

Josephine County Fair Board Meeting

March 19, 2024

Josephine County Fairgrounds Floral Building

1451 Fairgrounds Rd., Grants Pass, Or. 97527

Present: Board Chair Arthur O’Hare, Dean Saxon, Lonnie Johnson, Julie Lockman, Karl Haeckler and Tamra Martin Fairgrounds Director

These are meeting minutes only. Only text enclosed in quotation marks (“) reports speaker’s exact words.

1. Call to order

Pursuant to notice through the media and in conformance with the Public Meeting Law, Arthur O’Hare called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

2. Agenda

Lonnie Johnson made a motion to approve the Agenda for March 19, 2024, and Dean Saxon 2nd the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Minutes

Lonnie Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes from Feb 20, 2024, and Karl Haeckler 2nd the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. General Public Input: Guest in attendance. No guests in attendance

5. Old Business: None to report

6. Reports

- a. Auction Committee- Jennifer not present. The meeting meets again in April
- b. Facilities- Dean Saxon- Has contacted a contractor that is willing to donate time and secure donations for paint and supplies to paint the inside of the arena. In addition, he is working to secure paint and personnel to paint the inside of the Pavilion building.
- c. Friends of the Fairgrounds Report- Jon not present. Tamra reported they met the previous week. FOF is focusing on recognizing the projects they have made donations for and projects that they have participated in. Tamra sent a request for funds for the removal of the light pole in the parking lot that received approval and is moving forward. In addition, they have been working on setting up a donation feature for the community to directly donate to them for project support.
- d. Director’s Report:
 - a. **Grounds and Financial Update-** department wise, Jerry has retired and has shifted in to being a caretaker position for the fairgrounds. Brandon who has been here 2 years will start working closely with the park rangers as they can help in various departments. We hope to shift him to full time position and incorporate work crews for bigger projects. Getting close to wrapping up the arena project. Starting exterior renovations on the Host House which is fully funded project by Business Oregon Grant. The

Pavilion Floor renovation is the 2nd part of that grant and will be completed in time for Fair. 2024-25 budget has been turned into the Finance Department. Inflation and the increases in utilities are a red flag.

- b. **Fair 2024 Update-** Tamra included a Sponsor Booklet. Great opportunities are present to sponsor events at Fair. Food vendors are full and Commercial Vendors are coming in fast. Tamra told us about a program called Everyday Ag, which connects fair goers to the agricultural side of Fair with information on animals, food, etc. There is a booklet and phone app to go along with this program to help guide people through specific areas of fair (animals, food, gardening). She will be looking for a sponsor to include this program in the 2024 Fair.

7. New Business-

- A. **Host House Exterior Paint-** Fair Board to pick paint colors. Suggestions of gray, blue, maybe with white trim. *Julie made a motion to paint the house power blue or darker (adjusted as necessary) by Sherman Williams with an off-white trim. Lonnie seconded. Motion passed unanimously.*
- B. **2024 Fair Board Goals-** reviewed the Fair Board goals from past board planning sessions. The conceptual drawings for the Livestock arena has been a priority and Mark Koberstein from Friends of the Fairgrounds is submitted for a grant. It was also suggested that we may reach out to RCC to see if Drawings/Plans could be a project a computer aided drafting department might be able to do as a project and donation to us. The Livestock Barn is a great first project since we will have drawings and feel like we could gain community support. Tamra also notified the Board that the parking lot by the arena has developed a sink hole. We need to make this project a priority which will start as a repair but may turn into a larger capital project.

8. Other Business-

A. Additional Discussion-

9. Next Fair Board Meeting: April 16, 2024

Motion was made to adjourn at 7:10 by Dean Saxon and 2nd by Lonnie Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.