunteer hours.

4.D. AmyJo Fields presented the 2024 Marketing Plan and Budget for endorsement. She had a visual presentation to outline and explain their marketing strategy. She highlighted new strategies for the Fair to advertise in Movie Theaters. Mike Publicker made the motion to approve the Marketing Plan & Budget, 2nd Grant Harris, motion carried.

4.E. Dana Nordstrom presented her 2024 Sponsorship plan for endorsement. Mike Publicker made the motion, 2nd Mike Miller, motioned carried.

4.F. Theresa Odello presented the updated 2024 Gold Cart/Vehicle Procedures for endorsement. Grant Harris noted an unclarity in the document in the General Safety Guidelines section point seven (7) which has been amended to be more specific. Kate Johnson made the motion for the amended version of the 2024 Gold Cart/Vehicle Procedures, 2nd Mike Publicker, motioned carried.

4.F. Theresa Odello presented the 4-H/FFA Community Service & Volunteer Service Awards for endorsement. She outlined who is eligible, how to apply, and asked the Board to promote these awards to the community. Amanda Hensen made the motion, 2nd Grant Harris, motioned carried.

Fair Board Committee Reports

5.A-E. Committees shared quick updates on their current work in process.

Miscellaneous Reports

6.A. Skye Bogle shared the Facility Use/Non-Fair programming report, including the upcoming Spring Fair and Boots in the Park Fundraiser. She also thanked the volunteers for their help during the Game Expo event.

6.B. 4H/CSU Ext. was not present. Theresa Odello outlined their report, however directed anyone with additional questions to reach out to our 4-H partners.

6.C. Theresa Odello reported on her meeting with Good Luck Sam's and the renewal of their agreement and changing the name of the Beer Dock to Beer Garden. Andschana Aljets shared that Lou Taylor had to step down from the Fair Advisory Board due to personal and family related matters. His work and dedication to the Fair Advisory Board was noted and we will miss him, his input, and his expertise.

Next Meeting: Fair Advisory Board meeting, March 20th, 6:30pm – Swink Hall

Mel Tafton adjourned the meeting at 7:48pm.